

Multnomah County Cultural Coalition

# Multnomah County Cultural Plan 2008- 2012

*Building Participation in the Arts,  
Humanities and Heritage*

Prepared and updated for the Oregon Cultural Trust  
July 2008

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# Multnomah County Cultural Plan

## Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Summary of Cultural Plan Priorities	3
Multnomah County: A Dynamic and Evolving Population	4
Cultural Plan Priorities 2008 - 2012	4
Key Accomplishments 2005 to 2008	7
Appendix 1: MCCC grants awarded 2005 to 2008	9
Appendix 2: Structure and Bylaws	14

### Acknowledgments

The Multnomah County Cultural Coalition Committee would like to give special thanks to the following organizations and individuals who were instrumental in facilitating the planning and implementation process:

Christine D'Arcy, Oregon Arts Commission / Oregon Cultural Trust

Eloise Damrosch, Regional Arts and Culture Council

Multnomah County Cultural Coalition Committee members:

Rose Bond, Eloise Damrosch, Joe Durr, Tim DuRoche, Sarah Orleans, Barbara Steinfeld, Colesie Tharp and Cara Ungar-Gutierrez

## INTRODUCTION

The Multnomah County Cultural Planning Committee (MCCPC) was established in April 2003, under the auspices of Multnomah County Commissioner Maria Rojo de Steffey, and charged with the responsibility of developing a plan for the use and distribution in Multnomah County of Community Cultural Participation Grant program funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Committee met monthly to evaluate existing information about cultural needs and resources in the county, and to develop priorities for the use of the Cultural Trust funds. The committee also considered the remarkable variety of cultural interests and activities in the county, and deliberated long and hard about the best way to deploy Community Cultural Participation Grant funds in this diverse community. The committee adopted a capacious and elastic approach to culture, consistent with the diversity and variety of forms that cultural life assumes in the county.

In 2008 the Committee revised and approved the following priorities for the Multnomah County Cultural Plan. The Multnomah County Cultural Coalition is cognizant of, and works to compliment efforts of existing arts, heritage, historical, humanities and preservation organizations in the county. These include the Regional Arts & Culture Council, Oregon Council for the Humanities, Bosco-Milligan Foundation and the Oregon Historical Society among others. Of note in its revised plan, the Committee felt strongly that its efforts in arts education and cultural awareness among youth should align with and support the newly formed The Right Brain Initiative—a collaborative initiative involving arts organizations, school districts, governments, and private donors to develop a comprehensive solution for providing arts education opportunities for every student in the Portland metropolitan area. The Regional Arts and Culture Council is convening the visioning and planning phases of this project. The MCCC Committee fully supports this effort and looks forward to participation as needed and appropriate. The Plan review committee included: Rose Bond, Eloise Damrosch, Joe Durr, Sarah Orleans, and Barbara Steinfeld. Other MCCC members at the time of this plan include Colesie Tharp, Cara Ungar-Gutierrez and Tim DuRoche.

## SUMMARY OF CULTURAL PLAN PRIORITIES

Primarily, but not limited to, the grant guideline, review, award and oversight processes, the Multnomah County Cultural Coalition will meet the following priorities:

- Enhance arts education and cultural awareness among youth.
- Make culture accessible and affordable to Multnomah county residents.
- Support diverse cultural activities and organizations.
- Encourage new cultural activities and organizations.
- Advocate for the Oregon Cultural Trust and the Multnomah County Cultural Coalition.

## MULTNOMAH COUNTY: A DYNAMIC AND EVOLVING POPULATION

Multnomah County has a diverse and remarkable population. With an estimated 681,454 inhabitants, in 2006 it was home to nearly 20% of the state's total population. In addition to Portland—Oregon's largest city—in the west, the county includes the incorporated cities of Gresham and Troutdale to the east. Inhabited by settlers for more than 150 years and Native Americans for thousands, Multnomah County has a colorful history and boasts numerous historical sites ranging from the shanghai tunnels to pioneer farms. Covering a mere 465 square miles it is the smallest of Oregon's 3 counties, but also the most populous with an average density of 1,518 persons per square mile. Over the last 15 years, the county's population has swelled by 15.7%, attracting nearly 95,000 new residents since 1990. With this growth has come increasing ethnic and cultural diversity. According to the Northwest Area Foundation, the nonwhite population has doubled over the last 20 years, from 10.4% in 1980 to 20.8% in 2000. Although Asian/Pacific Islanders currently rank as the county's largest ethnic minority, Latinos are the fastest growing ethnic group, expanding from 3.1% of the population in 1990 to 8.7% as of 2002. Multnomah County's diversity, in ethnicity, age, city or town of residence, religion, country of origin, its continual influx of new inhabitants and its density, are all significant cultural resources. A diverse population contributes to the plurality of ideas, viewpoints and forms of cultural expression that are essential to a healthy and vibrant community. New inhabitants bring with them new ideas and experiences, and a high concentration of people in such a small area facilitates the development of new cultural experiences and the swift transfer of ideas. The Multnomah County Cultural Committee recognizes that our evolving population requires the development of new and innovative strategies to ensure that all of the county's residents have the ability to benefit from and contribute to the county's cultural life.

