Arts and Accessibility  
2019  
Final Report

Introduction:
The purpose of the Arts and Accessibility grants program is to enhance opportunities for participation in the arts by people with disabilities. Artists’ grants are for specific projects that contribute directly to their professional goals and development. The grant is intended to support the employment and careers of California artists with all types of disabilities including but not limited to artists with a physical disability, visual disability, hard of hearing or deaf, developmental disability, learning disability, mental illness or chronic illness. In 2019, artists could request up to $3000 (an increase from $1500) for activities that advance their creative work and careers, including the creation of new work.

Arts organizations may request support for accommodations to include artists with disabilities in their arts programming and/or for access services to increase the attendance and experience of audiences with disabilities. In 2019 we increased the organization grants funding from $3000 to $5000.

The National Arts and Disability Center (NADC) administers and promotes the Arts and Accessibility grants program, reviews applications and gathers information about each of the awarded projects. Each grantee is required to submit a final report within 60 days of the completion of their project. This summary report describes the outcomes and achievements for awardees whose projects were completed prior to December 1, 2019. It is anticipated the remaining final reports will be received by the end of February 2020.

Outreach and Promotion of Grants Program:
Our goal each year is to reach new applicants, including geographically underserved and racially and ethnically diverse artists and audiences. This grant cycle we used a number of
strategies in collaboration with the California Arts Council (CAC) to outreach to attract new applicants and represented 62% of the applicants and 70% (29) of the awardees.

We worked with the CAC to outreach and disseminate information about the grant to the arts councils in the under-reached counties such as Kings County, Riverside, Humboldt and Sonoma Counties. The map below shows you the new counties we reached in 2019.

Beth Stoffmacher, NADC Arts Specialist sent personalized emails to previous grantees, California artists and arts organizations, informing them about the grant. In addition, we distributed information through our Facebook page, list serv, and NADC website. Ms. Stoffmacher provided technical assistance to potential applicants by responding to questions about the application, how to apply and where to download the guidelines. She assisted artists in promoting their art, events and projects and featuring their work on our NADC website. Arts organizations were provided with technical assistance on marketing their accessibility and promoting their events.

**Counties Where Grants Were Awarded**
**Review and Adjudication:**
The NADC has designated staff responsible for the review and adjudication of proposals. Throughout the grant cycle, the NADC provided updates on application submissions and status of grants funded to the CAC. The NADC received a total of 50 applications. Thirty-one of the applications were first time applicants to the program (27 artists, 4 arts organizations). This year we funded forty-one applicants (35 artists and 6 arts organizations). Two were returned. The amount of funds awarded varied based upon the scope of the project and the budget justification submitted.

**Impacts of this Grants Program:**
Through the Arts and Accessibility grants program *artists with disabilities gained:*
- Exposure and affirmation of their work
- Awareness of other artists with disabilities
- New sense of self-confidence
- New opportunities for work or collaboration
- Communication skills on how to promote their work (art collectors)
- Confidence on ability to lead a production team
- Choreographic and technical skills, and the aesthetics of disability dance
- Earned income

Through the Arts and Accessibility grants program *arts organizations:*
- Offered closed captioning and ASL for deaf and hard of hearing audiences
- Hired an artist with a disability to teach performers in the production
- Purchased assistive listening devices for a theatre

---

**Artists**

Grants for artists with disabilities are intended to support those who are committed to furthering their craft and advancing their careers. Applications are encouraged from artists in all artistic disciplines. Artist grants are for special projects that contribute directly to the artist’s growth and development as a professional.

The 2019 artists represented the literary, visual, performing and media arts. 35 artists were funded:
- 22 visual artists (painters, photographers, sculptors)
- 5 literary/media artists (writers, editors, screen writers, playwrights)
- 3 filmmakers
- 3 performing artists (dance, theater)
- 1 jeweler
- 1 podcast host
Artists self-identified as being a person with a disability with the following disabilities:

- Physically/Mobility Disability
- Emotional/Psychiatric Disability
- Intellectual/Developmental Disability
- Hearing Disability/Deaf
- Visual Disability/Blind

This report provides a brief summary of the 2019 grants awarded. Each awardee’s name is linked to their websites when available. We put an Asterisk (*) next to the name of the grantee if a final report has not been completed as of December 2019.

