

Community Cultural Connections Grants

In response to *Imagine Chattanooga 20/20*, ArtsBuild implemented a program which makes arts and culture more accessible to underserved populations, inclusive of geographic area, ethnicity, age and individuals with disabilities.

The Diversity section of *Imagine Chattanooga 20/20* suggests the following goal:

“To ensure that neighborhoods and underserved communities are better served, a special neighborhood arts and culture program should be developed that provides small grants for neighborhood and community cultural initiatives.”

Funding for the Community Cultural Connections (CCC) grants was provided by the Lyndhurst Foundation, Hamilton County Commissioner Tim Boyd, and generous community contributions.

FY 2020 Community Cultural Connections Grant Recipients

Brie Stevens to fund Dorothy Dandridge Reimagined: BHM 2020, a video project honoring the late Dorothy Dandridge and the part she played in the musical *Sun Valley Serenade* and her performance of *Chattanooga Choo Choo*.

Center for Mindful Living to support Paths to Peace, an event promoting discovering peace and mindfulness in its many forms, including through visual arts and dance.

Chattanooga Sound Project to fund a concert series consisting of four concerts, two in the fall of 2019 and two in the spring of 2020, featuring internationally renowned musicians James Hall, flute, and Susie Maddocks, piano.

Chattanooga Writers' Guild to present the Chattanooga Readers and Writers Fair at the downtown Chattanooga Public Library, with a theme of “A celebration of all things literary, for and by the entire community.”

Chattanooga's Legends of Soul to present *A Tribute to the Queen, Aretha Franklin*, featuring Jasmine Le'Shea, the Women of Worship, and 4PEACE in performance at the Barking Legs Theater.

Christian J. Collier to support The Plug Poetry Project Reading Series, which brings a renowned poet to Chattanooga to lead a free workshop for the community and features a reading of their work.

Culture Books to support Culture Books: Journey to China, a cultural celebration of Chinese New Year.

Doors Open Jazz to support free music lessons/classes and Jazz workshops to students year round held at the Bethlehem Center, the Avondale Center and the Bethlehem-Wiley Church.

Epilepsy Foundation of Southeast Tennessee to fund Studio E, a multi-week art program that gives children ages 6 – 17 with epilepsy and seizure disorders the opportunity to creatively express themselves through art, as well as build a community of support among their peers.

Glass House Collective to support the Glass Street LIVE block party, featuring spoken word artist Erika Roberts, musician Anthony Wiley, and dancers from The Pop-up Project teaming up to create and perform a piece that celebrates the history of Glass Street and reminds audiences of the beauty and potential of this community.

Hip-Hop for Humanity Chattanooga to support C-Grimey's Art Wednesdays, a free after-school art program for students at the Westside Youth and Family Development Center.

Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association to fund the Lincoln Park Family Festival, a neighborhood community event featuring performances by local dancers and musicians as well as a showcase of local youth artists.

Mark Making to support a Stove Works mural project, an initiative for three teens to plan, finding funding for, design, and install a mural in the Stove Works courtyard focusing on issues they see in their schools: bullying, drug abuse, and gang violence.

Move N Groove Kidz to support the Move N Groove Kidz Garvey program, a mobile creative dance, gymnastics and capoeira program offering classes on site at preschools and daycares in the Greater Chattanooga area.

Northside Neighborhood House to support Northside Neighborhood House Dance Project, a program for K-12 students taught by resident artist Louis Marin-Howard focused on learning about dance as art and emphasized individual expression.

The Pop-up Project to direct and produce a site-specific performance film featuring Ballet Tennessee dancers, local musicians, a cinematographer, spoken word artist, and editors focusing on stories from “The Big Nine” that have been archived by the Bessie Smith Cultural Center.

Resilient Documentary Project to produce one short documentary about the impact that music education is having in the East Lake community, which will feature an adolescent Latino from the East Lake Expression Engine program.

Scenic City Clay Arts to support the Empty Bowls initiative, a community engagement project that includes a series of events in the Chattanooga area to create handmade ceramics bowls. Final bowls will be sold with a majority of revenue donated to Family Promise, an organization that helps families transition out of homelessness.

Songs of Freedom to support Breathe Free, a program for youth in the Eastdale and Brainerd neighborhoods including art and improv workshops, African-American history, mental health workshops and counseling.

The Artist SEVEN to support Burnin' Bridges Street Art Project & Mural Jam, an artistic exhibition platform through which 25 professional and urban street art muralists from around the country will paint murals in the Oak Hills community of Chattanooga.

The Net Resource Foundation to support Ubuntu, A Community Celebration, a six-week cultural arts education program for South Chattanooga youth culminating in an Ubuntu Community Celebration.

The Shaking Ray Levi Society to support The Signal Centers/David Greenberger Project which will create monologues and original music drawn from conversations made between artist David Greenberger and participants from the community of Signal Centers, a non-profit facility with services focusing on disabilities and self-sufficiency.

Tim Hinck to present Bach's *Magnificat*, in partnership with 34 other professional musicians from Chattanooga and New York as a fund-raiser for the Chattanooga Area Food Bank.

Voci Virili Men's Consort and Voice of Reason Women's Ensemble to support performances of Mozart's *Coronation Mass* and *Misa Criolla* by 20th century Argentinian composer Ariel Ramirez.

Young Ladies of Power to support the *9th Street Black Heritage Festival* with local talent, poetry, music and testimonies from residents who have live the area history and can tell it.