2014 Community Access Capital Grant Award Recipients

Multnomah County Library: Rockwood Innovation Station

Grant support has given Multnomah County Library a boost toward helping Rockwood community youth become academically successful and career ready. Citing research and statistics that show under-represented minority, low-income youth in the Rockwood Community are more likely to lag behind white and affluent students when it comes to economic prosperity and social mobility, this project aims to address these disparities by broadening access to connected learning (learning that is socially embedded, interest-driven, and oriented toward educational or economic opportunity) through the development of engaging, technology-focused curriculum. As a result, the program, dubbed the Rockwood Innovation Station, a makerspace, will provide space for youth to engage with adult mentors and use online learning tools and resources, 3D printers, laser cutters, robotics kits, video and audio equipment, etc. to discover their passion and develop career-ready skills. Specifically, the MHCRC’s $300,000 investment supports expansion of the Rockwood Library building to create a space for youth to have access to creative technology tools and mentor-led learning opportunities in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM). The project targets 2,000 youth over the three-year project.

Total Grant Funds: $300,404
Total Matching Resources: $963,904
Contact Person: Cindy Gibbon, 503.988.5496

Albertina Kerr Centers: Transforming Service Delivery at Albertina Kerr Project

Albertina Kerr will use Video Modeling to help youth and adults with disabilities in Albertina Kerr’s programs live self-determined lives and realize their full potential. Video modeling is a form of observational learning that uses visual cues to teach skills and behaviors through a modeling demonstration. The grant will provide equipment to develop, store, edit and view video for video modeling and will use the I-Net to facilitate storage and central access to the video.

Total Grant Funds $110,863
Total Matching Resources: $407,598.00
Contact Person: Craig Rusch
Film Action Oregon: Hollywood Theatre Studio at Open Meadow

Having learned a tremendous amount throughout a four-year partnership with Open Meadow, and using evidence based best practices gained over the course of nearly a decade of working with underserved, middle school aged youth, Film Action Oregon is poised to expand its media arts program at Open Meadow Middle School. At Open Meadow, the demand for the media arts and technology trainings far exceeds current class offerings. This project will convert an unused classroom at Open Meadow into a state of the art, mobile media studio to serve 200 students annually, and lead to over 400 students producing 400 live action and animated shorts over the next two years.

Total Grant Funds: $100,000
Total Matching Resources: $371,200
Contact Person: Justen Harn

Friends of the Children: Successful Futures – Media Literacy Project

Friends of the Children will use grant funds to build a media/education lab at their N.E. Portland location for use by challenged and at risk youth. Workshops held at the lab will give the youth the tools, support and confidence to produce professional-quality video documentaries. Through this process youth served by Friends of the Children will strengthen traits such as collaboration and critical thinking, and find their own voices and stories to express themselves in positive ways within the community.

Total Grant Funds: $49,540
Total Matching Resources: $66,694
Contact Person: Mark Young

International Foundation for Alternative Research in AIDS (IFARA): Health Challenge Project

IFARA, which has been producing health programming for cable access since 2000, will replace and upgrade its aging video equipment with a portable HD multi-cam studio setup. IFARA will use the new portable studio at community partner sites to produce programming for the “Health Challenge”, which focuses on “People living with Chronic Manageable Disease” and HIV/AIDS. The equipment purchased with grant funds will result in more health programming on cable access for local underserved communities.

Total Grant Funds: $77,945
Total Matching Resources: $108,340
Contact Person: Fred Schaich
NW Documentary’s DSLRs for DIY Documentary Project

**NW Documentary** offers documentary summer camps and other programs for youth and a DIY Documentary Workshop for the general community. This grant expands NW Documentary’s Educational program and increases the amount of digital media equipment available to community members for documentary productions. This will improve the quality of films and user experience and increase access for a higher number of users.

Total Grant Funds: $51,743
Total Matching Resources: $97,483
Contact Person: Chelsea Smith

**Portland YouthBuilders (PYB) Youth Media Project**

**PYB’s Youth Media Program** exposes low-income youth to media/technology and job skills. Youth learn by producing professional grade video work for low-income entrepreneurs, social service agencies, non-profits, and partner organizations. This project updates and expands the program’s equipment, allowing more students to produce HD video more effectively, while serving more clients and providing local community programming for cable access.

Total Grant Funds: $51,753
Total Matching Resources: $67,955
Contact Person: Tom Del Savio

**Southwest Neighborhoods, Inc. (SWINI): Engage, Involve, Inform Southwest Neighbors Project**

In 2011, SWNI, a coalition of neighborhood associations, began working with Portland Community Media to train staff, community volunteers and partners’ staff to produce videos promoting community involvement in SW Portland. This new project will build upon that training and community building by ensuring easy access to digital video production equipment at the Multnomah Arts Center. Locally produced programs that are relevant and important to the community will air on community access channels.

Total Grant Funds: $9,500
Total Matching Resources: $10,175
Contact Person: Sharon Keast