2017 Community Technology Grant Award Recipients

NW Film Center: 7GME Film Challenge
Total Grant Funds: $85,540.00
Total Matching Resources: $97,920.00
Contact Person: Ellen Thomas
Since August of 2016, the NW Film Center is supporting Portland Public Schools' (PPS) 7th Grade Maker Experience (7GME) program, an initiative of the PPS College & Career Readiness Department, by expanding its pilot learning experience in Live Action filmmaking, to other types of career-ready filmmaking activities. With a focus on serving students from high poverty schools, NW Film Center’s programs are designed to expose students to skills and practices that are critical for future success in high demand STEAM careers. As a purposeful alternative to traditional classroom learning, PPS and NW Film Center aim to provide open-ended learning experiences and build mentorship opportunities that excite students about filmmaking careers and support students acquiring skills in group decision-making, technology literacy, creative visualization and narrative sequencing. Specifically, grant funds will be used to purchase video production and editing equipment to allow the Film Center to increase the number and types of filmmaking activities offered to the 500+ youth expected to enroll in the program.

Flying Focus: 2017 Production Grant
Total Grant Funds: $2,111.00
Total Matching Resources: $2,150.00
Contact Person: Barb Greene
For 25 years Flying Focus has worked to train and enhance volunteers' abilities in producing video programs for playback on community media channels, serving around 150 volunteers. Since 1991, the all-volunteer organization has had a focus on activism, community organizing, and supporting and featuring underserved communities in their programming. The MHCRC grant investment will help the organization build its capacity to produce new programming and preserve programming for continued playback.

Outside the Frame: Changing How Homeless and Marginalized Youth See and Are Seen Through Film
Total Grant Funds: $51,361.00
Total Matching Resources: $166,860.00
Contact Person: Nili Yosha
Outside the Frame (OTF) helps youth transitioning out of homelessness value themselves as productive members of society. Recognizing that homeless youth can get their basic needs met through area social services, OTF is focused on providing consistent, creative outlets and career related technological training so serve as a bridge for youth who are transitioning out of homelessness to self-sufficiency. Through its model educational and vocational program, OTF offers intensive filmmaking internships that build technology and leadership skills. By providing
soft and technical job skills, an internship experience to put on their resume, and a sense of success, the youth enrolled in the program have been emboldened to complete their GED, and pursue higher learning and independent living. Specifically, grant funds will be used to purchase video production and editing equipment to support OTF’s intensive film workshops and weekly training programs. The program aims to engage 60-80 youth in the production of 10-15 films over the course of 30 months.

**XRAY.FM: Understanding and Impacting Your Community**
Total Grant Funds: $59,565.00
Total Matching Resources: $108,800.00
Contact Person: Amanda Brockman
XRAY.FM is a nonprofit, independent media organization that operates a noncommercial FM radio broadcast, provides education and training in audio production and storytelling, and recently began producing video content through a partnership with Open Signal. XRAY.FM’s successful public affairs radio programming covers locally-relevant issues informed by a wide-range of voices and perspectives. XRAY.FM aims to foster a more informed and engaged community through increased access to the programming content by a wider audience through video. The MHCRC grant investment will help to support the recording and broadcasting of the XRAY.FM public affairs radio programming on the community access channels.

**Mt. Hood Community College: MHCC Community Access to MetroEast**
Total Grant Funds: $62,797.00
Total Matching Resources: $390,398.00
Contact Person: Al Sigala
With 74% of its student body coming from low-income households, Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) continues to develop and implement programs that help students overcome barriers to educational and career success. With grant support, MHCC aims to dramatically increase student access to a variety of media production and industry training opportunities through a collaboration with MetroEast Community Media and MHCC’s Information Technology and Integrated Media departments. Specifically, through the development of Integrated Media courses, students will gain real-life job skills in the broadcast media field through direct involvement in creating, curating and producing news and information programming that will be shared on the community media channels. Participating students will obtain Career Pathways Certificates of Completion and/or college credit toward applied degrees.
Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metro Area: My.Future Rockwood Expansion
Total Grant Funds: $212,436.00
Total Matching Resources: $234,989.00
Contact Person: Traci Rose
Boys & Girls Clubs are located in communities that represent the highest needs for youth and families. Clubs provide basic needs such as a sense of security; warm meals; and mental and physical health services that work to relieve the burdens that compromise academic success. The goals for the new Rockwood Boys & Girls Club are focused on providing youth programs designed to inspire the development of the skills necessary for academic success, the technical skills to enhance digital literacy mandatory in today’s environment, and exposure to arts, sports and recreation, and science. Funding from the MHCRC will be used for mobile and stationary computing devices, software and peripherals in support of programs that help students complete school work, build career-ready skills, and identify career opportunities.

Multnomah County Library: Digital Inclusion Resources Database
Total Grant Funds: $91,216.00
Total Matching Resources: $106,508.00
Contact Person: Jon Worona
Multnomah Co Library, in partnership with the City of Portland, is leading the implementation of the Digital Equity Action Plan (DEAP). The DEAP, which was adopted by the Portland City Council and County Commission in April 2016, establishes a framework for harnessing the collective efforts of local partners to focus services and resources on underserved target populations. With funds from the MHCRC the Digital Inclusion Resources Database project will establish a web-based database of digital inclusion programs, services, activities and training tools for use by community organizations and underserved communities. Through the pooling of resources and activities, the partners engaged in in the project hope to ensure that all residents of Portland/Multnomah County will have barrier-free access to high speed broadband internet at home and school, an affordable computing device, and the training to use them effectively.

City of Portland Fire & Rescue: PF&R Training System Enhancements
Total Grant Funds: $103,471.00
Total Matching Resources: $1,887,744.00
Contact Person: Deborah Harrison
The City of Portland Fire & Rescue (PF&R) is implementing a new online, video-based training program for its 675 firefighters. PF&R’s current training system was developed over 20 years ago and is no longer effectively serving the training needs of firefighters. The new training system will result in cost savings and increased service delivery by utilizing more efficient ways to deliver training. Currently, only two of the 30 fire stations have the internet capacity to support the new training program. The remaining 28 fire stations operate with a T1 line at a connection speed of 1.5 Mbps. Grant funds support equipment and installation costs to connect the fire stations to the Institutional Network (I-Net), an advanced, fiber-based communications network with a speed up to 400 Mbps.