### Multnomah County Cultural Coalition CULTURAL PLAN PRIORITIES 2008 - 2012

Through its Community Cultural Participation Grants program (grant guidelines, review, award and oversight processes), the Multnomah County Cultural Coalition will meet the following priorities.

“Key Accomplishments 2005 to 2008” beginning on page 7 provides a report on previous grants summarized by priority / benchmark and by discipline. A complete list of MCCC grants 2005 – 2008 can be found in Appendix 1 on page 9. Sample grant application guidelines from FY 2008-2009 are as Appendix 3 beginning page 16.

Copies of this report, current grant guidelines, updated summary reports and grant awards can be found at the contact information on page 1.

### **ENHANCE ARTS EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AWARENESS AMONG YOUTH**

To better focus and strengthen this priority, the Committee recommends it participate with other new arts education efforts being formed in 2008, primarily The Right Brain Initiative, administered by the Regional Arts & Culture Council. This will enhance, and not duplicate, efforts to convene meetings to develop future arts education for K – 8. MCCC will also continue to look favorably on cultural projects for youth in areas of preservation, history and the humanities.

#### **Strategy: Strengthen and expand existing cultural programs that target youth.**

The Coalition will consider ways to bolster funding for existing programs such as school-based performances and artists-in-residence.

**Strategy: Encourage cultural organizations to engage young people in new ways.**

The Coalition will continue to encourage cultural organizations to cultivate young people as a significant audience for performances, exhibitions and activities. Areas of focus and opportunities could include using schools and community centers as venues with behind-the-scenes tours (dress rehearsals, archives, collections storage, artist shops and studios). Considerable effort should be made to allow students to attend cultural events for free or at a nominal admission price.

**Progress Benchmark: During the period, show that more young people in Multnomah County have significant opportunities to learn and take part in arts performances, cultural activities, and heritage events.**

**MAKE CULTURE ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY RESIDENTS**

Multnomah County is rich with opportunities for cultural participation. At the same time, there may be a number of circumstances that prevent or discourage more people from taking advantage of these opportunities. Venue, location, cost, lack of familiarity, and perceptions of exclusivity can all negatively affect cultural participation. The Coalition recognizes that while it cannot alone fund or guide a thorough study to examine barriers to arts participation, its grants to worthy cultural and heritage organizations has, and will continue to, reach new and diverse audiences.

**Strategy: Improve participation in existing cultural experiences.**

Foster and fund partnerships and collaborations between organizations representing different constituencies and disciplines, or organizations serving different social functions (e.g. churches and the symphony, the leaders of various ethnic communities and the Portland Art Museum, community centers and the Oregon Historical Society, etc.) The purpose of these collaborations is to widen and diversify the audience for existing cultural organizations and institutions.

**Strategy: Assist cultural organizations to become more representative of our county's diversity in their staffing, governance and audience.**

The Cultural Coalition will continue to explore ways to promote the development of leadership and volunteer opportunities for culturally diverse individuals to work in and with cultural organizations. Where possible, the Coalition will partner with, or support the efforts of, organizations such as the Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement, Black Entrepreneurs, and Business for Culture and the Arts to recruit and train new board volunteers and to identify potential and emerging leaders.

**Progress Benchmark: Within four years, show that more county residents, specifically those from diverse populations, are participating in cultural activities, accessing cultural experiences, and working with cultural organizations.**

**SUPPORT NEW CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Cultural organizations contribute to the life of our community in many ways. Every cultural organization, even well-established ones, begins with the discovery of a shared interest in some cultural pursuit. The Coalition will encourage efforts to organize new cultural activities and form new cultural organizations.

**Strategy: Continue the Community Cultural Participation Grant Program**

The Coalition will continue to develop, award and monitor its grant program to support community-based cultural or heritage events, programs and organizations. Community Cultural Participation Grants can be used for a specific cultural event, program, or activity, as long as it is open to the public. Any nonprofit organization or registered neighborhood association will be eligible to apply for a grant. Groups of citizens with a declared common purpose consistent with the goals of this grant program are also eligible to apply.

These grants of up to \$2,000 are intended to encourage people to come together to pursue new activities and to develop new groups and organizations. Examples of the kinds of projects that might be funded include reading and discussion groups at a local community center, an ethnic festival, a neighborhood arts fair, or a project to preserve some aspect of the region's cultural history. The application process will be simple and streamlined. Information about the availability of these grants will be disseminated broadly.

**Progress Benchmark: Within four years, distribute at least 70% of allotted Community Cultural Participation Grant funds through this program.**

**ADVOCATE FOR THE OREGON CULTURAL TRUST AND THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY CULTURAL COALITION**

The Coalition will ensure that elected officials, community leaders, the media, and county residents are well informed regarding its activities, and that information about events and performances funded by the Oregon Cultural Trust is broadly disseminated.