**Kenny Aitken (First Time Applicant)**
Shasta Lake,
Kenny Aitken was awarded support to create digitally painted portraits. Funds were used to purchase a digital art display, a counter high worktable, and a one-year subscription to the Adobe Creative Cloud. The art display and standing workspace made creating large pieces of art more accessible and the software was used to create the new art pieces. Mr. Aitken shot reference photographs of people in his community which he used to create digitally painted portraits. Each portrait reflected an aspect of a physical disability or mental health condition. Working digitally allowed Mr. Aitken to create large pieces of work without the physical restraints of working with large media. These portraits were published online in December 2019. He plans to continue to showcase his new work at the Shasta County Arts Council Gallery in 2020.

Marik Berghs (First Time Applicant)
Concord, CA
Marik Berghs was awarded support to develop marketing strategies for her writing. Funds were used to purchase equipment, software, pay production costs for a full color book in print and digital formats; create a video book trailer; rebuild and redesign a website and blog. This project helped her create a marketing model that will be used for a future book. As an author and
illustrator she has created projects in multiple mediums and will use these new skills to promote and sell her work. Ms. Bergh’s intention is to make a living through the sales of her books. This project was completed in December 2019.

Completing this grant has impacted me on three levels. First it gave me the means to purchase software I am using to develop my marketing process. Second I had to learn new software in order to put the project together (Adobe, Photoshop, and Illustrator). As a result of funding I tested several marketing strategies and earned money through advertising. With funding to create my marketing materials I was able to increase sales from $50 to $1500 a month.

Creating a reproducible marketing strategy has given me an indispensable tool. I have a process I can use to rollout my other titles. My goal as an artist is to make a living with my writing and illustration. The unexpected benefit is that I will be able to use the visual art and digital products (web sites, trailers and blog) to sell freelance services that will give me additional income for advertising and provide a livelihood until I can sell enough books.

Alicia Van De Bor (First Time Applicant)
Stockton, CA
Alicia Van De Bor was awarded support to create a professional artist web-based digital portfolio (website) that includes photographs of her artwork, an artist statement, artist bio, her exhibition experience and education/training, grants, and awards. Funds were used to purchase a digital camera to photograph her current and future artwork which she uploaded to her website; the printing of professional business cards; and to attend a graphic arts course to learn how to manipulate digital images for her website. This project has helped her sell and promote her work. The project was completed in December 2019.

The most beneficial aspect of the project was to have a professional artist website that I can use to catalog and show all of my current and future work enabling me to reach an audience regardless if my work is chosen to be shown in a gallery. An unexpected benefit of this project is that using a professional camera to take photographs for my website created another artistic interest and potential talent to explore in photography.

Vanessa Castro (First Time Applicant)
Alameda, CA
Vanessa Castro was awarded support to participate in various Art Fairs and Shows in the San Francisco Bay Area such as the Alameda Art and Wine Festival (July 27 & 28), Alameda Mini Maker Faire (August 11), and Oaktoberfest (October 5 & 6). Funds were used toward registration fees, booth rental costs, new art supplies and 1-2 assistants to help her on the project. Ms. Castro secured spaces where she could sell her self-published children’s books which she wrote and illustrated. The goal of the project was to advance her career as a disabled professional artist, while networking and building customer relationships for new and repeat business. She sold about 174 books/other products that totaled $2,274 in sales.
At one of the art fairs I met a woman who runs Swing and Wings, a therapy place for kids with disabilities. I was asked to read my children’s books, share my art, speak to the kids and their parents, and sell my artwork. This was yet another change to sell my products while raising awareness about disabilities.

With this grant I was able to sell my artwork in bigger art fairs in the Bay Area, pay space rentals where it would not have been possible for me to afford due to high booth fees. Most importantly, I think this project enabled me to expand my business by reaching a larger audience with my work exhibits. The grant gave me the resources to add, create and further develop new summer products to market. Also the ability to buy additional art supplies and materials, at least to carry me through the next show/exhibit. The most unexpected benefit that I am most excited about is – I was asked by the worker of the ArtVale Gallery in Oakland to create and design a mural for the outside wall of the gallery. The proposed mural will represent Oakland’s community, as well as increase disability awareness.

