Stoffmacher, Arts Specialist bstoffmacher@mednet.ucla.edu or by phone (310) 825-5054.

2016-2017
Arts and Accessibility Program Grantees

Artists

Yolanda Alcantar (NEW)
Dinuba, CA
Yolanda Alcantar is creating abstract art that exposes landscapes, and important moments in her life. The art will be exhibited at Art Hop in Fresno the first Tuesday and Third Thursday of every month between March and September, 2017.

Nahshon Anderson
Pasadena, CA
Nahshon Anderson will attend the Writer in Residence at the 2017 Lambda Literary Writers Retreat for Emerging LGBTQ Voices from August 5th through August 12th, 2017. Established in 2007, this seven-day retreat is the first of its kind offered to LGBTQ writers, and an unparalleled opportunity to be mentored by leading writers in the community, and build lasting connections. Completed works will be published in various anthologies throughout 2017.

Lisa Blume (NEW)
Milly Valley, CA
Mill Valley Arts Commission has selected Lisa Blume as the featured artist for the month of July. Fifteen of Lisa’s nature photographs have been selected to be displayed at the Mill Valley City Hall and is part of the Cities "First Tuesday Art Walk". The funds will be used to print, mat, and frame her 15 photographs for this exhibit.
Paisley Callow (NEW)
Torrance, CA
Paisley Callow recently participated in the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators 46th Annual Summer Conference that took place in Los Angeles July 7-9, 2017. She attended the conference to expand her knowledge and skills in the literary field and connect with other professionals and potential publishing house editors. The funds were used for the conference registration, hotel accommodations, mileage, and printing costs for a business card.

Ana Carrillo
Oxnard, CA
Ana Carrillo would like to further her artistic career by creating a 12-piece collection of work that will be based on dreams, and nightmares that many who have been diagnosed with PTSD deal with. These 12 new pieces along with a retrospective look at her other art will be exhibited as a solo show. The solo art exhibit will be on display for a three-month period between June and August, 2017 at the Art Studio and Gallery in Oxnard. A photographer will be hired to capture the professional quality prints that will be made into color flyers, brochures and postcard announcements for the art exhibit.

Vanessa Castro (NEW)
Alameda, CA
Vanessa Castro will use her two published books “Gloria the Gecko Attendant” and “Rollerblading on Autism” as teaching tools for classes to be educated about special needs. She will take her two books to 5 San Francisco Bay elementary schools and have interactive workshops with the students. Four books will be donated at each of the schools. The funding will go towards planning the presentation into her communications device, transportation for her and her assistant, and printed worksheets for the classes.

Marisol Delevie (NEW)
Lake Balboa, CA
Marisol Delevie will use the funding for studio time, musicians, vocals, mixing and mastering of a professional quality master of her son g’s “Fireballs from the Dark Side of the Moon.”

Barbara Eames
Carlsbad, CA
Barbara Eames will pay for supplies (e.g. glass sheets, molds, silica) to create new glass abstracts. Glass elements are fused into flat glass and the glass is then slumped into silica molds to create three dimensional abstracts. She will promote and sell these new pieces at local art exhibits, and through her website.

Carol Es
Alhambra, CA
“Shrapnel in the San Fernando Valley” is an approximately 600-page nonfiction narrative about the various obstacles Carol has survived in her life. She writes about tough subjects like childhood sexual abuse, disability, surviving 20 years in a cult, and so much more. Carol will use the funds to pay for professional copy editing/line editing before shopping this manuscript to literary agents. It is an important step of the process which will help her to publish her book.

Farah Art Griffin (NEW)
Burbank, CA
Farah Griffin purchased art supplies and sewing materials to complete her art project, "Abused and Bullied: My Captivity." This piece is a mixed media artwork in which she used fabric, wood, plastic, and metal to complete a new art piece. She will document her work to capture visual artwork that reflects on years of abuse and bullying from childhood to adulthood.

India Harville
San Leandro, CA
India Harville is in the process of creating a one woman show called “Enough”, which explores themes about chronic illness/chronic pain/invisible and visible disability contextualized in her experience as a queer, African American woman. The piece includes spoken word, dance, storytelling, and ritual as it examines the question, “What would life look like if we knew that we were already enough?” The funds will cover the cost of the performance venue, costumes/makeup, props/set design, advertising, and accessibility to ensure that the production reaches all audiences.

Gabriela Hofmeyer (NEW)
San Francisco, CA
Gabriela Hofmeyer will pay for art supplies, and studio time to create new art that will be shown at Children’s Chronic Illness Awareness Project and Open Studios at Hunters Point Shipyard.

