



## ***Dane County Awards \$94,500 in Grants to Local Arts Organizations***

### ***Dane Arts Awards Grants Supporting Arts and Cultural Activities Countywide with Public-Private Funds***

Dozens of local organizations that promote community arts, history, and culture are receiving “Dane Arts” grants, County Executive Joe Parisi and the Dane County Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission announced today. 49 project, two Short Order, and four Capital requests totaling \$94,500 were recently awarded in Cycle 2 for “Dane Arts” grants in 2023.

“Congratulations to this year’s recipients of Dane Arts grants,” said Dane County Executive Joe Parisi. “Through county funds, private donations, and ongoing partnerships, Dane Arts grants support programs and performances that bolster our arts and culture community and make Dane County a vibrant place to call home. We are fortunate to have so many talented local artists and look forward to what they, along with our arts organizations, have planned.”

The “Dane Arts” grants are funded by county dollars in conjunction with private donations from the Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation, the W. Jerome Frautschi Foundation, and the Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation. This year, County Executive Parisi and the County Board of Supervisors allocated an additional \$40,000 to fund project grant requests that provide equitable opportunities for youth to participate in the arts.

Dane County’s Dane Arts will award over \$220,000 in public-private funds to nonprofit organizations, schools, individuals, and municipalities for arts, cultural, local history projects and other community arts programs offered countywide.

The next project grant deadline is February 1, 2024, 4:00 p.m.

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*Grant recipients are listed below this announcement.*

# **Dane County Arts and Cultural Affairs:** **2023 Cycle 2 Grants**

## **Arts in Education**

**American Players Theatre** - *American Players Theatre In-Classroom Residencies for Dane County Schools*

**Award: \$2,120**

Two in-classroom residency programs, Potency of Poetry and The Words Between Us, utilize the language and theatrical skills and experiences of APT teaching artists to infuse students with enthusiasm and appreciation for classical texts and important contemporary literary works. These week-long programs equip students with tools to approach challenging literature, such as poetry and Shakespeare, and instill in them the confidence to express themselves with language.

**Madison Symphony Orchestra** - *Fall Youth Concerts 2023*

**Award: \$2,196**

The MSO's Fall Youth Concerts bring area elementary and middle school students into a world-class concert hall to experience live classical music performed by a professional symphony orchestra. The concerts are performed by the MSO in Overture Hall and feature the winner from the MSO's Fall Youth Concerto Competition.

**Madison Symphony Orchestra** - *Spring Young People's Concert 2024*

**Award: \$2,170**

The MSO's Spring Young People's Concert brings area high school students into a world-class concert hall to experience live classical music performed by a professional symphony orchestra. The concert is performed by the MSO in Overture Hall and features the winner from the MSO's Bolz Young Artist Competition.

**Music con Brio** - *Music con Brio's 12th Annual Community Concert Series*

**Award: \$2,141**

In 2023-24, Music con Brio will present their 12th Annual Community Concert Series, integrating music by the Black Composers initiative. Partnering with MYArts and Emerson Elementary, they will present two community concerts, professionally recording both to showcase online—providing motivation, outreach, and enriching collaborations between students, professional musicians, and the community.

**Urban Community Arts Network** - *Academic Rap Up: Hip-Hop Pedagogy and Community Connection*

**Award: \$1,931**

Urban Community Arts Network is teaming up with Madison schools to partner local rappers with 6th-12th graders to write collaborative rap songs about school subjects. Students will record their lyrics in a professional recording studio and perform their final songs at both a school assembly and community concert.

**Wisconsin Film Festival - *BIG SCREENS, LITTLE FOLKS***

**Award: \$2,146**

The 26th annual Wisconsin Film Festival, University of Wisconsin's largest arts on and off-campus event, offers free film experiences for children ages 5-18. The Big Screens, Little Folks program serves 3,000 school aged children a year—introducing them to the world of cinema as an art form. Free tickets, transportation, film-making programs, study guides, Q&As with guest filmmakers are offered each year, through the support of Dane Arts.

**Dance**

**Dance Wisconsin - *The Nutcracker Ballet, continually improving a tradition for many to include all***

**Award: \$1,842**

Dance Wisconsin's production of the Nutcracker has evolved over the past 45 years, changing and growing with the Madison Community. With the removal of inappropriate cultural messages and the creation of more size inclusive costumes, Dance Wisconsin is continuing to evolve.