**Strategy: Provide County Commissioners, Metro Councilors, City Commissioners, and other public officials with a written annual report chronicling the Coalition's activities, including a list of all grants made and the events, performances, and programs arising from this support.**

**Strategy: Require recipients of Oregon Cultural Trust funding or support to publicly acknowledge this in their written materials.**

**Strategy: Multnomah County Coalition Committee members will serve as ambassadors for the Oregon Cultural Trust and advocate for the significance of the County's diverse cultural offerings. Coalition members will act as ambassadors for arts and culture by making community leaders, elected officials and the public aware of events and performances that have been supported through Cultural Trust grants.**

**Progress Benchmark: Make available annual reports on achievements and grant awards, and ensure that the Cultural Trust is properly acknowledged by supported organizations.**

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS from 2005 to 2008

In its first four years, the Multnomah County Cultural Coalition has been gratified to achieve key priorities and benchmarks, primarily through its Community Cultural Participation Grants program—setting and evaluating goals, guidelines, and applications; awarding and reviewing truly astonishing artistic, cultural and heritage projects.

In tabulating results of 113 grants awarded during the period, encouraging trends emerged, most notably that nearly all projects addressed more than one MCCC priority in combination: affordability, accessibility, new audiences, new works, cultural diversity and youth education. For this reason, the report below will have an aggregate total that exceeds 113 grants awarded. The MCCC applauds this multi-goal approach in previous grants and looks forward to future projects addressing multiple priorities, although this is not a deciding factor in supporting a project.

A wide variety of artists and groups were represented—from established organizations to newly formed efforts; arts institutions to neighborhood and community members—with the projects serving from 50 to 15,000 people at each gathering.

Applications and awards also reflected many different disciplines and types of projects: performing arts of all manner including music, theatre, dance, and film; spoken and written word in many languages and forms; heritage projects; community festivals and celebrations; and many mediums of visual arts. Activities included performances, workshops, forums and lectures, residencies, and installations, in venues indoors and outdoors, large and small, some taking place on one day or a few days, and some as series.

Myriad cultures were shared—preserving heritage and exploring new forms—including cultures from South, Central and North America, Africa, Middle East, Southeast Asia, Western and central Europe as were families of all types, gays and lesbians, natural environment, recycled materials to art, projects honoring senior citizens, and natural industries heritage.

And, finally, purposeful collaboration was evident in many of the grants (25%). With a strong purpose to share, educate and preserve beauty and strength of arts and cultures, artists and groups worked together—schools and neighborhood communities, artists with educators and businesses, across art forms and disciplines.

Rather than highlighting a few project samples here and risk diminishing the importance and value of others by their exclusion, MCCC provides quantities by priority and discipline below. A complete list of projects can be found in Appendix 1, Grants Awarded 2005 to 2008.

### **GRANTS BY PRIORITY / BENCHMARK**

#### **Enhance arts education and cultural awareness among youth.**

Thirty projects (27% of awards) identified educating youth as a chief outcome, either as active participants and creators of art, or as a specific audience type. Many other projects included youth in the intended audience, although not as a primary focus.

#### **Make culture accessible and affordable to Multnomah county residents.**

Not surprisingly, 89 projects (79% of awards) specified making their activities affordable and accessible as a major goal. In reaching and developing new audiences, the projects used methods

including free, reduced or subsidized admissions or fees, scholarships, public performances, and public art displays.

**Instigate new cultural activities and organizations.**

In this priority 60 projects (53% of awards) sought to share diverse cultures and form new organizations or arts and culture efforts. These projects included neighborhoods, ethnic art forms, storytelling, ecological preservation and culinary arts. The variety and depth of disciplines represented was impressive.

**GRANT AWARDS BY DISCIPLINE**

As with addressing MCCC priorities, some projects crossed arts and culture disciplines, e.g. a festival or youth education residency may have included music, storytelling, and mask making; a cultural or heritage project may have dance and literary arts components.

**Performing arts**

70 projects (62% of awards) in music, theatre, dance, film, as single or multiple performances, workshops, residencies, “kids camps”

**Literary**

23 projects (20% of awards) in spoken and written communication forms such as storytelling, oral histories, and publications in public workshops, performances or resource collections

**Cultural heritage and community**

19 projects (17% of awards) of many different cultures, as educational or preservation programs

**Festivals and community gatherings**

9 projects (8% of awards) for celebrations in ethnic culture, jazz, classical or new music, or neighborhood / community events

**Visual arts**

23 projects (20% of awards) specifically as visual art creations, installations or showings