Vanessa Cruz (First Time Applicant)
Reseda, CA
Vanessa Cruz was awarded support to participate the Dancing Disability lab at UCLA, June 23rd-29th, 2019, with an informal public sharing on June 28th, 2019. Funds were used for travel and accommodations. Ms. Cruz was invited to participate in the summer inclusion lab offering experienced and emerging disabled dance artists from across the world an immersive engagement in disability studies scholarship alongside movement exploration and choreographic inquiry.

This Lab allowed me to gain information about the disability culture. It has allowed me to investigate my own identity and how ableism is in different forms in the dance community. I feel like I have formed a beautiful support system that understands the struggle I face pursuing my dance career. It felt liberating for my artistic voice to be seen through other disabled artists.

I am hoping that I can create a system that can be used for a many universities to open their doors to other disabled dancers who are seeking dance training. My choreographic work now is about shifting how we can use disabled bodies on stage without choreographic ableism that we often face when we are choreographed on. I am excited with all the new information that I have and being able to develop projects that can shift even more how we view disabled dancers in a performance setting.

Victor Dean (First Time Applicant)
Victor Dean was awarded support to produce a short film entitled Michael Tool, a film that chronicles a man who is struck with a debilitating heart condition that leaves him disabled. The goal for this project was to provoke society to think differently about what it means to be disabled and to champion the notion that having a disability could also mean that you have a
super-power. The film was shot over the course of two-weeks across various locations in Los Angeles. The funds were used to purchase equipment, permits, and insurance along with paying a nominal fee to the cast and crew for both production and post-production work. The film run-time is 38 minutes, chosen specifically to comply with standard submission requirements for film festivals. The project was expected to be completed in December 2019.

**Moya Devine** (First Time Applicant)
Encinitas, CA

Moya Devine was awarded support to develop a series of encaustic pieces and exhibit them at the Martha Pace Swift Gallery and multiple other sites. One piece was also exhibited in a show which traveled around San Diego County to various galleries and libraries. Funds were used to purchase lighting, ventilation, tools and materials to create the work. She sold 1 painting as a result of the exhibit for $450 and was offered an opportunity to exhibit her work in the future at the Central Library in San Diego. Ms. Devine was able to reconnect with other artists and network and sell her work as a result of this opportunity.

**Dawn Grabowski**
Glendale, CA

Dawn Grabowski was awarded support to perform her comedy show, Open Heart. Flat-Chested. Brass Balls! Funds were used to pay for new headshots, a photographer for the event, coaching, training, flyers and promo materials, and editing costs. The show took place on March 1, 2019. The show featured four years of her Comedy training and work. She felt by using her comedic and acting skills she could educate, entertain, and enlighten audience members about
what it’s like to have a physical visible disability, and not only survive in the world, but thrive in the world. Her intent was to entertain while showing that we are all more alike than different no matter what body packaging we have. Throughout the show she tackled topics such as: employment, dating, prejudice, tolerance, and the portrayal of individuals with disabilities in the Entertainment Industry. There were 80 members in the audience and she had great feedback from the audience members about her performance.

I learned there is strength in vulnerability. I made jokes and talked about Social Matters I have never spoken about publicly. My name, image really got there on my Social Media, Drop Offs at Casting Directors (personally) and Mass Mailings. After the performance I was approached by Independent Producer to be in their short film. The comedy show was well received.

Garrett Gunn (First Time Applicant) *
Redding, CA
Garrett Gunn was awarded support to create a series of four digitally illustrated portraits of landscapes. Funds were used to purchase a tablet with procreate illustration capacity, pay for Vinyl Printing of his new work, and a sit/stand desk to accommodate his mobility issues. He hoped that by creating this new work he would be able to grow as a digital artist. His project was expected to be completed by December 2019.