**Isthmus Dance Collective - *IDC's DELVE (Dance Experience Lab for Vibrant Exchange)***

**Award: \$1,595**

IDC's DELVE Incubator provides an opportunity for dancers and choreographers to create and explore artistically, while making new connections and performing for local audiences. Professional and pre-professional dancers will work with selected choreographers in the creation of new works that will be included in IDC's June performance.

**Kanopy Dance Theatre - *Kanopy Dance presents ConFluence: A Prelude***

**Award: \$2,028**

*ConFluence: A Prelude*, an innovative multi-season collaboration between Kanopy Dance and Madison Composer Michael Bell, celebrates the transformative power of the arts. Inspired by environmental themes in Bell's new symphony, *Regeneration: A Pentalogy*, the Kanopy Directors' premiere is about attuning to nature's essence, spurring environmental awareness and protection, and becoming in harmony with our earth.

**Madison Ballet - *The Nutcracker Behind the Curtain***

**Award: \$1,771**

Madison Ballet's *Behind the Curtain* program blends classical dance, symphonic music, and literature into a one-of-a-kind experience for students of all ages. *Behind the Curtains* includes a comprehensive study guide with a full-length performance of *The Nutcracker*, featuring 150 local dancers and live music provided by the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra.

**Madison Contemporary Dance - *Community Dance Concert 2023***

**Award: \$2,145**

Holidays Collide is a contemporary and hip-hop dance concert dedicated to bringing people together for arts, community, and learning. Madison Contemporary Dance is partnering with The Hitterz Collective, Majestic Hip Hop Crew, and Synergy Dance Academy to include children, teens, and community members in the concert. This season features all-new choreography by talented local professionals.

**The House Urban arts Initiative Incorporated - *The House Inc. 20th Anniversary Dance Showcase***

**Award: \$1,954**

Black performing arts is more than just Alvin Ailey, who Madison only gets to see once a year. However, all year round The House Inc. is performing, rehearsing and pioneering dance culture. The Jungle Dance Showcase will take place Dec. 2 at Rumble.

**Local History**

**Araceli Esparza - *Midwest Mujeres Artist Business Podcast Series Project 2023-24***

**Award: \$1,818**

The Wisconsin Business TalkBack Podcast explores the untold stories of small business survival, financial resilience, and the entrepreneurial spirit that makes Wisconsin a vibrant and dynamic place for commerce.

**Multidisciplinary Arts/Culture**

**Africasong Communications - *2024 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute***

**Award: \$1,715**

The 43rd Annual State of Wisconsin Tribute & Ceremony honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is a multi-disciplinary and multi-ethnic arts and cultural showcase that celebrates Dr. King's legacy and inspires hope using music, dance, and spoken word.

**Black Arts Matters - *Black Arts Matters - Young Gifted and Black Talent Competition***

**Award: \$1,984**

Young, Gifted, and Black Talent Competition is a one day inter-disciplinary event providing a dedicated platform for Black youth of all grade levels to express and display their artistic talent and endeavors. This is a free event open to the public and performed at the Starlight Theater at MyArts.

**From The Front Row - *From The Front Row - Live Concert Series Event and Video Series***

**Award: \$2,074**

From The Front Row is a Madison-based live concert series and video program that showcases local Madison and Midwest musical artists in picturesque spaces, creating an event that is uniquely Midwest.

**Madison Children's Museum - *Artist Commissions for new nature exhibit***

**Award: \$2,256**

A new exhibit will transform a second-floor space into a Wisconsin wonderland. Immersive nature play is the vehicle for how children will encounter an overarching theme of kindness to all living things—animals, plants, each other, and to themselves. Four Wisconsin-based artists will lend their creative voices to the exhibit.

**Monroe Street Arts Center - Community Artist Series**

**Award: \$1,367**

The Community Artist Series is a vibrant and inclusive workshop series that brings local artists to Monroe Street Arts Center in order to share their work and skills while engaging with the community. Each class is held on the first Friday of the month and features a different project taught by a local artist.

**Opera for the Young - Family Opera Day featuring "Beauty and the Beast"**

**Award: \$2,103**

Opera for the Young presents its 14th annual Family Opera Day at the Overture Center for the Arts in June 2024. A free performance of *Beauty and the Beast* will be complemented by area partners with workshops in theater and design (Madison Children's Museum), movement and mindfulness (little om BIG OM), and music (Madison Youth Choirs).