## APPENDIX 1: MCCC GRANTS AWARDED 2005 to 2008

### 2005 Grants Awarded

Organization	Amount	Brief description
Arte Vivo Latin American Council	\$1,000	Latino folk and fine arts festival
Aurora Chorus	\$1,000	Multi-organization youth and family choral event
Bosco-Milligan Foundation	\$1,000	Neighborhood history research workshops
Cappella Romana	\$1,000	Collaborative free concerts for network of senior residents
Cinema Project	\$1,000	Film and video screenings of new works
Mt Hood Jazz Festival	\$1,000	Free admission to 2-day festival in Gresham
Hand2Mouth Theater	\$1,000	Outdoor neighborhood theater performances
Homowo African Arts & Cultures	\$1,000	Free African storytelling summer event in outdoor venue
Independent Publishing Resource Center	\$1,000	New "zine" program for youth
Kalakendra	\$1,000	Classical Indian dance ballet performance
MediaRites	\$1,000	Free community arts and culture event on SE Asian refugees
MetroArts Inc	\$1,000	Scholarships for youth to attend summer kids arts camp
Old Town/Chinatown Neighborhood	\$1,000	Poetry and storytelling event on Japanese and Chinese cultures
Film Action Oregon	\$1,000	Community dialogue event on gay- and lesbian-themed films
Piedmont Neighborhood Assoc	\$1,000	Partnership w/Portland Parks on free outdoor concerts
Portland Festival Symphony	\$1,000	Free outdoor concert series with regional guest artists
Portland Yiddish Club for the Big Squeeze	\$1,000	Multi-cultural accordion concert and educational event
Portsmouth Middle School	\$1,000	Community events sharing the artistic works of students
School & Community Reuse Action	\$1,000	Free outdoor neighborhood visual arts competition and exhibition using recycled / reused materials
Tears of Joy Puppet Theatre	\$1,000	Free bi-lingual shadow puppet play and workshops for youth and families
The Learning Commons	\$1,000	Rotating free urban neighborhood outdoor art exhibitions featuring multiple artists
Trillium Charter School	\$1,000	Community harvest fair at school with visual and performing arts, cultural activities
VOZ, Worker's Rights Education Project	\$1,000	Free community celebration of music, poetry and theatre in the Virgen de Guadalupe tradition
Wisdom of the Elders Inc	\$1,000	Reduced fees to performance and workshop events of the NW Indian Storytellers Association
Write Around Portland	\$1,000	Free community workshops on writing, dream interpretation and song writing

### 2006 Grants Awarded

Organization	Amount	Brief Description
African Community Coalition of Oregon	\$1,000	Quarterly movies, seminars, forum and workshops of African culture
Cascade Stereoscopic Club	\$1,000	Free public events of hands-on activities on stereoscopic and 3-D
Cinema Project	\$1,000	Contemporary film and video art from the Middle East
Columbia Symphony Orchestra	\$1,000	Children's school workshops of music and poetry with a final concert

Do Jump!	\$1,000	Subsidize free tickets for children of under-served communities to live dance / theatre performances
Ecotrust	\$1,000	Neighborhood street fair / farmers market of cultural and industry diversity
Eliot Neighborhood Assoc	\$1,000	Free outdoor music concert series for families
Hand2Mouth	\$1,000	Outdoor neighborhood theatre performances with business partnerships
Homowo African Arts and Culture	\$1,000	Free outdoor event of African art, poems, songs
Insight Out Theatre Collective	\$1,000	Community forum and performances on gay Latino social and immigration issues
Independent Publishing Resource Center	\$1,000	Provide free writing and publishing projects for youth
NE Coalition of Neighborhoods	\$1,000	Free multi-cultural neighborhood festival of music, dance, foods, arts and crafts
Oregon Children's Theatre	\$1,000	Free performance tickets, theatre tours, study materials and workshops for teachers and students in economically disadvantaged or challenged schools
Orlo	\$1,000	Purchase subscriptions of periodicals for libraries and community resource centers
Otua Mo Tona	\$1,000	Festival performances of Tongan arts of dance, song and music
Performance Works NorthWest	\$1,000	Rehearsal and creative sessions for improvisational theatre performances
Piedmont Neighborhood Assoc	\$1,000	Free outdoor summer concert
Poetry Northwest	\$1,000	Purchase complimentary of publications for libraries, community and retirement centers
Portland Actors Ensemble	\$1,000	Multiple free forums and outdoor public performances of Shakespearean works
Portland Art Center	\$1,000	Interactive theme-based art installation
Portland Festival Symphony	\$1,000	Free classical and jazz outdoor concerts
Portland Piano International	\$1,000	Underwrite international piano festival of recitals, master classes, lectures, film and art exhibit
Portland Taiko	\$1,000	Free and low cost tickets for underserved youth to student matinees
Self Enhancement Inc	\$1,000	Youth directed in research and presentations on individuals in the Portland African American community
Sojourn Theatre	\$1,000	Free performance series of citizens participation in City government
Stumptown Stages	\$1,000	In collaboration with IFCC provide scholarships for underrepresented youth to summer music theatre camps creating own works
The Learning Commons	\$1,000	Creating art installations of multiple artists in outdoor exhibits
Third Angle New Music Ensemble	\$1,000	In collaboration with PSU provide training for middle and high school students with master composers and musicians
William Stafford Center	\$1,000	Writers collecting and publishing oral histories on Portland's past and present
Write Around Portland	\$1,000	Workshops and readings on writing and sharing stories of youth, women and low-income writers effected by illness, disease or addictions