Octavia Rose Hingle (First Time Applicant)
Oakland, CA
Octavia Rose Hingle was awarded support to participate at the Dancing Disability lab at UCLA, June 23rd-29th, 2019 with an informal public sharing on June 28th, 2019. Funds were used to support travel to Los Angeles and accommodations. Octavia Rose Hingle was invited to participate in the summer inclusion lab offering experienced and emerging disabled dance artists from across the world an immersive engagement in disability studies scholarship alongside movement exploration and choreographic inquiry. This experience provided the opportunity for performance practice and to understand disability justice, while providing both a learning and connecting opportunity for the dancers to network with other dancers.

I felt really challenged and affirmed as a dance artist, gained choreographic and technical tools, and met some fantastic artists I’d like to collaborate with in the future. I learned a lot about the aesthetics of disability dance, and how to incorporate this into the work I do in collaboration with others.

Janis Butler Holm (First Time Applicant)
Los Angeles, CA
Janis Butler Holm was awarded support for professional training with the artist Gina Osterloh. Funds were used for 20 hours of training with Ms. Osterloh to learn ways of integrating her experimental textual work with the work of other experimental L.A. artists. Ms. Osterloh served as mentor to Ms. Holm on the L.A. art scene, reviewed her work to date, suggested ways she could interface with other artists work, helped her find other artists to collaborate with, helped formulate a directed work plan that capitalized on resources in L.A. and produced
literary work that interfaces with other art forms. As a result of this project, an editor choose 2 pieces of her work for publication in the BlazeVOX literary online magazine.

In addition to becoming more familiar with specific artists/writers, venues, and opportunities in L.A., I have cultivated some wonderfully productive friendships with other professional artists.

This grant was chiefly about learning the arts terrain of L.A. and introducing myself to L.A artists and writers. I have taken on 3 collaborative projects as a result of this work – 2 short artist videos and a book editing gig = that will be completed in 2020. Additionally, I will be putting together a website, a Facebook page and ‘business cards’ for future PR.

Diana Jordan (First Time Applicant)
Los Angeles, CA
Diana Jordan was awarded support to complete the short film I CAN which she directed and co-produced for the Easterseals Disability Film Challenge; a 56-hour film competition where a production team had 56 hours to write and produce a short film based on a specific genre. Funds were used for post-production costs for editing, visual effects, color correction, final sound mix, closed captioning and DCP creation for submission for local and California Based Film Festivals.

I have been a working actress for over 30 years and have been directing live stage performances for almost as long. Directing the short film, I CAN was the first time I stepped behind the camera. I learned so much for setting up my shot sheet to learning to work with in the limited time (in terms of hours) we had to be at each location. It was also the first time I got to be in on the editing session of a film and working with my producer and editor to see the film till its’ completion. I also served as a co-producer on the film. I enjoyed working with my executive producer in terms of making selections for our crew, making the casting decisions of our actors. As an actor with a disability, and because of the nature of the Easterseals Film Competition, I was able to cast several actors with disabilities in our film. I think what I learned the most was how much I love directing. I gained confidence [in] my ability to lead a production team, when to stand my ground about certain decisions and when I needed to compromise.

Brendan Kerr (First Time Applicant)
Del Mar, CA
Brendan Kerr was awarded support toward the creation of new Fiber art. Funds were used to purchase a Saori loom, artisan yarn, photo cards, pay for canvas prints, and the fees for 6 Mixed Media classes in order to learn how to use this new medium. He created two new Fiber art pieces which he showcased at the Radically Inclusive Gift Fair in San Diego, CA in
November 2019. By showcasing his work, Mr. Kerr networked and was given the opportunity to make new contacts with others in the field.

*The Saori loom has given me the opportunity to create beautiful pieces of art. I can develop my skills as an artist now.*

Kevin Kjos (First Time Applicant) *
Redding, CA
Mr. Kjos was awarded support to expand his visual arts career to a new art medium, digital art as an accommodation to his disability and develop a new digital arts portfolio. Funds were used to purchase digital painting equipment such as a digital drawing tablet, creative software, to obtain the necessary California state and city of Redding business licenses and permits and to pay for printing and registration fees for community art exhibitions. The projects focus was of large digitally painted landscapes of various north state landmarks. Locations including Mt. Shasta, Whiskeytown Lake and The Sundial Bridge both in Redding, CA and the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, CA. Mr. Kjo’s reason for going digital was to accommodate the physical limitations of his recent disability. Once the project completed, he planned to display his exhibit at the Shasta County Arts Council Gallery. In December 2019 he participated in an art exhibit put on by the local comic shop Collector’s Choice and Fanworld. The project was expected to be completed by December 2019.