**The Layered Onion - Nourishing Expression: A Food Industry Zine for Health and Creativity**

**Award: \$2,054**

The publication creates an opportunity for the food industry to share their art and voices, showcasing the lives of food industry workers. The zine bridges the gap between those who create and those who consume food. As the industry transitions, this artistic expression provides a space for public dialogue.

**TNW Ensemble Theater, Inc. - Step Right Up, Ma'am: Resilience Theater**

**Award: \$1,407**

*Step Right Up Ma'am: Resilience Theater* centers women artists working in theater, music, poetry, and the visual arts. It consists of vignettes about the lives of women, both real and mythic, linked by the theme of resilience.

**Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets - 2024 Winter Festival of Poetry**

**Award: \$1,012**

The 2024 Winter Festival of Poetry is an eight-week long series of poetry readings held on Sunday afternoons from mid-January to mid-March at the Arts & Literature Lab in Madison, Wisconsin. Each Sunday, six poets will read from their works from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Wisconsin Union Theater - The 4th Black Arts Matter Festival**

**Award: \$2,252**

In November 2023, Wisconsin Union Theater and award-winning artist Shasparay will co-produce the fourth Black Arts Matter Festival. The Festival is an interdisciplinary arts festival centering and celebrating Black art, and it consists of performances, discussions, and educational programs in music, theater, dance, and poetry mediums.

## **Music**

### **Central Cross Country Skiing - Music at the CXC Outdoor and Recreation Center**

**Award: \$1,382**

Music at the CXC Outdoor Center is a series of events featuring local bands from various ethnicities and cultural backgrounds performing outdoors. The music is an opportunity to gather as a community in a casual and welcoming atmosphere, which attendees can enjoy without prior registration or fees.

### **con vivo!...music with life - con vivo! presents "Schubert's Masterpieces"**

**Award: \$1,248**

con vivo!...music with life presents "Schubert's Masterpieces," a performance of live chamber music on Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. at First Congregational Church in Madison. The concert includes music for voice, winds, and strings by Franz Schubert.

### **Dimensions In Sound & The Studio Orchestra Inc - Senior Retirement & Assisted Living Facilities Music Concerts**

**Award: \$1,153**

Dimensions In Sound & The Studio Orchestra (DISSO) is a non-profit organization based in Madison bringing cultural engagement and joy to Dane County's senior population through music. The organization's two separate music ensembles fulfill a vital need, performing for residents in senior living communities who are unable to seek out big band and/or orchestral entertainment because of their advanced age or disabilities.

### **Fresco Opera Theatre - Garage Opera**

**Award: \$1,364**

Garage Opera, by Fresco Opera, transforms everyday garages into intimate performance stages, blending the raw energy of opera with the grassroots charm of neighborhood gatherings, creating a unique and accessible cultural experience for all.

### **Grace Presents - Artist Honoraria for 2023-2024 season**

**Award: \$1,483**

The Grace Presents concert series provides free monthly concerts, connecting Madison's diverse communities to local musical performances in the acoustically resonant historic Grace Church. Offering a range of musical styles reflective of Dane County's cultural diversity, these concerts feature exceptionally talented, locally-based musicians and are free to enjoy either live in-person or via streaming from the safety of one's home.

### **Just Bach - Just Bach Season 6**

**Award: \$872**

Just Bach is a free monthly concert series celebrating the music of J.S. Bach. Founded to share the immense range of Bach's repertoire, the musicians use performance conventions that were present when Bach lived, in order to bring the music to life in the manner and style that Bach intended.

**Madison Bach Musicians** - *"Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610" May 18-19, 2024 performances; April 10, 2024 outreach event at Vel Phillips Memorial High School*

**Award: \$1,823**

Madison Bach Musicians concludes its 20th season May 18-19, 2024 with performances of "Monteverdi's *Vespers of 1610*" featuring a 17th-century period-instrument chamber orchestra and nine outstanding vocal soloists conducted by Andrew Megill. On April 10, 2024, MBM will give a 50-minute outreach presentation on Baroque Music for students at Vel Phillips Memorial High School.

**Madison Bach Musicians** - *13th Annual Baroque Holiday Concerts Dec. 15-16: J. S. Bach's Christmas Oratorio Part V and Cantata BWV 8. Oregon HS outreach event, Nov. 9*

**Award: \$1,398**

Madison Bach Musicians' 13th annual *Baroque Holiday Concert*—featuring J.S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* (Part V) and Cantata BWV 8—will be presented on Dec. 15 and Dec. 16 in the Atrium Auditorium of Madison's First Unitarian Society. On Nov. 9, MBM will play an outreach event featuring music by Bach and Handel for students at Oregon High School.

