

2020 Community Technology Grant Awards



MetroEast Community Media

Grant Request: \$200,850

Total Project Budget: \$419,830

In response to identified transportation barriers to participation, the “Mobile Media Education Initiative” Project will reach 250 underserved youth in East County through co-programmed workshops with schools and community organizations by bringing hands-on media experiences and educational programming alongside a complete gear library in an outfitted mobile van. MetroEast will reach an additional 400 community members through targeted community event programming such as the I Heart Rockwood festival.

ChickTech

Grant Request: \$22,349.91

Total Project Budget: \$141,022.41

ChickTech’s “ACT-W+: Increasing Underrepresented Populations in Technology Careers Through Media and Technical Training” Project will serve under-represented populations in technology fields from high school aged youth to mid-career level adults within the Portland area.

ChickTech will train 25 people (targeted populations are girls and women, including female-identifying, non-binary, and transgender people, referred to as womxn) in the technical aspects of video production. Through the creation of videos from ChickTech events throughout the year, the participants will build their technical leadership and career development skills, connect with other like-minded womxn, and increase awareness of social justice issues related to diversity and inclusion in technology.

Luke-Dorf, Inc

Grant Request: \$31,696.40

Total Project Budget: \$466,416.40

Luke-Dorf's “Ascending Flow” Project is designed for older adolescents and young adults (18 to 24) from Multnomah County who are moving out of the children's foster care and mental health system and into adult mental health services. Students will learn introductory hands-on technical skills from audio recording to digital music composition, camera and lighting techniques to video editing, in the hope that the newly acquired skills will assist students in pursuing their career path and inspire students to seek additional training/education.

Completion of this 11-month program will culminate in the production of an individual music video and a group music video shared through Open Signal.

Outside the Frame

Grant Request: \$32,250

Total Project Budget: \$110,085

The “Expanding Film Making Opportunities for Youth Experiencing Homelessness” Project will support 60 youth who have experienced homelessness through participation in production assistant bootcamps, apprenticeship film projects, freelance support programs, and a workforce development group. Through these expanded and improved trainings on how to use professional-grade film equipment, youth will become certified as producers for community media centers, increase their employable technical skills, and increase their connections to internships and paid work.

Portland Community College (PCC)

Grant Request: \$54,823

Total Project Budget: \$165,639

Portland Community College’s Project “Connecting to Community: New Equipment and Tools for Improving Student Video Production Skills and Workforce Readiness (PCC C2C)” addresses needs of video production, visual special effects, and animation students at PCC for expanded access to professional video production technology, more up-to-date curricula, and community connections. PCC Multimedia and Video Production students will benefit from new and revised curricula integrating new technology; learning with new, up-to-date technology that will prepare them for today’s multimedia careers; and will complete create documentary and narrative video projects within the wider Portland community, supporting diverse organizations, causes, and stories.

Resolutions Northwest (RNW)

Grant Request: \$21,453

Total Project Budget: \$64,623

Resolution’s Northwest “Moving the Equity Conversation Video” Project aims to raise awareness and promote action to dismantle white supremacist systems that continue to disproportionately impact Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC). Utilizing newly acquired video production equipment, RNW will interview, record, edit and produce 20 engaging videos with and for 20 BIPOC equity practitioners throughout Multnomah County, who will bring their knowledge and lived experience to the greater public. The videos produced will be shared with community media centers and used in equity-related trainings throughout the area.

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods: Roots and Beats Project*

**Roots and Beats Project operates under the fiscal sponsor, Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods*

Grant Request: \$50,351

Total Project Budget: \$231,391

Roots and Beats' "Youth Cultural Media Arts" Project seeks to address the educational opportunity gap of low-income minority youth by providing culturally responsive, project-based digital media education and mentorship as a way to expose youth to new resources and opportunities that encourage creative expression and the development of employable skills. Upwards of 90 youth within the Portland area will participant in hands-on learning with audio, video, lighting, and rigging equipment resulting in 16 student-led audiovisual projects.

Slavic Community Center of Northwest

Grant Request: \$38,205

Total Project Budget: \$85,758.18

The "Slavic Immigrant and Refugee Stories/Video Series" Project will benefit the underserved immigrants and refugees that came from Eastern Europe and former Soviet Republics within the Portland area. Through the creation of a video series highlighting 12 members of their immigrant community that have successfully crossed cultural barriers to become involved in community building, the Slavic Center of Northwest aims to increase civic engagement amongst Slavic immigrants and combat the current political climate surrounding immigrant communities.

The North Northeast Business Association

Grant Request: \$56,200

Total Project Budget: \$125,400

The "PDX Black Rose Podcast & Video Series" Project aims to provide empowerment for 20 aspiring young black filmmakers and the Black community at large. Newly purchased video production equipment and supportive materials will be used by youth to create a series of video podcast episodes that will focus on showcasing the stories of 20 Black newsmakers within the Portland area. Participation in 175 hours of technical training and creative mentorship will culminate in a public screening and leave participants with a professional portfolio of their work.

As part of the normal grantmaking process, Comcast is given the opportunity to review all final grant applications and contracts prior to staff moving the contracts forward for Commission consideration.