Tomeko Malone
Carlsbad, CA
Tomeko Malone was awarded support to participate in the San Diego Ingram Plaza at the Arts District at Liberty Station art show. Funds were used to pay for entry fees and mileage to attend the art show where he displayed his new work, fees for a sculpture class, and new art supplies to create African art sculptures. The exhibit drew in thousands of attendees to San Diego. The work was exhibited in August 2019. Mr. Malone said that this opportunity allowed him to communicate with the art collectors and exhibit participants about his new work.
Jessica McBrayer (First Time Applicant)
Antioch, CA
Jessica McBrayer was awarded support to present three programs to libraries within the Contra Costa Library system. Funds were used for the purchase of adaptive and ergonomic equipment she used to create posters and handouts for these presentations, titled, How Disabilities Impact an Artist’s Vision. Each library presentation included a complete set of her new novels for library consideration in their collection. In addition, a portion of the funds were used to finish a series of books that are in progress. Ms. McBrayer sold 2,694 copies of the books and made $3,406.25.

Ron McBrayer (First Time Applicant)
Antioch, CA
Ron McBrayer was awarded support to create new art that he displayed at the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society and the Centre Concord. Funds were used to pay for a lapidary machine, silver materials, and travel to collect new materials that were used to create a new portfolio of art. Silversmithing was the next step in his growth as an artist and with this funding he was able to purchase materials and refine his artistic skills.

I was able to improve and practice lapidary skills. Adding silver and mounting identified as a program area I was able to work on. Was able to progress through projects of increasing difficulty and identify proper methods of soldering, project staging and identify difficulty levels.

Sheana Ochoa (First Time Applicant)
Atascadero, CA
Sheana Ochoa was awarded support to complete the first draft of her second book. Funds were used to pay for the fees of her professional writing coach and the editing services of Elana Golden, who runs The Writing Studio in Los Angeles. The new polished first draft includes 21 chapters of the story including the broad character arcs. The narrative and actual scenes and their placement are in need of further development. Elana Golden led Ms. Ochoa through a rigorous process of developing characters so the plot could be revealed. The edited draft was completed in July 2019.
As a result, this work-in-progress has made leaps and strides into a near-publishable work. The characters are fully fleshed out. The scenes have been reordered to create foreshadowing and build tension. The work is solid and fluid and only requires a language draft for completion.

**Linda Osborn (First Time Applicant) *  
Eureka, CA**

Linda Osborn is a blind artist who has been in the art field all her life. Ms. Osborn was awarded support to exhibit her art work at the Eureka’s Arts Alive exhibition. Funds were used to purchase new frames for her art. Ms. Osborns created 12 new sunrise and sunsets of various sizes in chalk pastel. The works tell a story of the power of human growth and resilience. Her goal was to further establish her art work in the community and become better known. Her project was expected to be completed in December 2019.

**Alana Perlin (First Time Applicant)  
Merced, CA**

Alana Perlin was awarded support toward developing a home based art jewelry business. Funds was used to purchase the necessary tools needed to fabricate and refine her new jewelry pieces. She purchased a portable kiln, metal clay art media, and a business license. Ms. Perlin recently completed a digital fabrication residency which provided an in-depth understanding of cnc routers, laser cutters and 3d printing. She incorporated these new media tools into her jewelry creations for previously unexplored forms of complex and interlocking metal shapes. Since her mobility remains limited due to the unpredictable nature of vestibular disruptions and an associated tendency to collapse without warning, she wanted to start a home-based art jewelry business. This new work was completed in December 2019. The local paper featured one of her artworks in their write-up about the group exhibit she was involved in.

I benefited from the Arts and Accessibility grant’s support to set an artist’s studio with tools and a kiln for the first time. Throughout the course of executing my initial foray into metal and jewelry artwork, utilized online courses available from experts in the field to augment my hands-on work in my new studio environment. Thanks to the grants funding, I’m proud to have now completed an initial jewelry line consisting of twenty-seven unique and hand-crafted metal pendants featuring my spiral-themed cast in clear resin.