Kevin Hosseini
Fallbrook, CA
Kevin Hosseini used the funding for transportation and lodging costs to participate at the Art as Advocacy to be Developmentally Disabled Art Exhibit at the State California Museum in Sacramento on June 20th, 2017. This exhibit provided him the opportunity to network and share his art that was on display at the museum.

Sarah LeFeber
San Bruno, CA
Sarah LeFeber is an artisan jewelry maker who creates unique items by hand out of leather, fabric, and found objects. Each of her designs are one of a kind and a lot of effort goes into making and creating wearable art that stands out from commercially manufactured jewelry. She rented space and paid jury fees to
attend The Maker Faire Bazaar May 19-21, 2017 and will do the same for the San Francisco Comic Con September 1-3, 2017. These events provide her an excellent opportunity to showcase her work and market it to new audiences.

**Justin Plasse (NEW)**
*Acton, CA*
Justin Plasse is in the development phase of his film *HART*. He is in the process of promoting and marketing the film, searching for talent, location, and scheduling. The funding was used to hire SLATE to do a script analysis, develop a Pitch packet, and pay for printing costs associated with this process. At the end of this phase he will have the financing for the physical production costs, and will move into pre-production and the actual shooting of the film.

**Pablo Rahner (NEW)**
*Eureka, CA*
Pablo Rahner used funds to pay for registration fees for the North Coast Open Studios 2017 exhibit that ran June 2-June 4th, 2017. Pablo purchased supplies, paid for the printing costs for his art book, and business cards. The North Coast exhibit allowed Pablo to showcase his artwork and provide live demonstrations of his process, as well as network with studio visitors. Pablo’s art will be listed in a print catalogue that will be distributed throughout Humboldt County.

**Eve Lynne Robinson**
*Oakland, CA*
Eve Lynne Robinson purchased art supplies and kiln services for the production and sales of new ceramic art. She will exhibit this art at local exhibits and on her website to showcase and sell it.

**Weng San Sit (NEW)**
*Los Angeles, CA*
Weng San Sit will finish her film “*Searching for the Butterfly Lovers*” so that it can be submitted to be shown in film festivals and art exhibitions. “*Searching for the Butterfly Lovers*” is a film essay that journeys into spaces that are echoing with the story of the Butterfly lover; a Chinese legend about a woman who dressed as a man to have an education. The story is embodied and conveyed in a repertoire of gestures, spoken word, dance and other performances by individuals in an ‘imagined community’ who are often represented to be homogeneous. Weng San will hire a sound designer who will be doing audio restoration and sound, and a colorist who will color grade the film.

**Jeremy Sicile-Kira (NEW)**
*San Diego, CA*
Jeremy Sicile-Kira will pay for booth fees, a rental car, an assistant to help set-up at the art exhibit, and promotional materials to attend the Art Walk at Liberty Station, on August 12 and 13, 2017. This festival celebrates 11 years of bringing
visual art, music, and interactive art-making for families in San Diego with free admission and free parking.

**Sam Smith**  
Santa Monica, CA  
Sam Smith will record new songs for a CD of his music. He will pay for studio time and an engineer to record, mix and edit his new songs which he will promote on his website.

**Lisa Sniderman**  
San Mateo, CA  
Lisa Sniderman will hire a composer to work with her to create a full piano and vocal score and produce “Do You Believe in MAGIC” as a musical stage play. This project will take place between February 15, 2017, and August 31, 2017. Once completed she will use the musical score during her future productions, and include them as part of a package to provide to youth musical theaters around the nation.

**Mark Studner**  
Encino, CA  
Mark Studner will create photo magnets in two sizes to use for promotion of his photography and photo design. This will provide him with a piece of his work to sell to art lovers at a reasonable price. Each magnet will have the current work that he is showing at local exhibits. He will use Creative Cloud software to create the photos for the magnets. The magnets will be sold on Amazon and Ebay.

**Michael-Che Swisher**  
Moraga, CA  
Michael-Che Swisher will complete six new large paintings exploring different techniques of texture and different ways of applying paint. The funds will go towards the purchase of paint and other mediums that will be used to create the new paintings.

**Tomeko Malone**  
Carlsbad, CA  
Tomeko Malone will purchase new art supplies, and take sculpting classes to create new art to exhibit at two annual art festivals that will take place in San Diego in May and August, 2017.