## Grants Awarded 2007

Organization	Amount	Brief Description
Columbia Symphony Orchestra	\$1,000	Children's school workshops of music and poetry with final concert
Dance Coalition of Oregon	\$1,000	Choreographers new works concert series
Do Jump!	\$1,000	Subsidize free tickets for children of under-served communities to live dance / theatre performances
Labor of Art/Education Without Borders	\$1,000	Free event of Labor of Art visual works and music
Latin American Film Festival	\$1,000	Film festival of culturally diverse pieces from the US and international sources
MetroArts Inc	\$1,000	Underwrite costs of Young Artists Concerts
Mt Hood Repertory Theatre	\$1,000	Reduced admissions to festival of American playwrights
Newspace Center for Photography	\$1,000	School tours to an exhibition of Japanese photographer
Oregon Children's Theatre	\$1,000	Free performance tickets, theatre tours, study materials and workshops for teachers and students in economically disadvantaged or challenged schools
Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission	\$1,000	Free public programs on early Oregon artists, authors and creative figures
Oregon Jewish Museum	\$1,000	Free admission to an exhibit and film on American Jewish culture
Physicians for Social Responsibility	\$1,000	Community meetings and workshops, performance and art installation on the theme of peace
Piedmont Neighborhood Assoc	\$1,000	Free outdoor summer concert
PlayWrite Inc	\$1,000	Underwrite costs of performance of student created and produced plays and songs
Polaris Dance Theatre	\$1,000	Free student matinees of dance
Portland Central America Solidarity Committee	\$1,000	Free workshops on media and culture production (electronic, print)
Portland Classical Chinese Garden	\$1,000	Underwrite costs of senior and master guest artists in demonstrations and workshops of traditional Chinese arts
Portland Festival Symphony	\$1,000	Free classical and jazz outdoor concert series
Portland Taiko	\$1,000	Free and low cost tickets for underserved youth to student matinees
School & Community Reuse Action Project	\$1,000	Free outdoor neighborhood visual arts competition and exhibition using recycled / reused materials
Sojourn Theatre	\$1,000	Theatre piece on medicine, traditional healers and modern medicine
Water in the Desert	\$1,000	Sculpture / art installation in an outdoor, public setting with speakers and music
White Bird	\$1,000	Free student matinee dance performances / residencies
Write Around Portland	\$1,000	Free community readings and oral histories on Portland's neighborhood histories

## Grants Awarded 2008

Organization	Amount	Brief Description
3D Center of Art & Photography	\$1,000	Free exhibit and hands-on workshops of stereoscopic art and photography
BroadArts Theatre	\$1,000	Interactive community discussion on arts education, arts collaboration, and creating a performance piece

CoG	\$1,000	New theatre works with audience / attendee participation; admission on a "pay as you can" scale
Columbia Symphony Orchestra	\$1,000	Underwrite costs of two symphonic concerts with appeal to children / families with collaboration with other arts groups, visual art and poetry
Creative Science School PTA	\$1,000	Community arts event with interactive arts for students, families, neighbors; free access
fever theatre	\$1,000	Collaborative efforts of established and new artists in theatre, workshops, multi-disciplines to create new performance piece(s)
Flying Focus Video Collective	\$1,000	Oral traditions, storytelling used to engaged community in dialogue and creation of new work(s)
Friends of the Performing Arts Center	\$2,000	Free outdoor summer concert series promoting local musicians / song writers
Hand2Mouth Theatre	\$1,000	Collaborative time capsule installation-performance events of stationary exhibits/installations and satellite performances
Hellenic-American Cultural Center & Museum	\$1,000	Free workshop/lectures and low cost performances of traditional 20 <sup>th</sup> century "music of the Greek soul"
Homowo African Arts and Cultures	\$2,000	Summer arts education camps for youth on African drumming, dance, theatre and storytelling
Irvington PTA	\$1,000	Creation of outdoor art work, community designed and built, suing talents of local artisans
MetroArts Inc	\$2,000	Underwrite costs of Young Artists Concerts
Newspace Center for Photography	\$1,000	Exhibition of internationally-renowned photographers, including hosted school tours
Opera Theatre of Oregon	\$2,000	Live opera vocal performances combined with silent movie in a non-traditional setting
Oregon Children's Theatre	\$2,000	Free performance tickets, theatre tours, study materials and workshops for teachers and students in economically disadvantaged or challenged schools
Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission	\$2,000	Free public programs on early Oregon artists, authors and creative figures
Oregon Jewish Museum	\$2,000	Evening street festival of Jewish history via photographs, art, food and music and an exhibition; free
Oregon Museum of Science and Industry	\$1,000	Informal learning programs on humanities and science—presentations and discussion
Oslund + Company / Dance	\$1,000	Refinement and presentation of new dance work(s) melding African and Western music
Pacific Crest Wind Symphony	\$2,000	On-site, free series of classical wind symphonies for senior citizens / assisted living residents
Portland Children's Museum	\$2,000	Day-long family festival with free museum admission and special performance for youth—games, stories, visual arts, dance and music
Portland Community Media	\$1,000	Special community matters programs featuring local arts organizations
Portland Festival Symphony	\$2,000	Free outdoor classical and jazz concert series
Portland Taiko	\$2,000	Free and low cost tickets for underserved youth to student matinees
Puppetista Project	\$2,000	Neighborhood community accessible art program making puppets, instruments
Satori Men's Chorus	\$1,000	Encourage participation and audience development for

