ARTISTS IN THE COMMUNITY GRANT
2017 FUNDING PLAN

KENNETH HUNTER
Project: Located on the corner of Alton Road and Saginaw Highway in East Lansing, MI. Patriarch Park provides the surrounding community with a gathering place for friends, families, and visitors alike. This park serves as a great resource to the community with sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and even provides a sense of belonging. With Patriarch Park being the asset it is to the community, I propose to revitalize and reclaim a space of this park to encourage community participation and enjoyment from an outdated and neglected area. I propose to revitalize the shuffle board courts through the installation of a silver cushion moss labyrinth.
Award: $3,000

CATHERINE TONNING-POPOWICH
Project: Catherine Tonning-Popowich will be partnering with the Lansing Art Gallery to create the “Art Has No Barriers” program. Through this program, I will be teaching art classes to children with and without disabilities. Art is a powerful healing tool, to the maker and to the viewer that interacts with it later, giving great power to the work. For children and young adults with special needs, the process of creating art can literally give them a voice when they might not be able to communicate their thoughts and emotions in other ways. This project can have an invaluable impact on our community.
Award: $3,000

CLARA MARTINEZ
Project: Formed in January 2016, ClaritaLucia y Compania (formerly CHOREO LAB) is the Accessible Dance & Dance Making Project of Lansing, MI. Led under the curious and voracious eye of Artistic Director Clara Martinez, ClaritaLucia y Compania stands to improve the artistic depth, quality, and audience reach of modern and postmodern dance in Mid-Michigan, and beyond. With a combination of world class dance composition practices, community-minded grassroot origins, and an undwindling inquiry in how to make Lansing, the dance world, and humans better, Clara Martinez will organize, facilitate, and showcase free and publically accessible dance forums, practices and performances to Greater Lansing in 2017.
Award: $2,000
ARTISTS IN THE COMMUNITY GRANT
2019 FUNDING PLAN

TYSON PUMPHREY
Project: During the 2018-2019 school year, Pumphrey will create, manage and implement programming around the City of Lansing that focuses on Hip Hop music composition with a core emphasis on mentoring youth as they develop in their crafts and navigate being teens. The project is called "B.A.R.S" (Beats and Rhymes Sessions). Pumphrey will be working with the youth at Eastern High School, Ingham Academy, Reach Art Studio and Sexton during the year to prepare for a Youth Led Hip Hop event that will showcase their work.
Award: $3,000

MICHAEL MAGNOTTA
Project: Local metal works artist, Michael Magnotta, will be creating a stainless steel sculpture depicting a trio of sailboats to grace the future Don Lilrose Memorial Garden on Marsh Road, near Lake Lansing. A once blighted piece of property will soon become an icon for Meridian Township, welcoming residents and visitors alike into the Haslett community. Named to honor a lifelong Haslett resident passionate about beautifying his community, this highly visible property will become a beautiful space for people to enjoy and the sculpture will be the focal point surrounded by flowers, grasses and stone benches.
Award: $2,000

TRACIE DAVIS
Project: A St Johns community “paint by number” mural on a large building along the highest pedestrian-traffic sidewalk. This mural will add a bold pop of color that downtown St Johns needs. It will be the third large scale mural in St Johns to bring people to town and encourage them to walk around. The most important aspect of this mural is the fact that it will engage hundreds of community members.
Award: $2,000

ANASTASIA BONOTTO
Project: Classical music concerts often take place in upscale concert halls and are often perceived as elitist. Anastasia Bonotto believes that classical music should be accessible and easily available to everyone. The Pop-Up Concert Series was developed in an effort to expose a broader audience to quality live classical music at no charge, to develop community partnerships with local organizations and venues, and to increase the presence of local classical musicians in the Greater Lansing community. The concerts will feature well-established chamber groups of local musicians and will provide live entertainment at a variety of community events, in a nontraditional setting.
Award: $1,000
ARTISTS IN THE COMMUNITY GRANT
2021 FUNDING PLAN

ALLISON SPOONER
Project: The Artist's Umbrella provides a safe space for all artists, no matter their craft, to express their creative abilities while delivering quality entertainment to art lovers in Lansing. Our vaudeville-style variety show brings to the stage traditional performance artists and artists that don't typically get a chance to perform their craft. As a member of the Artist's Umbrella, I want to film a series of shows and present them to local TV channels to extend the reach to those who normally can't make these shows due to physical or financial reasons, and expose more people to Lansing artists. The shows will be curated as normal and filmed over the course of a weekend at local spaces.
Award: $2,000

CECI BORDAYO
Project: As an artist, I am proposing two events during the months of October-December 2020, though these dates are subject to change due to COVID. I would oversee a STORYTELLING SERIES and a TALENT SHOW.
Award: $1,500

EMILY SUTTON SMITH
Project: I will narrate a historical tour of downtown Williamston that highlights major fires that helped shape the physical landscape of the town now. This tour will be accessed through the website of the Williamston Theatre, will be free to stream or download, and will be available for a full year. This activity will be supported by a companion exhibit of artwork from Michigan artist Barb Whitney exploring fire as an inspiration, which will take place in March 2021. The entire activity will examine fire as both destroyer and creative influence. Partners with me in the project are Barb Whitney, the Williamston Theatre, and the Williamston Depot Museum.
Award: $3,000

MASAKI TAKIHASHI
Project: I would love to put together monthly virtual open mics and workshops from big-name poets that will help nourish spoken word culture and talent in the Lansing area.
Award: $1,500