**Madison Flute Club** - *2024 Wisconsin Flute Festival*

**Award: \$2,129**

Wisconsin Flute Festival is an engaging and educational day celebrating flute. The Festival includes workshops, lectures, performances, competitions, masterclasses, and an exhibit hall.

**Madison Opera** - *The Anonymous Lover*

**Award: \$2,002**

Madison Opera will present "The Anonymous Lover" on Feb. 2 and Feb. 4, 2024 in the Capitol Theater at the Overture Center for the Arts. This will be the Wisconsin premiere of the only surviving opera by Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges, a pioneering 18th century Black composer, conductor, and violinist.

**Madison Youth Choirs** - *Madison Youth Choirs' Winter 2024 Concert Series Featuring Teaching Artist-in-Residence Onome*

**Award: \$2,186**

From Nov. 2023 through Jan. 2024, Madison Youth Choirs will welcome Teaching Artist-in-Residence Onome, an extraordinary music educator who possesses a stunning ability to inspire students and audience members to embrace musical spontaneity and recognize the value of their own voices. Onome will work closely with over 450 MYC singers ages 7-18, as well as a cohort of local arts educators, culminating in a public concert series Jan. 20-21, 2024 at the Middleton PAC.

**Make Music Madison** - *2024 Neighborhood Main Stage for Hawthorne Truax*

**Award: \$2,055**

Make Music Madison's Neighborhood Main Stages project addresses equity issues in the local music scene by incubating new music hosts in areas that lack traditional venues, and recruiting and compensating a diverse network of musicians.

**Middleton Community Orchestra** - *2023-2024 Season: Dane County solo musicians collaborate with the MCO in three concerts at Hamel and the Middleton PAC*

**Award: \$2,199**

Performed by outstanding non-professional musicians from Dane County in collaboration with some of classical music's brightest local stars, MCO's 14th Anniversary concerts are affordable, accessible community events perfect for audiences of ALL ages. General Admission is \$20, and all students (including college age) are admitted FREE of charge. This project expands the MCO's reach by performing two concerts at the Hamel Music Center.

**PEBOGA** - *2023 Fall Gospel Fest*

**Award: \$2,050**

Fall Gospel Fest is a one-day inspirational music event that serves as a platform for both contemporary and traditional gospel music and features national recording artists who share the stage with local artists.

**Wisconsin Chamber Choir** - *Wisconsin Chamber Choir - Bach's Christmas Oratorio 2023*

**Award: \$1,895**

The Wisconsin Chamber Choir (WCC) proudly presents J.S. Bach's Christmas Oratorio featuring a chamber orchestra and many outstanding soloists. The Wisconsin Chamber Choir will bring this inspirational masterpiece to Luther Memorial Church in Madison and a second performance for Whitewater audiences at Whitewater United Methodist Church.

**Wisconsin Folk Arts Association** - *Crash! Boom! Bang!: Madison Polka Riot*

**Award: \$1,041**

Crash! Boom! Bang!: Madison Polka Riot is a kid-friendly dance party designed to offset the creeping malaise and dullness of early February while celebrating a part of Wisconsin's arts and cultural history with live music, activities from the Madison Children's museum, and lots of joyous dancing.

**Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras** - *WYSO Music Makers Music Scholars Project*

**Award: \$2,219**

The WYSO Music Makers *Music Scholars* project supports music students who want to engage with music pedagogy, college readiness, financial literacy, and leadership through a series of workshops and mentorship opportunities.

## **Theater**

**Broom Street Theater** - *Da Classroom Ain't Enuf at Broom Street Theater*

**Award: \$1,304**

Da Classroom Ain't Enuf is a theatrical choreopoem based on the experiences of Charles Payne as a Black student, teacher, and artist. The Broom Street production will run for four weeks in spring 2024, which will include 12 performances and 3 talkbacks focused on issues tackled by the play.



**Shahanna McKinney-Baldon** - *Madame Goldye Steiner Project at Bronzeville Arts Ensemble: Madison Staged Reading*

**Award: \$1,868**

This project highlights the Madison connections of stereotype-busting vocalist Madame Goldye Steiner, Black woman cantorial singer of Jewish prayers in the 1920's and 1930's. Her story bridges the music of the Black and Jewish cultures.

