



PRESS RELEASE

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www.sacmetroarts.org

THE SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN ARTS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES ARTSCAPES GRANT AWARDS

Sacramento, CA--The Sacramento art scene is about to experience an infusion of new ideas and fresh perspectives as the **Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission (SMAC)** announces the selection of twenty-eight (28) arts groups to receive **ArtScapes 2008-09 grants**.

This is the third year ArtScapes grants have been awarded in Sacramento. The **ArtScapes Grant Program** was created to support small arts groups looking to produce quality artistic works that inspire, ignite, and provoke.

Projects will be produced by the funded groups between February 2008 and February 2009 and include, among others: A dance performance assembled from individual and collaborative interpretations of John Lennon's *Imagine*. A contest challenging participants to create a three-minute trailer in hopes of winning a chance to expand it into a film. A photography exhibition examining the relationship between artists and their work spaces. A festival bringing together such diverse art forms as fire dancing, music, sculpture, and spoken word. A musical theatre performance piece taking inspiration from a multitude of genres, including rock 'n' roll, jazz, Southern gospel, and Middle Eastern music. This is just the beginning: ArtScapes grantees also include the JAMMIES and the Sacramento Film and Music Festival, as well several programs focusing on the cultivation of creative pursuits among Sacramento area youth.

The common threads, of course, are the collaboration of creative minds and the contribution to the region's identity as a cultural destination.

In total, the arts groups were awarded a sum of \$85,112, with grants ranging from \$1,378 to \$4,465. The grantees represent an impressive cross-section of the Sacramento region's arts community, with projects that display diversity in scope, discipline, and subject matter. The **ArtScapes 2008-09** recipients, in order of ranking from highest to lowest are:

Sacramento Blues Society	\$4,465
Sacramento Film & Music Festival	\$4,455
Sacramento News & Review	\$4,445
Sangeet Bharati-Youth Initiative	\$3,905
Yemaya Salsa Dance Co.	\$3,891
Ohana Dance Group	\$3,895

Dangerous Lorraines Dance	\$3,895
Gregory Kondos Gallery	\$3,875
Bruce Forman	\$3,875
Sacramento Flamenco Arts	\$3,370
The Pink Toupee Collective	\$3,360
Ron Cisneros	\$3,360
Fine Arts Festival of Elk Grove	\$3,350
E:motion Dance Ensemble	\$3,350
Northern California Experimental Music Festival	\$2,540
C.O.R.E. Dance Collective	\$2,530
Footworks	\$2,117
Kim Cyrus	\$2,510
Capital Film Arts Alliance	\$2,510
RCAF CENTRO	\$2,500
Paul Nicknig Films	\$2,500
Hart Senior Center - Senior Writers Group	\$2,490
Obsidian Butterfly	\$2,165
Pompsicle	\$1,853
Sacramento International Film Fest	\$2,155
Sacramento Vision	\$1,910
The Jazz Generation	\$1,463
Upside Down Productions	\$1,378

Additional awards were also given: Northern California Experimental Music Festival received a Resolution by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors in recognition of having the most innovative project, and Sangeet Bharati Youth Initiative received an additional monetary award in the amount of \$1,000 for their efforts to preserve a traditional art.

Recipients of the ArtScapes grant were chosen from a pool thirty-eight (38) applicants by a multi-disciplinary panel of arts professionals. Panelists included: Dennis Yep, Artistic Director of InterACT; Mike Crain, composer and percussionist; Kim Curry-Evans, Director of 40 Acres Gallery in Oak Park; James Barrera: Trick Roper and business manager of Folklorico Latino de Woodland; and, Laurie Heller, Grants Administrator for the California Resources Agency .

The **Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission**, a City/County agency, works to advance community through arts and culture. For more information on SMAC, please go to www.SacMetroArts.org or contact SMAC at 916-566-3992.

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