

2016 Community Technology Grant Award Recipients

Curious Comedy Theater: All Jane Comedy Project

Total Grant Funds: \$172,776

Total Matching Resources: \$218,215

Contact Person: Stacey Hallal

Since 2008 Curious Comedy Theater has been a platform for female comedians to be heard in a field where women are still discriminated against. The All Jane Comedy Festival, part of the Curious Comedy Theater, fights the gender disparity in a positive way – by inspiring, encouraging and showcasing the best and most unique women working in comedy today. The MHCRC grant investment will provide video production equipment to capture All Jane Comedy Festivals and produce programming that will air on Community Access Channels and help reduce disparities for underserved communities.

Slavic Community of NW: Slavic Community Media Project

Total Grant Funds: \$26,038

Total Matching Resources: \$218,215

Contact Person: Timur Holove

Over the last three years the Slavic Community of NW, which helps refugees to adapt to life in the United States, has produced over 500 shows on issues such as immigration, politics, health and education. The MHCRC Grant will provide video production equipment to the Slavic Community Media Project and train individuals to produce programming centered on the “Right to Vote” that will air on Community Access Channels and help improve community involvement in the local Slavic community.

The North Northeast Business Association: NNEBA Fellows Youth Media Project: Green Lighting Black Lives Matter Project

Total Grant Funds: \$41,422

Total Matching Resources: \$58,600

Contact Person: Fawn Aberson

The NNEBA Fellows Youth Media Project will empower Portland’s low-income Black youth to document and tell stories of their own experiences of the grave disparities caused by the broad socioeconomic issues facing the Black community in Multnomah County. The MHCRC Grant will help equip a media production lab and provide field camera kits for the project. In addition to helping train a number of Black youth in the use of modern media the project will help the youth have influence over their environment and the situations they face. The resulting films will be shared with the larger community through Portland Community Media and help inform the larger discussion on race and equity issues in Multnomah County.

NW Documentary: Stories for all: A media access project for youth, adults and nonprofits

Total Grant Funds: \$44,021

Total Matching Resources: \$140,050

Contact Person: Chelsea Smith

NW Documentary has operated a community media center for 10 years, training adults and youth to participate in creating documentaries, empowering them to tell important stories that transform lives and change communities. The MHCRC grant, Stories for all, will support NW Documentary's move to a larger space. The new center will contain more effective production space and expand the equipment available to program participants, thus improving service delivery and creating more programming that will be shown on Portland Community Media channels.

Open School: Advocating Greatness: Reducing Disparities by Accelerating Academic Achievement in 7th-9th Grade Students Who have Fallen Furthest Behind

Total Grant Funds: \$353,602

Total Matching Resources: \$850,161

Contact Person: Craig Dorfman

Open Meadow Alternative Schools, Inc., dba Open School, a local non-for-profit, has been working to develop connection, capability and confidence in disconnected youth since 2009. Open School's latest newest education program, Open School East, will focus on the students in Rockwood and Rosewood who are most likely to be left behind, to drop out and to be pushed out of school by inequitable policies in Multnomah County. The project will use the technology provided by the MHCRC Grant to help bring all Open School East students to grade-level benchmark in both reading and math by the end of 9th grade. The project will use Interactive data over I-net Reducing Disparities for Underserved Communities.

Wisdom of the Elders: Discovering Yidong Xinag

Total Grant Funds: \$97,856

Total Matching Resources: \$175,336

Contact Person: Rose High Bear

Wisdom of the Elders (WOTE) is a returning grantee, whose dedicated commitment to serving the Native community has been recording and preserving oral tradition and cultural arts of exemplary indigenous elders, historians, storytellers and song carriers for nearly a decade. After many years of multimedia capacity building, WOTE is expanding its services by developing a multimedia workforce development and career pathway planning program for Native youth and adults. Grant funding will help WOTE expand and upgrade its equipment in support of training programs that will develop strengthened cultural resiliency, including cultural identity, self-esteem and workforce readiness skills for Native youth and adults.

PPS TVS: HD Upgrades for PPS Television Services

Total Grant Funds: \$150,000

Total Matching Resources: \$157,295

Contact Person: Terry Proctor

The PPS Television Services supplies content via cable television to families and staff of Portland Public Schools and to Portland residents. The content includes all PPS Board of Education meetings and other events and meetings shot both in their studio and in the community. Content is still produced in Standard Definition. The HD Upgrades for PPS Television Services Grant will upgrade video equipment in the PPS Board Room, which also serves as a television studio; and also upgrade PPS's field and production equipment to High Definition. Additionally, the master control system will be upgraded in order to provide an HD signal for cablecast over Comcast and CenturyLink channels.