**Jordan Plotner (First Time Applicant) *  
Santa Monica, CA**

Jordan Plotner was awarded support toward the creation of a musical score and book, Zebras. Funds were used to rent studio space to do research and write music, pay for supplies such as notebooks, a microphone, and for travel costs to do interviews. Through the book information
about Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) among both medical personnel and the public will be spread in order to help reduce the invisible suffering experienced by so many with this syndrome. The rental of the small studio space, equipped with a piano was used to sketch out ideas, compose, and orchestrate the score. The travel costs allowed for conducting interviews across California with a number of EDS ‘zebras’ (the official mascot!), thereby providing a more expansive and diverse lens through which to view the condition. A delay for the completion of the project was due to illness. The link to view the work is https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3n_2p2I0ooc&t=9s

Joshua Ramirez (First Time Applicant) *
Pico Rivera, CA
Joshua Ramirez was awarded support towards the creation of a new art portfolio. Funds were used to pay rent for studio space, an assistant, and to purchase new art supplies and tools. Mr. Ramirez used this new portfolio of work when applying for a Masters in Fine Arts in Sculpture to institutions such as UCLA, Yale and Columbia. In order for Mr. Ramirez to apply for his MFA in Art, he was required to produce a portfolio of (15-20) images of finished artwork. The project was expected to be completed by December 2019.

Eve Lynne Robinson
Oakland, CA
Eve Lynne Robinson was awarded support toward the creation of ceramic art for the artist’s RED Collection. Funds were used to purchase art supplies such as bisques, red glaze, styluses, rotary tools, and sandpaper; service for her kiln; and to pay for an assistant. This exhibit focused on a new RED Collection of ceramic art that was sold during the month of July 2019. She sold 45 pieces of her collection for a total of $750 at the exhibit.

The most beneficial aspect to my career was continuing to build a customer base and promote my ceramics business.

Marcos Vasquez Ruelas Jr. (First Time Applicant)
Oxnard, CA
Marcos Vasquez Ruelas Jr. was awarded support for his photographic work called Nuestra Gente en la Cosecha/Our people in the Harvest. Funds were used to purchase 2 new lenses, printing costs for 20 photos, an easel, business license and filling fees, printing costs for new pamphlets, and pay for transportation costs to various locations to photograph his new work. Through this project, he was able to further his artistic career by developing a body of photographic work which he exhibited at Vaca Flowers December 28th, 2019. As result of this experience he gained a sponsor and was asked to exhibit his photographs at another location.

The process I took as an artist was that of thinking what to look for, and interpret what is happening with each single individual that I followed for this project you have to listen to their story and try to capture the right moment that exactly goes with what they are telling you.
**L. Warren, Exhilia Art** (First Time Applicant) *
Oakland, CA
L. Warren was awarded support to produce a working portfolio to market his work to galleries within the Bay Area. Funds were used to purchase a camera, art supplies and fabrication space and to update website to be presentable to local galleries such as the Johannes Project open call for Art Murmur and Joyce Gordon Galleries women’s holiday art show. This project was expected to be completed in December 2019.

**Weng San Sit** *
Los Angeles, CA
Weng San Sit was awarded support toward her project, New Routines that uses photography, video and medical imagery to create an immersive installation about new routines that women go through as their bodies change due to illnesses, disabilities or aging. Funds were used to pay for studio rental and parking, and to purchase a sound recorder that was used to record good quality interviews for video footage for her art. She planned to use this process to unmask some inherent societal structures that create ‘myths’ of disabilities and illnesses. Women were interviewed, filmed and photographed in their homes. This new work was going to be featured on her website and showcased at art spaces or hospitals in Los Angeles in the fall of 2019. The project was expected to be completed by December 2019.

