



Metro

Living School of Art  
(2019)

# Community Placemaking grants

MPAC update | May 25, 2022

Dana Lucero, Senior Planner





Black Food Sovereignty Coalition

## Welcome Charles Smith and Mirabai Collins

Black Food Sovereignty Coalition Growing and Healing Spaces for BIPOC Communities, \$22,000 (Southeast Portland) Funds site-based improvements to Black Futures Farm, a Black-centered production farm and community-building space.





TierrAgua  
(2022)

## Welcome Maria Bazante, Dioscelin Sanchez and Dora López

Guelaguetza en Oregon, \$22,000 (Hillsboro) Mesoamerican Indigenous celebration of tradition, culture, music and food for Indigenous communities often excluded with the larger Latinx community.





Community Placemaking grants support community-led, equity-centered, arts and culture based efforts that strengthen people's connections to each other and places they care about.





Since beginning the program in 2017, we have awarded \$1,032,740 to 58 community-based groups.





Morpheus Youth Project (2019)    Tene'kin tanik maaya (2020)    Ori Gallery (2019 and 2022)

**Placemaking:** People's connections to each other and to places they care about are strengthened.

**Equity:** People of color and members of historically marginalized communities have power and resources to influence their neighborhoods and

**Partnerships:** People's efforts are maximized because they work in partnership with each other and with Metro.

**Leadership:** People participate in projects and decisions that affect them.

# PRESERVING

Safeguarding and strengthening communities and places they care about

## COMMUNITY DRIVEN

Idea is conceived and carried out by the community the effort benefits

## TOP DOWN

Idea is conceived and carried out by a single entity intending to benefit a broader community

METRO'S  
COMMUNITY  
PLACEMAKING

PROGRAM

# TRANSFORMING

Introducing fundamental changes to places or practices in service of community





## Grants

- \$193,000 available/cycle
- Grants range from \$5,000 to \$25,000
- No matching funds required
- Anyone can apply, but require a fiscal sponsor if not a nonprofit





## 2022 cycle

- Received 82 applications requesting \$1.74 million
- Accepted video and multilingual applications
- Review panel are people of color working at the intersection of arts and culture + social justice
- \$193,000 awarded to 11 grantee groups





## Community Placemaking grant program

### Themes from the 2022 application cycle

Applications for Metro's Community Placemaking grants were accepted August 6 through October 1, 2021. Metro received 82 applications requesting more than \$1.7 million. Up to \$193,000 will be awarded in grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Awards will be announced in early January 2022. More information about the Community Placemaking program can be found at [www.oregonmetro.gov/placemaking](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/placemaking).

#### **HEALTH, WELLBEING AND HEALING**

- Celebrating our resilience and strength
- Healing
- Resilience
- African immigrants' and African Americans' sense of place
- Stigma faced by people living with a mental health diagnosis
- Black love and resilience
- Needs of people experiencing homelessness
- Support to age independently
- Social isolation of people living with disabilities
- Impact of converging crises on young people
- Mental health of East Portland neighbors
- Healing from land-based trauma for Black, Indigenous, Asian/Pacific Islander communities
- Support systems for sex workers of color
- Impacts of COVID-19
- Community connections and celebrations
- Social isolation
- Celebrating resilience
- Pride
- Sense of identity and belonging
- Celebrating identity
- Healing from historical trauma sparked by colonization
- Arts and culture's role in healing
- Access to nutritious, culturally appropriate foods
- Access to culturally appropriate, nature-focused self-care and wellness resources
- Impacts of COVID-19 on people living with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities
- Reducing stigma around intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Isolation of elders and families during COVID-19
- Healing connections with land and food
- Uplifting Indigenous artists and entrepreneurs
- Black and Brown Portlanders' sense of belonging
- Queer individuals who are marginalized within BIPOC communities
- BIPOC individuals who are marginalized in Queer spaces
- Sense of pride and ownership in helping to make our communities a better place
- Social and mental health challenges related to COVID-19 precautions
- Natural habitat improvement
- Building coalitions with communities with targeted identities
- Mental health and wellness opportunities for youth of color
- Enhancing wellness through culturally responsive programming
- Appreciation of nature
- Social and socioeconomic stress on youth from COVID-19
- Youth-centered healing
- Connection to farming



## **SOCIAL AND URBAN PROBLEMS**

- Homelessness
- Displacement
- Food insecurity
- Black lives lost to state-sanctioned violence
- Systematic unrooting of Black Portlanders from N/NE Portland
- Erasure of African American culture and businesses in N/NE Portland
- Incidents of hate violence
- Addressing the increase in hate crimes specifically against Asian Americans
- Challenges to women and girls living in poverty
- Negative influences of socially-toxic virtual landscapes and media
- Urban tree canopy
- Importance of stormwater infrastructure
- Impacts of climate change

