

2009 Community Access Capital Grant Award Recipients

Portland Community Media: SmartAccess

Total Grant Funds: \$306,750
Total Matching Resources: \$307,884
Contact Person: Paul Ventura 503.288.1515

With Portland Community Media's SmartAccess project, local non-profit organizations, community media producers and youth will be provided the opportunity to expand their access to new multimedia production, tools and distribution platforms at partner sites throughout Portland. For more than 20 years, Portland Community Media (PCM) has fostered civic engagement and community building through services designed to assist the local community in using technology to communicate, express ideas and engage in civic dialog. In an era of unprecedented technological advancement, PCM is keeping pace by incorporating new multi media platforms such as rich media content workstations, blogging, discussion forums and Internet video streaming and expanding its core services to include specialized media education and consultation services. Community based organizations that are increasing looking for more effective ways to fulfill their missions through connecting with stakeholders, sharing information and organizing and taking action will benefit from PCM's facilitated media services designed to assist organizations in finding ways to share stories, raise funds, recruit and train staff and volunteers, educate the community about critical issues, capture and share special events or forums and communicate effectively. By redefining its core facilities functions to include multi media platforms and service delivery outside of the one-size fits all approach, PCM hopes to further engage the general public, local non-profit organizations and schools to use multi media methods of communication in a variety of formats and distribution platforms.

The Center for Intercultural Organizing: Global Portland Voices

Total Grant Funds: \$68,497
Total Matching Resources: \$79,163.50
Contact Person: Kayse Jama 503.287.4117

Through the Global Portland Voices Project, the Center for Intercultural Organizing (CIO) aims to remove social, economic, linguistic, cultural and political barriers to community involvement by making local community media more accountable and accessible to immigrant and refugee producers. Recognized on bot the state and national level for its successful cross-cultural movement-building work, CIO has a demonstrated history of empowering immigrants and refugees throught the Multnomah County region to develop a unified voice, advocate for their rights and create an environment in which they are recognized and supported as valued community members. CIO will use grant funds to purchase video production equipment, create an on-site media studio and post-production lab and matching funds to provide video production trainings to staff, Board of Directors and members. The Global Portland Voices Project intends to provide a pathway for immigrant and refugees to directly frame issues impacting hteir communities through media, enabling participants to effectively engage in democratic processes through skill building workshops and hands-on media projects.

Wisdom of the Elders: Discovering Our Story

Total Grant Funds: \$23,423
Total Matching Resources: \$199,020
Contact Person: Rose High Bear 503.775.4014

Traditional Native American eduction, which involved the essential transfer of indigenous earth based knowledge and skills from one generation to the next, has been replaced for today's youth with state-run public

schools outside tribal communities resulting in high levels of educational failure for Native students, an ambivalence for learning traditional knowledge and skills as well as indifference to formal Western academics. In an effort to tap the resilience of Native students to bounce back from adversity, Wisdom of the Elders (WOTE) plans to use grant funds to record and preserve oral tradition and cultural arts of exemplary indigenous elders, historians, storytellers and song carriers in order to regenerate the greatness of culture among native peoples. The project hopes, by featuring exemplary role models from the regional Native American community, to supplement the mental health and addiction prevention efforts. The equipment purchased will supplement WOTE's ongoing use of PCM's editing equipment and studio.

Ethos: Music Education Programming

Total Grant Funds: \$193,950
Total Matching Resources: \$268,100
Contact Person: Charles Lewis 503.283.8467

Grant funds will be used to bring interactive music education performances to students in Multnomah County through cable access programming. Building on a program previously funded by the MHCRC, Ethos proposes to upgrade its studio and mobile equipment with professional grade wireless technology to reduce the costs associated with producing multiple camera, music-based content. Ethos uses the I-Net to broadcast "Ethos Live", a weekly show featuring local musicians. By professionally filming and producing music concerts, recitals, master musician workshops, and community music events, Ethos will provide music education programs to many Multnomah County youth.