		men's choral music ensemble
School & Community Reuse Action Project	\$1,000	Free outdoor neighborhood visual arts competition and exhibition using recycled / reused materials
Sojourn Theatre	\$1,000	Site-specific, site-responsive series of creative activities and public dialogues toward a performance piece
The Earth & Spirit Council	\$1,000	African teacher-author at lectures and in-school assemblies, sharing a culture of Burkina Faso
The Learning Commons	\$1,060	Outdoor public art installations in collaboration with at-risk and transitional youth programs
Trillium Charter School	\$1,000	Grade school students in school and community projects with visual artists and photographers in creating new works
Water in the Desert	\$1,000	Day festival of music, performance, visual art and workshops for neighborhood youth
Write Around Portland	\$2,000	Free community readings, workshops and oral histories on Portland's neighborhood histories and residents

## APPENDIX 2: MULTNOMAH COUNTY CULTURAL COALITION STRUCTURE AND BYLAWS

### **Purpose**

The role of the Multnomah County Cultural Coalition is to implement, evaluate and update the Multnomah County Cultural Plan. The MCCC will set timelines and create policies and procedures to govern the distribution of Community Cultural Participation Grants funds and will be responsible for measuring the progress of Cultural Plan priorities through the use of appropriate benchmarks, ensuring that arts, heritage, humanities and preservation goals are will represented. The Coalition will publicly advocate for the Oregon Cultural Trust and Multnomah County's Cultural plan, administer MCCC funds (from Trust and other sources), oversee grant making activities and fire and manager staff as required.

### **Coalition Membership and Terms**

The Multnomah County Cultural Coalition will have at least six but not more than 12 members who have a demonstrated interest or expertise in the areas of arts, heritage, humanities, or preservation. Coalition membership should comprise a broad spectrum of the county cultural stakeholders (including residents from outside of Portland) and should include representatives from small and large organizations, and from a variety of ethnic and cultural communities, and age cohorts.

Coalition members will serve a three-year term. One third of Coalition members' terms will expire each year. The MCCC may nominate potential candidates and elect them to the Coalition. Self-nominations will also be welcome. With this in mind, MCCC will make a public announcement of openings and deadlines for those wishing to recommend themselves or someone else to serve on the Coalition.

A Coalition member may resign at any time, either orally at any meeting of the Coalition, or in writing to the Secretary. A member may be removed, with or without cause, at any duly announced meeting of the MCCC by a two-thirds vote of the members.

### **Officers and Elections**

There shall be two Coalition Co-Chairs, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. Officers can be elected at an duly announced meeting where there is a quorum (50% of membership in attendance).

The Co-Chairs shall facilitate Coalition meetings and liaison with county and state officials as needed. The Treasurer will liaison with MCCC's fiscal agent and report on finances to the Coalition. In the absence of staff, the Treasurer will be responsible for bringing requests for expenditures before the Coalition for approval. The Secretary will ensure that proper recordkeeping is performed and will prepare and distribute minutes from Coalition meetings.

### **Coalition Meetings**

The Coalition will meet as often as necessary, and at least once per quarter. Subcommittees will meet as required. Excessive absenteeism from Coalition meetings and subcommittee meetings will be a cause for removal from the Coalition.

### **Authority to Appoint Committees**

The Multnomah County Coalition may appoint and adopt committees as needed to facilitate Coalition activities. For example:

- Executive Committee—Between full Coalition meetings, the Executive Committee can make decisions and exercise authority on behalf of the full Coalition, except in instances where a decision by the full Coalition is required.
- Grants Committee—The Grant Committee manages the MCCC’s grantmaking activities and brings recommendations for funding to the entire Coalition for approval.
- Ad Hoc or Special Committees—As needed, the Co-Chairs or Coalition members may appoint ad hoc or special committees.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

Conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest, exists if a relative of a Coalition member or an organization with which a Coalition member is affiliated is a grant applicant or would benefit directly from a specific grant. In such instances, the Coalition member may participate in discussion preceding the vote but must recuse himself or herself from the vote.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

The Coalition will be responsible for the prudent fiscal oversight of MCCC funds and expenditures and retains ultimate responsibility for all fiscal decisions. The Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC) will serve as MCCC’s fiscal agent and the MCCC’s fiscal year will coincide with that of RACC. In the future, as dictated by need or preference, the MCCC may elect to change its fiscal agent or incorporate as its own 501(c)(3).

