

2007 Community Access Capital Grant Award Recipients

Portland Community Media: Access 2.0

Total Grant Funds: \$324,160
Total Matching Resources: \$720,534
Contact Person: Susan Salkield 503.288.1515

With Portland Community Media's Access 2.0 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 all in one central location. 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 services, 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.

Albertina Kerr Centers: Learning Management System

Total Grant Funds: \$173,612
Total Matching Resources: \$185,644
Contact Person: Craig Rusch 503.408.5077

Albertina Kerr Centers, one of Oregon's largest providers of health and social services, spends over \$600,000 each year to manually conduct and track its staff trainings in order to keep pace with new health care best practices. Through the Learning Management Systems project, Kerr will evolve its current labor intensive training process onto a web-based platform using the Institutional Network (I-Net) to deliver instant access to critical, professionally produced trainings to over 800 employees. By streamlining the training process to provide more timely, higher quality and greater number of trainings, Kerr staff will be able to provide better and safer care to the 1,700-plus emotionally/mental health challenged children and adults it serves each year.

Portland Public Schools: Winterhaven: Mobile Technology Labs

Total Grant Funds: \$110,794
Total Matching Resources: \$182,485
Contact Person: Dr. Phillip Degens 503.233.2263

Winterhaven School, a Portland Public K-8 magnet school focusing on a math, science and technology curriculum, draws students from every neighborhood in the city. Despite its many educational successes, Winterhaven is sorely lacking up-to-date computer systems. In 2005 the Winterhaven Technology Committee, comprised of parents and teachers, recommended the Mobile Technology Labs project as a solid first step toward improving student access to technology. 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.

Film Action Oregon: Project Youth Doc

Total Grant Funds: \$110,597.41
Total Matching Resources: \$184,026.69
Contact Person: Ellen Bergstone-Beer 503.493.1128

Reaching out to local youth, Film Action Oregon's Project Youth Doc summer program provides an opportunity for youth to create documentary films of personal and diverse social relevance to be shared with the broader community through public access television. Grant funds will help equip a new media education classroom with digital video production equipment at the Hollywood Theater in North Portland. Through media production education conducted by professional filmmakers, local youth will be given hands-on video production and media literacy training. Youth enrolled in the four-week summer program are encouraged to become informed consumers of media and to use video technology as a means for creative expression. The youth's experience is further enhanced by Project Youth Doc's partnership with another local organization, The Old Library Studio/NW Digital Art Kids, which will offer students the opportunity to incorporate original music, written and performed by local youth, into their films. The Housing Authority of Portland has also partnered with Film Action Oregon to expand the Project Youth Doc program to the Community Education Center at New Columbia in an effort to bring meaningful artistic experiences to young adults in this north Portland neighborhood.

Parkrose High School: 21st Century Skills for Students

Total Grant Funds: \$96,000
Total Matching Resources: \$119,210
Contact Person: Dan Wells 503.408.2644

Less than five percent of Parkrose High School students have access to technology needed to complete assigned class work or research special projects required for graduation. This grant will help equip the school with two wireless computer labs, associated peripherals and supporting software needed to equitably increase accessibility to technology, integrate technology tools into the classroom experience and serve as a model for the entire district.

Gresham-Barlow School District: Integrating Digital Stories into the Curriculum: Kids with Camcorders

Total Grant Funds: \$72,627
Total Matching Resources: \$164,740
Contact Person: Steve Beining 503.465.0181

This two-year project will provide video equipment, training and support to 28 classroom teachers to integrate digital storytelling equipment and techniques into the curriculum. The Gresham-Barlow School District believes that integrating video resources and production capabilities into schools will provide students with the necessary edge to succeed in today's technology world. The project 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.

Metro: Technological Improvement for Community Involvement

Total Grant Funds: \$63,764

Total Matching Resources: \$63,809
Contact Person: Patricia Unfred 503.797.1685

Thanks to a previous grant from the MHCRC to wire and equip Metro's Council Chambers, Metro has been working toward engaging the public in local government decision making since 2000. Due to changes and significant enhancements in technology and because of technical shortcomings in the video recording and dissemination system currently in place, Metro's efforts to reach out to the community at large through the public access channels and encourage public participation has been hampered. Metro believes the low production value of its current video recordings inhibits public involvement. The grant would allow Metro to update video recording and presenting equipment and thereby encourage greater public involvement by offering a more pleasurable, accurate and professional viewing experience.

Sowelu Theater Ensemble: Video Education

Total Grant Funds: \$25,000
Total Matching Resources: \$30,800
Contact Person: Barry Hunt 503.730.9066

Founded in 1998, Sowelu is a critically acclaimed non-profit ensemble arts organization offering thought provoking theater productions on important societal issues such as dealing with class, AIDS, sexism, ageism and sexual identity. Through its educational productions Sowelu found a large number of young filmmakers seeking advanced training in the technical craft of story telling. As a result, Sowelu's Video Education project is designed to educate young and emerging artists in the art of fictional narrative story telling. Through the grant, Sowelu will expand its technology capacity, currently based mostly on loaned equipment, to include multi-media and digital video production equipment for hands-on use by students in the program. Sowelu has established a partnership with Pacific Crest Community School to fulfill the goals of this project.