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July 18, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Arts Council of York County Announces**

**Small Grant Recipients – 1st Quarter 2018-2019**

ROCK HILL, SC – The Arts Council of York County is pleased to announce the allocation of Small Grant awards for the first quarter of the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Small Grants are available to individual artists, non-profit organizations, teachers and schools throughout York County. These grants are designed to support specific arts activities that promote the individual artist’s professional development or career advancement and/or to support a wide variety of quality arts projects and programs that promote excellence in arts disciplines and make such disciplines accessible for general community-wide audiences.

Organizations and individual artists residing in York County, SC may request up to $1,000 per grant and may receive up to two grants each calendar year.

Recipients include:

**Camp Kic-A-Wah | $650**

*Preserve and Teach Catawba Culture*

Camp Kic-A-Wah serves at-risk Catawba children between the ages of 5 – 18 and is offered through the Catawba Cultural Preservation Project at the Catawba Cultural Center on the Catawba Indian Nation Reservation. This program is designed to encourage campers to participate in Catawba culture through inter-generational mentoring. Developed with a focus on preserving the traditional arts of the Catawba Indian Nation, including basketry, pottery, and beadwork, as well as passing the knowledge of the arts on to future generations of Catawba children, those participating in the program will be immersed in Catawba Art by the artisans in live demonstrations and hands on apprenticeship during the summer of 2018 and after school in August and September. The project will conclude with two exhibits, showcasing the arts produced during the apprenticeship program.

This grant will help pay Tribal elders to teach the tribe’s endangered traditional arts during Camp Kic-A-Wah’s summer cultural immersion camp. | http://catawbaindian.net

**Velma Love | $750**

*Kaleidoscope Community Storytelling Series*

Held monthly from February - November at Jasmine Café & Catering, the Kaleidoscope Community Storytelling Series helps people connect with each other and build community through sharing and listening to personal experience narratives on an assigned theme. Each session features six tellers, including one open mic teller from the audience. Kaleidoscope attracts 30 – 45 people each month. This small grant will allow Dr. Love to purchase microphones and lights, to hire a videographer and graphic designer, and will pay a partial salary to Dr. Love.

Dr. Velma Love is a scholar of African and African American religions and spiritual practices. She researches the Ifá/Orisha traditions and translates ancient spiritual practices for contemporary applications. She is an author, an independent scholar, and a mental health and emotional wellness advocate. As a native South Carolinian, Love grew up surrounded by stories. She wove these stories into the tapestry of her being and her life’s work became focused on understanding how stories shape lives and how life shapes story. | http://www.drvelmalove.com/

**Old Town Association | $1,000**

*Public Art Project*

The Old Town Association is quietly preparing to hide bronze-colored frogs created by Winthrop University student, Kasey Elizabeth Sears throughout the downtown area. Inspired by the Come-See-Me Festival’s Glen the Frog by Vernon Grant, each frog will be based on an existing species of frog, ranging from a 12-inch Goliath Frog to a 2-inch Tree Frog. This Small Grant will help Grant purchase supplies and will provide a stipend for her services. | https://www.onlyinoldtown.com/

**Rock Hill Community Theatre | $1,000**

*Shrek the Musical TYA*

Shrek, The Musical YTA kicks off the Rock Hill Community Theatre’s 2018-19 season! Everyone's favorite ogre is back in this hilarious stage spectacle, based on the Oscar-winning, smash-hit film. Based on the Oscar-winning DreamWorks Animation film, *Shrek, The Musical TYA* is a Tony Award-winning fairy tale adventure featuring songs from Jeanine Tesori (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*; *Caroline, or Change*) and a sidesplitting book by David Lindsay-Abaire. Directed by Hali Christopher, *Shrek* brings all the beloved characters you know from the film to life on stage and proves there's more to the story than meets the ears.

This Small Grant helps offset the production costs including rights and royalties, scripts, and pay for the musical director. | http://rockhilltheatre.org

**Caroline Rust | $1,000**

*Reflecting HERstory*

Reflecting HERstory is a collaborative exhibit between Caroline Rust, Vivianne Carey, and Noor ul ain Zaib. This exhibit will premiere at Radford University Art Museum, October 24 – December 9, 2018, and will be on display at the Arts Council of York County’s Dalton Gallery in the Center for the Arts, September 13 – October 27, 2019. This body of work is a visual depiction mirroring the intricacies of being a woman with a focus on identity and social justice.

Caroline Rust creates paintings and installations charged with expressionistic color and multiple layered surfaces which challenge assumptions of femininity and gender roles with an intimate and compassionate eye. Rust’s artworks are featured in national exhibitions and procured by corporate and private collectors worldwide. This Small Grant helps pay for the framing of 12 small paintings, 1 large painting, labor and artist time, and art materials. | https://www.carolinerust.com

**Total Allocations This Quarter: $4,750**

To review guidelines, visit [www.yorkcountyarts.org](http://www.yorkcountyarts.org) on the Grants page under The Arts heading. The next deadline is Saturday, September 1, 2018 at 5 PM for programs occurring October, November, and/or December of 2018. Prospective applicants MUST discuss the proposed project with the Executive Director at least 10 days in advance of the application deadline date.

This Small Grants program is funded in part by the South Carolina Arts Commission (which receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts), and the John and Susan Bennett Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Carolina Community Foundation, and Comporium Communications.

The Arts Council is headquartered in downtown Rock Hill, a state-recognized cultural district. For more information on Arts Council events, contact the Arts Council of York County at (803)328-2787, by email at [arts@yorkcountyarts.org](mailto:arts@yorkcountyarts.org), or visit our webpage at http://www.yorkcountyarts.org.

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