### **Management of Programs**

MCCC will at the outset contract with a suitable partner cultural agency—such as the Regional Arts and Culture Council—to administer its grant programs as efficiently as possible. The contracting agency will propose a reasonable fee for these services.

### **Revision of Plan**

The Coalition will be responsible for updating and amending the Plan as required. At a minimum, after three years, the Coalition will evaluate the entire Plan and report on the progress being made on the priorities and associated benchmarks. The Coalition will forward any proposed changes to the Oregon Cultural Trust Board for review.

### **Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Multnomah County Cultural Coalition by a two-thirds vote.

APPENDIX 3:  
COMMUNITY CULTURAL PARTICIPATION GRANTS  
GUIDELINES FY 08-09

**Multnomah  
C o u n t y  
C u l t u r a l  
C o a l i t i o n**

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GRANT PROGRAM

Community  
Cultural  
Participation  
Grants  
**FY 08-09**

**Deadline: Wednesday, May 7, 2008 by 5:00 pm**

# MCCC

## COMMUNITY CULTURAL PARTICIPATION

### GRANT GUIDELINES ~ FY 2008-09

#### **MCCC MISSION STATEMENT**

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The Multnomah County Cultural Coalition mission is to foster a community that is opportunity-rich in cultural offerings, increasing the likelihood of cultural participation among the broadest possible spectrum of county residents. The MCCC will set timelines and create policies and procedures to govern the distribution of Community Cultural Participation Grant funds received from the Oregon Cultural Trust. The coalition will also be responsible for measuring the progress in meeting the priorities of the Cultural Plan through the use of appropriate benchmarks and by ensuring that arts, heritage, humanities and preservation goals are all well represented.

#### **STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

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The Multnomah County Cultural Coalition is committed to providing services and making our resources available to every member of Multnomah County without regard to race, color, creed, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, military status, marital status, political opinion, national origin, familial status, mental and physical disability, gender identity, and source of income or disability status.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

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The Community Cultural Participation (CCP) Grant Program supports community-based cultural events, programs and organizations. **Community Cultural Participation Grants can be used for a specific cultural event, program, or activity as long as it is open to the public.** Any not-for-profit organization will be eligible to apply for a CCP grant up to \$2,000. This includes registered neighborhood associations, groups of citizens with a declared common purpose consistent with the goals of this grant program, and organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) status. However, IRS 501(c)(3) status is not required.

Applications must clearly demonstrate how the funds will help the proposed cultural event, program, or activity to become more accessible and/or affordable to Multnomah County residents or encourage new cultural activities and organizations.

#### **RACC Info**

The Regional Arts & Culture Council will assist the MCCC in conducting this grant process. Applicants should contact RACC grants staff at least one week prior to the deadline with specific questions regarding their proposal.

RACC staff is also available to assist applicants with questions regarding the on-line application process.

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This is a simple one page application on-line, with no required supplementary materials.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A CCP GRANT

1. Applicants must complete and electronically submit an on-line application by **no later than 5:00 pm Wednesday, May 7, 2008.**
2. Access *to* and assistance *with* the On-line Application Process:
  - To access the CCP on-line application and guidelines, go to any of the following Multnomah County Cultural Coalition websites and click on the link: *Multnomah County Community Participation Grants*:  

www.oregonhum.org; www.pcpa.com; www.racc.org
  - Applicants who need assistance applying on-line should contact RACC grants staff.
  - Applicants can use computers at any public library to access the MCCC on-line grant application.
  - If needed, applicants should consult with RACC grants staff regarding eligibility and review criteria at least one week prior to the grant deadline.
3. All applications must be received electronically by RACC by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, May 7, 2008. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

## GRANT CYCLE

1. All funded activities must take place between July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, the grant cycle for the CCP grant. **No extensions will be given.** If the grant cannot be completed in this timeframe, the applicant will be required to relinquish the grant and apply in the next grant cycle if they choose to do so.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Community Cultural Participation grant, the applicant must:

1. Be a “not-for-profit” organization. This includes registered neighborhood associations, groups of citizens with a declared common purpose consistent with the goals of this grant program, and organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) status. However, IRS 501(c)(3) status is *not required*.

*For the purpose of the Community Cultural Participation grant program, the definition of a “not-for-profit organization” is: an organization whose primary purpose is to serve and to provide general benefit to the public and the organization’s or group’s net earnings are not distributed to those who control it.*

2. Show that the proposed activity will make culture more accessible and/or affordable to Multnomah County residents *or* that it will encourage new cultural activities and organizations.
3. Provide MCCC with an Employer Identification Number (EIN) (see sidebar).
4. Be headquartered within Multnomah County and serve Multnomah County residents. (See item #3 under Funding Restrictions on page 4 of the Guidelines.)