## **Visual Arts**

**Friends of San Damiano** - *Harry Whitehorse International Wood Sculpture Symposium*

**Award: \$2,212**

The inaugural Harry Whitehorse International Wood Sculpting Symposium honors Harry Whitehorse. His week-long event commemorates Harry's life, works, and influences; celebrates Harry's Ho-Chunk identity, offering authentic Ho-Chunk experiences and educational programming; engages in traditional and contemporary wood carving; and amplifies Monona and San Damiano Park as artistic and cultural destinations.

**Isthmus Community Media** - *Isthmus Cover Art*

**Award: \$1,758**

With a monthly printed circulation of 35,000 copies, each issue of *Isthmus* showcases a new, eye-catching illustration or photograph, reflecting the vibrant spirit of Madison's community. This public art, which is also shared online, via social media, and monthly in the Isthmus Insider newsletter, showcases new and emerging artists who are capturing all that is Dane County.

**Madison Museum of Contemporary Art** - *imaginary i*

**Award: \$1,990**

*imaginary i* compares how artists and mathematicians utilize constructs of the imaginary, or complex numbers, to envision the future and reclaim, retrace, and reveal past patterns. The exhibition pairs art from the permanent collection with select loaned and commissioned works to draw out paths of dialogue over time and space.

**Madison Public Art Project** - *Wildflowers of Wisconsin*

**Award: \$1,884**

*Wildflowers of Wisconsin* is a fiber art installation comprised of oversized crocheted flora depicting species native to Wisconsin. This project invites the community into the art-making process, raises awareness about climate change, and promotes environmental stewardship. Their programming encourages individuals to rethink their own consumption habits and promotes sustainable living practices.

**Tone Madison** - *Tone Madison Editorial Art Initiative*

**Award: \$2,060**

The grant will expand Tone Madison's efforts to hire local artists to create editorial illustrations accompanying in-depth journalism about culture and politics in Madison, and standalone works of comics-based journalism. They will recruit more artists to their lineup of freelance illustrators, encouraging more community engagement with media and paying fair fees.

**Village of Oregon - *Village of Oregon Public Art Program - Year 2***

**Award: \$995**

Year 1 of the new Oregon Public Art Program has been a tremendous success, and their goal for Year 2 is to grow the program with more and more public art installed throughout the Village of Oregon, and to bring more visitors to see the wonderful sculptures ([oregonwiartwalk.com](http://oregonwiartwalk.com)).

**Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters - *Lisa Marie Barber & Jayne King (paired solo exhibitions)***

**Award: \$1,772**

Lisa Marie Barber's ceramic assemblages and textiles are rooted in the aesthetic of Mexican folk art and the Latin American Catholic shrines of her heritage and upbringing in southern Arizona. Jayne King's memory vessels explore personal narrative and nostalgia, ceramics as vessels for storage and preservation, and how Jewish tradition informs her understanding of her relationship to her family's past.

**Capital**

**Arts & Literature Laboratory - *Investment in audio equipment to improve artist experience and increase accessibility for patrons***

**Award: \$1,500**

Arts + Literature Laboratory will acquire its own key pieces of audio equipment to avoid having to borrow or rent them in the future. Additionally, an assistive listening system will increase accessibility for programming of all kinds, including poetry readings and film screenings.

**Mount Horeb Area Arts Association - *Spring Art Tour Directional Signs***

**Award: \$1,000**

The Mount Horeb Area Arts Association intends to renew their directional signage with text and arrows.

**Opera for the Young - *OFTY's First Touring Van***

**Award: \$1,000**

Opera for the Young (OFTY) requests funds to leverage the cost of a touring van for use by their annual in-school touring production.

**The House Urban arts Initiative - *Capital 2023-Cycle II***

**Award: \$1,000**

The House Inc. is updating its tumbling and ballet equipment for a safe professional dance environment for black and brown youth.

## **Short Order**

### **Badger Prairie Needs Network - *Cultural Foods / Comidas Culturales***

#### **Award: \$798**

BPNN will partner with Latina artist Monica Cliff to lead bilingual painting workshops for 10 adult participants. The paintings will portray food preferences reflecting and celebrating the artists' cultural heritage. Completed paintings will be on public display at BPNN through August 2024, and afterward displayed throughout BPNN's building.

#### **Ty S - *Sound Mind, Sound Body***

#### **Award: \$775**

*Sound Mind, Sound Body* is a gallery show and panel discussion focusing on the intersection between disability and mental health.