**Rachel Marie Ungerer (NEW)**  
Berkeley, CA  
Rachel Marie Ungerer will pay for studio time and new art supplies to create a large body of paintings in various sizes that will capture the humanity of those that marched at the Women’s March. She lives with an invisible disability and hopes to bring awareness to invisible disabilities and eliminate the negative stigma surrounding disability in our culture. She is in the process of securing a
gallery show. It will be the first body of work that she created since her disability became severe.

**Ahmet Ustunel**  
San Francisco, CA  
The purpose of this project is to explore different pottery coloring techniques including over glazes, underglazes, slips, and stains. For thousands of years’ potters have been experimenting with chemicals, oxides, minerals and organic materials to create colorants to decorate their pieces. As a blind ceramic artist, texture and form are Ahmet’s focus when creating art. At this stage of his career he would like to step out of his comfort zone and explore different coloring techniques which are not very visually impaired friendly. He will purchase supplies, and pay for studio fees to create the new clay pieces.

**Samuel Valdez**  
San Diego, CA  
Samuel Valdez will pay for theatre space rental, costumes, set publicity, and a small stipend for actors in San Diego for his play. The play will have 3 performances as part of a Bi-National Theater and Arts Festival in the border region of San Diego between September 9th and 16th, 2017.

**James Ralph Welch (NEW)**  
Carmichael, CA  
James Welch will attend the AXIS Adaptive Ballroom Dance Workshop, a day of learning adaptive/inclusive ballroom dance skills and technique. This event will teach adaptive ballroom dance skills to disabled and non-disabled participants. The funds were requested to pay for AXIS Dance Company to teach the afternoon portion and offset transportation costs for the volunteer ballroom instructors. The event was held at the West Sacramento Community Center on April 29th, 2017.

**Zak Zaikine (NEW)**  
Sebastopol, CA  
Zak Zaikine will make a bronze mold to create a new bronze sculpture that will be exhibited at the Bodega Landmark Studio for the exhibit, *Reuniting of Self Series We Can Only Make It Together*. The gallery is in a prime location where it will be viewed by a wide group of people.

**Arts Organizations**

**Actors for Autism (NEW)**  
Westlake Village, CA  
Actors for Autism requested funds to pay for six performers and three production crew with Autism, as well as an editor, and props for the August 19th performance at the Whitmore/Lindley Theatre in Noho. The adults with disabilities will learn to organize a theatrical performance and the performers will
be paid for their performance. The second activity is to have their film and television students assist in the technical aspect of the performance. These students will be paid for their work on the film. The final activity is to edit the footage and make it available publically by posting it on YouTube and other social media sites for viewing.

**Alcott Center for Mental Health Services**  
Los Angeles, CA  
Alcott Center launched its first public storefront Studio Gallery with their first public exhibition on June 11, 2017. The exhibit featured over 10 Alcott artists and works were available for sale; 80% of the sales went to the artists directly. The Studio Art program is an outgrowth of the long-standing commitment of Alcott to the arts as a bridge to supporting their client’s well-being. The funding paid for framing, installation, art supplies and client engagement activities.

**Australian Theatre Company (NEW)**  
Los Angeles, CA  
The Australian Theatre Company will provide two ASL Interpreted performances of "Grey Nomad" to increase access to the theatre. In addition to having the performance signed, additional ASL staff will be available throughout the theatre and foyer before and after the performance to ensure a complete experience. The two ASL performances will take place September 15th, and 23rd, 2017.

**AXIS Dance Company**  
Oakland, CA  
AXIS Dance Company received funding to hire ASL Interpreters and pay travel stipends for dancers with disabilities in California to attend the West Coast Regional Convening on Integrated Dance in Oakland in December, 2016. This historic convening is a follow-up to the first-ever National Convening on the Future of Integrated Dance held in May, 2016 in New York. AXIS Dance provided services and financial support to assist dancers with disabilities to participate in the first-ever gathering to plot the future of integrated dance and create a cross-sector multi-generational community of integrated dance practitioners.

**Brava! For Women in the Arts (NEW)**  
San Francisco, CA  
Brava! For Women in the Arts hired two ASL interpreters for “Baile in la Calle: The Mural Dances”, on May 7th, 2017. The support of this grant made it possible for Brava to provide interpretative services and an inclusive experience for deaf dancers and audience members. The ASL interpreters were hired to interpret for the performers and four performances including interpreting for docents at each of the five mural dances for the events. 600 audience members attended 4 shows. This grant allowed Brava to reach a wider audience and provide access to the deaf community in the Bay area.
Orinda, CA
California Shakespeare Theatre paid for captioning for one performance of the show "Glass Menagerie" that took place on July 12th, 2017. The theater company plans to cast a disabled actor for the role of Laura Wingfield.