## EIN

The Employer Identification Number (EIN) is necessary to help MCCC ensure that awards will be granted in the name of an organization. You can apply to the Internal Revenue Service for an EIN by going to their website a [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**Proposals for CCP Grants must address one of two principal goals:****1. Make Culture Accessible and/or Affordable to Multnomah County Residents**

- Foster partnerships and collaborations between organizations representing different constituencies and disciplines, or organizations serving different social functions. The purpose of these collaborations is to widen and diversify the audience for existing cultural organizations and institutions.

**2. Encourage New Cultural Activities and Organizations**

- Support the efforts to organize cultural activities and form new cultural organizations.

**Community Cultural Participation grants are designed to support a wide variety of activities. Examples of possible CCP grant proposals include:**

Expenses for events, programs or activities accessible to the public; reading and discussion groups at a local community center; a neighborhood arts fair; a project to preserve or make people familiar with some aspect of the city's cultural history; performances, workshops, lectures, exhibits and other activities which will clearly help in enriching cultural participation within the county.

**INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES / APPLICANTS**

1. Grants will not be awarded to an individual.
2. Grants will not be awarded to pay for a full-or part-time staff position.
3. Purchases of equipment will not be funded through the Community Cultural Participation grant.

**FUNDING RESTRICTIONS**

1. Available funding from the MCCC will influence awards to applicants.
2. Awardees will receive a single Community Cultural Participation grant up to \$2,000 for the fiscal year July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.
3. Organizations and groups from outside of Multnomah County are not eligible to apply for a Multnomah County Community Cultural Participation grant.

We strongly recommend attending the CCP Grant orientation, Tuesday, April 8, 3:30- 4:30pm at the RACC offices, 108 NW 9th, Suite 202, Portland, OR.

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## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

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### **APPLICANTS MUST:**

1. Electronically submit a completed application by the stated deadline of Wednesday, May 7, 2008 by 5:00pm.

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## **REVIEW CRITERIA**

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The MCCC Review panel will apply the following criteria in the review of applications:

### **PROPOSAL MERIT (50 POINTS MAXIMUM)**

1. Ability of proposal to meet one or more of the goals stated on pg. 4 of the Guidelines.
2. Impact of activity on constituency for which it is intended.
3. Uniqueness of the proposed activity to the organization or the community.
4. Overall clarity of grant proposal.

### **BENEFIT TO APPLICANT AND TO COMMUNITY (50 POINTS MAXIMUM)**

1. Evidence that the organization's proposal will make Culture Accessible and/or Affordable to Multnomah County Residents or Encourage New Cultural Activities and Organizations.
2. Evidence that the proposal supports the cultural mission of the organization.
3. Capacity of organization to meet proposal objectives.

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## **REVIEW PROCESS**

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1. RACC grants staff will review proposals to determine basic eligibility. Proposals that are deemed ineligible will be returned to applicants.
2. A panel made up of MCCC members will review and rate proposals according to the established review criteria listed above. The panel will determine which proposals should receive funding and forward their recommendations to the MCCC for approval.
3. The MCCC will make awards with a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of \$2,000 based on panel ratings and recommendations.
4. Grant applicants can anticipate notification of grant award status by June 30, 2008.

When crafting your responses to the narrative items, please keep the **Review Criteria** in mind.

## **GRANT AWARDS**

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The number of Community Cultural Participation grants awarded will depend on the funds available in the Community Cultural Participation Grant budget for that year.

Grant Awards will be a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of \$2,000.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT (CREDIT TO MCCC)**

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Community Cultural Participation recipients will acknowledge the support by MCCC and the Oregon Cultural Trust in all printed materials related to the Community Cultural Participation grant, if applicable.

The Oregon Cultural Trust logo shall be used if space and format permit. Examples of ways in which OCT support has been acknowledged will be required with all grant reports.

## **FINAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS**

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At the close of the Community Cultural Participation Grant cycle, grant recipients will be required to submit a Final Report and evaluation of their completed activities. Compliance with final reporting requirements in previous grant cycles will be considered when the applicant's future grant applications are in review.

## **MCCC GRANT COMPLIANCE**

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1. Applicants awarded a Community Cultural Participation Grant must complete the grant between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009.
2. A Final Report will be required within 30 days after the grant cycle has ended.

Awardees **must submit a Final Report** in order to be considered in compliance with grant guidelines. This report will be available via MCCC's online grant process. Awardees will be notified when it is available.

3. It is the responsibility of the grant applicant to notify MCCC in writing and in advance of any changes in the grant status.

## **GRANT ASSISTANCE**

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The Regional Arts & Cultural grants staff is available to answer questions about the grant process. If you have questions, please contact *either* of the following staff:

Ingrid Carlson; 503.823.5417; [icarlson@racc.org](mailto:icarlson@racc.org)

Helen Daltoso; 503.823.5402; [hdaltoso@racc.org](mailto:hdaltoso@racc.org)

Notification and information on award status can only be given after the grants process is complete. Please do not contact the MCCC or RACC Staff about award status until after receiving official notification in the mail. If you have not received notification by June 30, 2008, contact RACC staff at 503.823.5417.