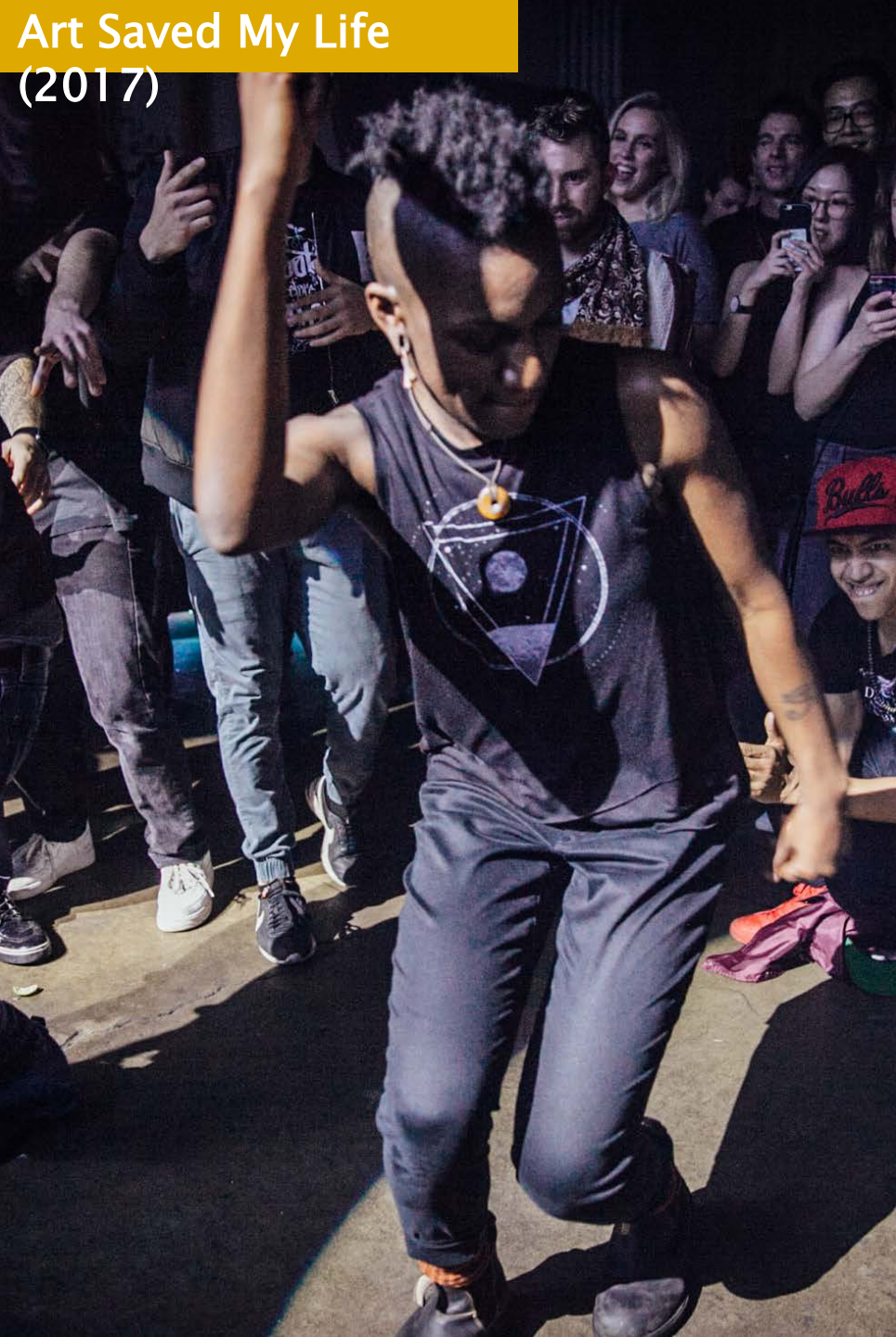
## **CULTURE AND HISTORY**

- Sharing little-known history of Portland Harbor communities
- The role of immigrant/BIPOC labor in the development of Portland's infrastructure and culture
- Reckoning with the past
- Preserving oral history of Japanese elders
- Role of food in connection to heritage and identity
- Support for Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander communities
- Recognizing Latin American cultures
- Celebrating Latino communities
- Opportunity and support for Black Portlanders telling their own stories
- Indigenous traditional eco-education
- Recognition of Asian American, Pacific Islander contributions to Portland
- Recognition of Asian American, Pacific Islander artists
- Historic trauma around growing food
- Connection to elder wisdom and cultural teachings for youth
- Sharing immigrant stories to foster empathy and build a more inclusive community
- Combating historical erasure by bringing marginalized voices to public spaces
- Sharing ancestral knowledge
- Representation of Indigenous communities from Mexico, Central and South America who live in Oregon
- Educating community and preserving Indigenous traditions, customs, practices
- Reclaiming Indigenous narratives
- Celebrating Pacific Islander heritage, culture and traditions
- Lack of support for Latino/Hispanic events
- Lack of trust and social cohesion within the Latino community
- Recognition of the Indigenous people who lived in Vanport
- Representation of Latinx families, heritage and culture in Hillsboro

## **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

- Access to after school programming
- Collaboration with youth for long-term solutions
- Black youth engagement opportunities
- Opportunities for youth facing the risk of homelessness, incarceration, and institutional systems
- Preventing foster youth aging out of DHS systems from falling through the gaps
- Access to technology for low-income students
- Youth leadership development
- Access to art opportunities for youth during COVID-19
- Youth involvement in liberation work
- Mentoring youth impacted by the juvenile justice system and/or housing instability





## 2022 grantees

- Indigenous, Black, Latinx, Japanese, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, Trans, Queer communities, culturally specific small business owners, farmers of color, women who have experienced trauma and BIPOC elders and youth
- Half focus on intergenerational transfer of wisdom, stories and culture sharing
- Four support Indigenous led





## 2023 cycle

**Aug 5–Oct 7: Accepting applications, info sessions and assistance available**

**Jan 2023: Awards announced**

**Mar 2023–Jun 2024: Grant-funded activities take place**





**Charles Smith, Mirabai Collins**  
Black Food Sovereignty Coalition Growing  
and Healing Spaces for BIPOC  
Communities



**Maria Bazante, Dioscelin  
Sanchez, Dora López**  
Guelaguetza en Oregon