**CRE Outreach**
Los Angeles, CA
CRE Outreach will be developing and presenting "Rex & Friends" production, a program that provides music classes, and performance opportunities for musicians with autism. The performances will take place at the Promenade Playhouse in Santa Monica from August 18-20, 2017. For this grant, Rex & Friends, a program that provides support and training in musical abilities and performance opportunities for individuals who are blind and autistic will run a 10-week vocational/instrumental concert ensemble (VOICE) in partnership with Performing Arts Studio West (PASW), a state funded day program for adults with developmental disabilities. The program will promote musical growth by providing 8 participants from PASW an opportunity for professional collaboration. The funding will go towards access transportation for blind and autistic performers to and from the performance venue, and performer stipends for 8 performers with disabilities.

**Dancing Around the Oak Tree (NEW)**
San Diego, CA
Dancing Around the Oak Tree Art Studio provides art classes and events in the community for persons with disabilities. The studio will purchase art supplies for the artists to create new art work that will be featured at the Art Show in San Diego. This will provide the artists with an opportunity to sell their work and network with others in the community.

**First Street Gallery Art Center**
Claremont, CA
First Street Art Center will buy supplies, and pay for the printing of business cards that artists will make while working with artist and photographer Ramak Fazel. Ramak will provide professional guidance to the artists and help them to create new business cards. These business cards will be handed out at the Social Bridging Art Exhibit between July 17-August 18th, 2017 in hopes to advance the careers of the artists at First Street.

**Positive Action Theatre Company (PACT)**
Encinitas, CA
PACT will hire an artist with autism to co-lead theatre workshops and teacher trainings at their local Boys and Girls Club. This program will provide employment and career training in the arts for an adult with a disability, train Boys and Girls Club teaching staff on how to best include children and teens with disabilities, and provide arts training and expression to children and teens with disabilities at the Boys and Girls Club. This program will serve as a prototype of a professional
development program that will mentor other young adults with autism in the future.

**Rock Paper Scissors (NEW)**
Oakland, CA
Rock Paper Scissors Collective will use the funding to pay for teachers, 2 deaf Support Service Providers (SSPs) and the promotion of four mixed media workshops at the Oak and Public library for deaf and deaf blind communities. Workshops are to provide art making opportunities to deaf blind artists whose primary sense is tactile, kinesthetic. Workshops will take place June 25th, July 16th, July 30th, and August 20th.

**Sankofa Holistic Institute**
Oakland, CA
Sankofa Holistic Institute will pay for a photographer, web and graphic designer to create a new website for the institute. They will create Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat accounts so that through social media and their website they can support people with disabilities through art. Their goal is to connect artists with disabilities who need therapy, because of suffering from depression and anxiety a place to take art classes.

**Southside Art Center (NEW)**
Sacramento, CA
Southside Art Center will create t-shirts, tote bags, and art prints to sell to the public during the "2nd Saturday Art Walk" event in Sacramento. Artists with a wide range of developmental disabilities will be responsible for each step of the process, including: designing imagery, hand carving block prints, printing with inks, sales, and organization. This will provide the artists an opportunity to both sell their artwork and network with the public. In addition, artists will sell their printed work at the Southside Art Center Gallery.

**Triton Museum of Art (NEW)**
Santa Clara, CA
The Triton Museum will offer two tactile tours of disabled artist Ketra Oberlander’s installation and accompanying workshops for blind, low vision, and full sighted students. Led by Ms. Oberlander, the students will be able to create an avatar of themselves exploring their own identity through creative expression. The funds will go toward artist stipends for 2 workshops, education assistant for Ms. Oberlander for 2 workshops, art supplies and marketing and flyers.

**VSA Orange County**
Costa Mesa, CA
On April 29, 2017, VSA Orange County held the 41st annual VSA Festival at the Main Place Mall in Santa Ana, CA. This celebration showcases artists, dancers and musicians with disabilities. The event presented over 100 performers on center stage. A county-wide student art gallery displayed over 800 works of art
submitted from aspiring artists with disabilities. Following an approximately two week run at the mall, selected pieces were included in a year-long travelling art show which will include stops at the Laguna Playhouse, the Laguna Pageant of the Masters gallery, and multiple libraries, school districts and schools. This event had 4,500 attendees including gallery and artists and participants of all abilities from the greater southern California area in a true celebration of the arts for all. VSA used the funds to pay for workshop facilitators, art making supplies, and adaptive tools for artists with disabilities.