arts council of york county

121 E. Main St | PO Box 2797

Rock Hill, SC 29732  
803-328-2787

www.yorkcountyarts.org

Contact: Melanie Cooper

mcooper@yorkcountyarts.org

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Arts Council of York County's**

**Small Grant Recipients – 3rd Quarter 2015-2016**

ROCK HILL, SC - The Arts Council of York County is pleased to announce the allocation of Small Grants awards for the third quarter of the 2015-2016 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 an arts discipline and make such excellence 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:

**African American Cultural Resources Committee | $1000**

The African-American Cultural Resources Committee has a goal to define the historic outline of African-American cultural, residential, and commercial communities within the City of Rock Hill and promote those as historic resources through signage and publications.

This grant will help to cover the cost of bronze plaques at the monument on Dave Lyle and Black Streets. The temporary donation plaques were put in place for the unveiling while fundraising continued. Approximately 24 display panels representing prominent African American businesses have been erected with photos, maps and historical information. The bronze plaques will represent the over 100 donors who contributed to the project. This monument commemorates the economic development contributions made by businesses in the African American community and serves as a historical reference for future generations.

**Marcia Kort Buike | $315**

Each spring, Marcia Kort Buike serves as the volunteer district coordinator for the annual Congressional Art Competition for the 5th District of South Carolina. This small grant will help cover the costs in producing a one-day workshop that allows art teachers who have participated or plan to participate in the Congressional Art Competition to explore new techniques that may be used in the classroom, to foster camaraderie, collaboration and communication, and to showcase the Center for the Arts to those who are not familiar with it. The theme of the 2016 workshop is abstracts. In addition to Buike, Dr. Bradley Sabelli - President of the Catawba River Art Guild, and Barbara Curry will serve as instructors during the workshop. | http://www.house.gov/content/educate/art\_competition/

**Carolina Crown | $1,000**

The Carolina Crown HonorBAND is an affiliate program of the 2013 Drum Corps International (DCI) Champion Carolina Crown drum corps. The HonorBAND program brings together 80 of York County’s finest middle school musicians for two days of learning and sharing with peer students from other schools within the county. Carolina Crown selects event clinicians/conductors from some of the most acclaimed middle school, high school, and college educators from across the southeast. Students audition for placement in the HonorBAND. Those accepted earn a spot in the HonorBAND, and participate in the two-day clinic. The event culminates with a free performance at Nation Ford High School, to be held on January 27, 2016. This grant will offset the costs associated with the two-day clinic. <http://www.carolinacrown.org/>

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

“Imagine if you had three wishes, three hopes, three dreams, and they all could come true.” Rock Hill Community Theatre has three wishes for their upcoming production of Disney’s “Aladdin, Jr.” The theatre’s first wish was for a musical for elementary and middle school age students that would be a popular choice for young actors and their audience. The Rock Hill Community Theatre also wanted a script with a memorable message. Disney’s “Aladdin, Jr.” fit the bill. Their second wish was for a talented director who could bring this enchanting tale to life on their stage. They didn’t have to look too far. RHCT board member, Christie Quinn Young signed on. Young holds a degree in theatre from Appalachian State and previously directed the “Little Mermaid.” The Rock Hill Community Theatre’s third wish is defrayed production costs. The Small Grant awarded by the Arts Council of York County does just this. | http://www.rockhilltheatre.org

**Rock Hill Economic Development Corporation | $1,000**

Rock Hill Designs is a program of the Rock Hill Economic Development Corporation that is intended to engage the Rock Hill community in the design of significant public spaces. Long-term, the goal of Rock Hill Designs is to establish a community-based process for incorporating locally inspired art and design into public and private projects in the Rock Hill area. The new roundabout at the intersection of White Street, Constitution Boulevard, and Columbia Avenue has been selected as the next project.

This new roundabout will serve as a major public gateway into Knowledge Park and into the Winthrop University Campus. A grant from the National Endowment of the Arts has been awarded to support the design of landscaping, art, and other amenities for the roundabout. Winthrop University is leading the public process, following the goals of the Rock Hill Designs program by involving Winthrop students and faculty, professional artists, urban design professionals and citizens of Rock Hill. The NEA grant requires a dollar-to-dollar match. Matching funds for this project will come from a variety of sources, including cash allocations from the City of Rock Hill and Rock Hill Designs. The Small Grant awarded by the Arts Council of York County assists Rock Hill Designs in meeting the matching funds requirement. | http://www.onlyinoldtown.com

**York County Choral Society | $1,000**

The York County Choral Society is an auditioned choral ensemble comprised of York County’s finest singers, and is currently under the direction of Dr. Katherine Kinsey, Winthrop University. David Lowry and Shirley Fishburne formed the York County Choral Society in the 1981-82 season with the purpose of having a choral group that performs choral masterworks with the composers’ intended accompaniments. From the outset, the chorus numbered over 50 voices and it has continued to date with consistent strength.

This year marks the 35th Anniversary of the York County Choral Society. Their season begins with a fall performance of Part 1 of Handel’s “Messiah” on December 6, 2015. In continuing the anniversary celebration in the spring of 2016, the society plans to perform the original concert program from the spring of 1982, Part II and Part III of Handel’s “Messiah,” as well as smaller works by other composers. This Small Grant will help fund the York County Choral Society’s 2016 Spring Concert, to be held on Sunday, April 24, 2016 at Winthrop University’s Byrnes Auditorium. | http://www.yorkcountychoralsociety.org/index.htm

**Total Allocations this Quarter: $5,315**

To review guidelines, visit www.yorkcountyarts.org, on the Grants page under the The Arts heading. The next deadline is TUESDAY, March 1ST, 2015 at 5 PM for programs occurring in APRIL, MAY, and JUNE of 2016. The Arts Council’s offices are closed the first, third (and fifth) weekends each month. Should the deadline fall on a weekend, grant applications must be submitted by 5 PM the Friday before. 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, the National Endowment for the Arts and the John and Susan Bennett Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Community Foundation.

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