**Pop-Up Afro-topia: Celebrating the Past and Future of Lower Albina, \$20,000 (North Portland)** An immersive festival celebrating a future where Black and Brown Portlanders feel like they belong. Includes performances and physically realized concepts of Albina's future gathered from community listening sessions.



**Jim Pepper Native Arts Council Placemaking, \$15,120 (Metro parks and virtual)** Small events featuring Indigenous musicians, artists, storytellers, poets and teachers and include open air classes on practices and traditions such as food gathering, weaving and beadwork. Performances will be filmed and shown on Open Signal.



**Food that connects: Oral Histories of the Japanese American Community of Oregon, \$7,500 (Downtown and Southeast Portland)** Recording histories of the Japanese elders of the Ikoi no Kai community, contributing digital living content to a community-led project led by the Japanese American Museum of Oregon to preserve important narratives on the way





## **Lost Voices of the Lower Willamette, \$21,490 (Portland along the Willamette River)**

Intergenerational sharing of stories of the Portland Harbor communities who have historically been sacrificed to large industry, highways and other polluting uses. Will include storytelling events and archives, mapping, portraiture and performances.



**Vestal Social Justice Night and Storytelling Project, \$24,890 (Southeast Portland and virtual)** Expands Vestal's Social Justice Celebration by engaging artists to collect stories from students, their families and BIPOC food cart owners. Involves PSU Artist as Citizen Initiative. Students and artists will present music created in response to the stories at the celebration, and all recordings will be edited into a podcast.



**Juntos Construimos Un Tualatin Resiliente, \$16,000 (Tualatin)** Tualatin Together and the Pili Group, a group of Latina women who have experienced domestic and/or other traumas, will create community events that reflect the values and





**Youth and Elder Cultural Archive on the land and water, \$12,000 (Fairview, Gresham and other locations including Metro parks)** Youth will create video conversations with Elders -- teaching moments for ecological knowledge, weaving, harvesting and relating Indigenous ways of being.



**Ori Gallery Operational Support, \$16,000 (North Portland)** Ori Gallery creates collaborative, equitable and safe spaces for QTBIPOC artists to create, display and process their work. They will host workshops, lectures, panels and exhibitions that foster dialogue, political and cultural education, skill sharing and movement building.



**Uplifting Indigenous Culture and Community, \$16,000 (Northeast Portland)** Portland Indigenous Marketplace provides barrier-free, culturally respectful spaces that encourage cultural resilience and economic sustainability. The grant supports a monthly 2-day marketplace and community art studio.





Pass the Mic Music Education for Immigrant Youth  
(2022)

**[www.oregonmetro.gov/placemaking](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/placemaking)**

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