

**COMMISSION FUNDS COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY
PROJECTS (FY2003-2004)**

The Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission and Comcast Corporation recently gave some local schools and community organizations a boost toward using advanced communications technology. The Commission granted funds to three projects that use the cable system's interactive, enhanced capabilities to provide needed community and educational services. Project grants totaled over \$635,000.

GRANT PROJECT SUMMARY

Portland Community College: "The Portland Region Higher Education Network"

Total Grant Funds: \$187,906
Contact Person: Kristen Watkins, 503-977-4696
Year Granted: FY03-04

The project will improve and expand higher education distance learning services to residents throughout Multnomah County via the PCC Educational Access Channel on cable television. The grant addresses area residents' need for accessible alternative options for educational services and in increasing demand for distance learning opportunities. The equipment requested will allow PCC to expand the number of programs and the types of programs that residents can access on PCC's Educational Access Channel (EAC) by developing new telecourses and creating an innovative Portland Region Higher Education Network in partnership with all PCC campuses, Portland State University, and Mt. Hood Community College; broaden the PCC EAC into all Multnomah County; and upgrade the technical quality of PCC EAC's program delivery to remove barriers to learning.

Project partners for the grant include PCC campuses, Portland State University, and Mt. Hood Community College. Matching resources for the project total \$318,127.

Reynolds High School: "News Production"

Total Grant Funds: \$17,689
Contact Person: Teresa Osborne
Year Granted: FY03-04

During the 1999-2000 school year, Reynolds High School created a Media & Society class, focused primarily on media analysis. In developing the class curriculum a partnership with Multnomah Community Television (MCTV) was formed to give students exposure to video technology. A 2002 Community Access Capital Grant award provided equipment for students to produce stories to air on MCTV's news show, East Metro Community News. The equipment requested will enhance filming and editing capabilities in order to expand and continue these opportunities for students.

Project partners for the grant include Multnomah Community Television. Matching resources for the project total \$18,615.

Oregon Historical Society: “Multnomah County Portraits: Youth Documenting Their Community”

Total Grant Funds: \$26,334
Contact Person: Nancy Nusz, 503-306-5291
Year Granted: FY03-04

The Oregon Historical Society Folklife Program has been the state’s official traditional arts and folklife program since its inception in 1988. It documents, presents and encourages the preservation of the traditional arts and cultural heritages of all people living in the state through community partnerships, outreach, public programs, education and archives maintenance. The grant will enable the Folklife Program to work with a student population (Roosevelt High School) with a high dropout rate to increase their academic achievement and success in the learning environment through research, study and documentation of their culture and traditions. The equipment requested will provide the tools needed for urban Latino youth to document their families’ and communities’ traditions using the latest digital video technologies.

Project partners for the grant include Roosevelt High School. Matching resources for the project total \$27,685.

Gresham Fire & Emergency Services: “Gresham Emergency Management Video Awareness”

Total Grant Funds: \$37,439
Contact Person: Gene Juve, 503-618-2425
Year Granted: FY03-04

This two year grant will help Gresham Emergency Management (GEM) to educate residents of East Metro and the Portland area about emergency preparedness and how to respond in the event of an emergency. In collaboration with Multnomah Community Television, GEM will produce a monthly series of television programs that will use video collected from actual emergencies that take place in the East Metro area to both train service providers and to educate the public.

Project partners for the grant include Multnomah Community Television. Matching resources for the project total \$39,439.

Portland Community Media: “Oregon Learning Lab for Information Education”

Total Grant Funds: \$218,374
Contact Person: Carl Kucharski, 503-288-1515
Year Granted: FY03-04

The Oregon Learning Lab for Information Education (OLLIE) will enhance service delivery of educational multimedia resources to Multnomah County middle and high schools, community organizations, senior centers, community centers, and libraries. Grant funds will be used to purchase a mobile van equipped with computers, camcorders, projectors, sound system, and accessories. OLLIE is based on a pioneering and proven program based in Grand Rapids, Michigan; MoLLIE is a mobile learning lab loaded with equipment and skilled guides, capable of traveling to schools and neighborhood programs with no other access to these resources.

Project partners for the grant include Multnomah Community Television. Matching resources for the project total \$436,796.

Ethos, Inc., Nonprofit Music Center: “Sound School Assemblies”

Total Grant Funds: \$127,282
Contact Person: Charles Lewis, 503-28-ETHOS
Year Granted: FY03-04

Grant funds will be used to bring interactive music education performances to students in Multnomah County through cable access programming. By professionally filming and producing school assemblies, master musician workshops, and community music events, Ethos will provide music education programs to many Multnomah County schools.

Project partners for the grant include Portland Public Schools, The Portland Rose Festival, Americorps, and Portland Community College. Matching resources for the project total \$221,715

Portland Public Schools, District No. 1: “Public Telecommunications & Facilities Program (PTFP)/Hola...Hola Middle School Completion Project”

Total Grant Funds: \$20,907
Contact Person: Mary Bastiani, 503-916-5191
Year Granted: FY03-04

The project proposes to increase middle students’ access to high-quality and articulated Spanish language curriculum delivered through cable system distance learning technology, and to increase participating students’ proficiency in the Spanish language and culture. Grant funds will be use to complete the work already underway to upgrade antiquated PPS Television Services video production and playback facilities and establish a digital production and distribution system and to expand upon the pilot model at six middle schools. Specifically, funds will assist the school in purchasing television sets and wallmounts for sixth grade classrooms.

Matching resources for the project total \$49,951.