Caldera: Careers in Creative Technology

Total Grant Funds: \$121,240
Total Matching Resources: \$509,425
Contact Person: Matt Hansink 503.937.7510

For the past thirteen years, Caldera's Careers in Creative Technology program has assisted students from low-income families to receive arts education, out-of-school learning and mentoring to prepare for college and careers in creative technology fields. Due to the program's success, students have worked alongside talented professional artists from well-known, local companies such as Nike and Wieden+Kennedy. Through the grant, Caldera will expand its technology capacity to reach a greater number of students.

Portland YouthBuilders: PYB Multimedia Program

Total Grant Funds: \$7,800
Total Matching Resources: \$109,600
Contact Person: Tonia Kovtunovich 503.286.9350

Portland YouthBuilders (PYB) offers an array of educational, vocational and community service programs in support of students earning high school or general equivalency diplomas. The grant will help PYB expand its digital video and web-based media curriculum in order to improve training and job readiness skills necessary for students to obtain entry-level employment in today's working environment. PYB's students will receive real-world experience by designing and creating media content and promotional materials for local, non-profit partnering agencies.

Sellwood Middle School: Sellwood Community: Telling our Stories, Sharing our Work, Learning Together Through Digital Story Telling

Total Grant Funds: \$122,363

Total Matching Resources: \$266,941
Contact Person: Helen Nolen 503.916.5656

Lewis Elementary and Sellwood Middle School received a grant from the MHCRC in 2006 to teach digital storytelling by integration of digital production technology into the school's strategies for teaching expository and narrative writing. While the project was highly successful, Sellwood Middle School staff notice that the students from Lewis Elementary were extremely advanced in their technology skills compare to their student cohorts from the other two elementary schools. With additional funding the project extends the program to the entire Cleveland Cluster feeder (four schools: Duniway, Lewis, Llewellyn and Sellwood) and hopes to enhance not only students' literacy skills, but to also increase students' skills in creative and critical thinking and media literacy. The project will benefit students and educators by capitalizing on students' fascination with technology to enhance and enliven instruction.

Portland Public Schools Television Services: Digital Video Switcher

Total Grant Funds: \$45,000
Total Matching Resources: \$55,384
Contact Person: Willie Brosseau 503.916.5838

With its Digital Video Switcher Project, Portland Public Schools Television Services (PPS-TVS) will move another step closer to completing its new studio. With the new equipment, PPS-TVS hopes to increase studio programming for Channel 28 viewers and save time and money for in-house productions.

Portland Public Schools District: What's "VOICE" Got to Do With It -2009

Total Grant Funds: \$314,659
Total Matching Resources: \$834,229
Contact Person: Jay Keuter 503.916.2000

Portland Public Schools will overhaul its antiquated voice communication system to reduce the disparity of access to communications and collaboration resources for PPS staff, students and parents. In this second phase of the project, grant funds will be used to replace the existing archaic and unstable phone system with state of the art Internet Protocol Telephony (IPT) service at 22 schools (700 classrooms).

Hosford Middle School: International Language Lab Project

Total Grant Funds: \$122,638
Total Matching Resources: \$175,447
Contact Person: Zsuzsa Nemeth 503.916.5640

Hosford International Middle School is a Portland Public School serving 560 middle school students. Besides its thriving foreign language and growing English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, it is the only public middle school that boasts two language immersion programs. Despite its many educational successes, Hosford is sorely lacking up-to-date computer systems. Hosford's leadership team, comprised of administrators and team leaders and the school's Technology Committee, in conjunction with the parent-let Hosford School Foundation, recognized the lack of adequate technology at the school and pledged to pool resources for the creation of a new computer lab. The acquisition of mobile technology labs would allow any given classroom to have access to the Institutional Network (I-Net), a network services partnership among the City of Portland, Comcast and the MHCRC. The project hopes to enable educators to more effectively reach and teach students by incorporating a computer aided curriculum into daily classroom activities.

Multnomah Education Service District: Asterisk Telephony Grant Project

Total Grant Funds: \$149,642
Total Matching Resources: \$172,935
Contact Person: Eric Harrison 503.257.1554

For MESD, the cost of provisioning and supporting basic telephone service now exceeds the cost of provisioning and supporting a computer. Therefore, with grant support MESD proposes to replace its current legacy phone system with an Internet Protocol based phone system that predicts a return on its \$240,000 investment in 2.2 years. The new system would utilize existing I-Net connectivity between MESD sites.