**Claire Spector (First Time Applicant)** *
Santa Rosa, CA
Claire Spector was awarded support toward the exhibit Blind StitchingTM: Vis-Ability, an accessible exhibition of Contemporary Textile Art, Sewn by Feel. Funds were used towards developing a professional accessible artist’s website, to apply for art shows, accessible software, large print business cards with Braille, large print show books and large print labels. Ms. Spector created an artist’s statement with audio descriptions that she printed. She also used the award to pay for round trip transportation and accommodations for the artist events that she attended for Blind StitchingTM: Vis-Ability in June through December 2019. The opening reception included an experiential Tactile TextileTM Event and Artist’s Talk with Claire Spector. Lighthouse for the Blind hosted a webpage and the event was widely promoted by Lighthouse for the Blind and social media. Her project was expected to be completed by December 2019.
Clara Lynn Todoroff (First Time Applicant)
Eureka, CA
Clara Lynn Todoroff was awarded support toward the creation of new art work that she exhibited at a solo show. Funds were used to pay for a website domain, website hosting, art supplies, a class at Fire Arts Center, membership fees for Fire Arts, and for an apprenticeship with local professional Artist James Hildebrandt in May and June, 2019. By working as an apprentice, she learned new techniques to incorporate into the mediums that she already uses in her art. She created new artwork (5-6 paintings) that she showcased in a solo show in September 2019 at Studio 424. She showed her work there for the entire month hosting weekly gallery visits. For the solo show she also created publicity materials and a website.

David Walton (First Time Applicant)
El Cajon, CA
David Walton was awarded support toward the creation of standup cut-outs of drawings to be displayed at the Sophie’s Kensington Gallery. Funds were used toward the purchase art supplies such as markers, foam board and paper that he used to create 12 drawings and mount them on foam core in order to create standup cutouts. Mr. Walton has a passion for drawing (almost) life-size Medieval and Renaissance Kings and Queens in full regalia, using varying sizes of paper glued together to form the height and width he desires. He showcased them at Sophie’s Kensington Gallery October 5-30, 2019. He sold two pieces for $240 at the exhibit. Mr. Walton’s art was also exhibited at the 2019 Kraemer Endowment Foundation donor dinner.

David benefited in a variety of ways as a result of this project. David’s self-esteem and confidence increased. He started greeting guests that came into the studio, leading them to his work and sharing about his art. David reported that he had a great time at his art reception.

Kurt Weston
Mission Viejo, CA
Kurt Weston was awarded support to create a new body of photographic work for exhibition at the Therefore I Am exhibit at the Orange County Center for Contemporary Art in August 2019 and at APH Insights, where he was awarded first place in 2 dimensional art in October 2019. Funds were used to purchase stretched canvases, printable fabric, film, ink cartridges and clear acrylic finish. This new work incorporated techniques involving multiple photographic exposures on film, film processing, and digital scanning of film, printing of images on fabric, affixing prints to canvas and finishing with an acrylic gel. The techniques employed generated a multilayered tactile finish which made the work accessible to a visually impaired audience. The arts have provided Mr. Weston with the opportunity to act as a political and social practitioner, representing aspects of his visual disability. He uses his imagery to inform, educate and inspire new ways of seeing and understanding disability.

**Spencer Wolf (First Time Applicant)**
Newbury Park, CA
Spencer Wolf was awarded support to create Critic Zone, a podcast that reviews classic films. Funds were used to purchase equipment, to partially support assistance with a logo and design image, get assistance with graining and how to edit and upload podcast to various sites such as Spotify, Apple, Google Podcasts, Breaker, Overcast, Pocket Cast and Sticher. In addition, funds were used for membership fees to the Hollywood Heritage Museum and Sons of Desert Group which are both interested in classic films, and to network and promote the podcast. Each weekly podcast highlighted a specific film from a particular genre and gave a summary as well background on the actors, producers and director. Some podcasts featured special guests who have connection to the films. Podcasts are available at [https://anchor.fm/s/c931e88/podcast/rss](https://anchor.fm/s/c931e88/podcast/rss)
Mr. Wolf completed this project in December 2019.

*Learning applications for editing audio helped being comfortable about performing and doing improve when sometimes the script comes out short.*

**Diana Wyenn (First Time Applicant)**
Diana Wyenn was awarded support to bring her creative team together again to get ready for the first Los Angeles performances of Blood/Sugar. Funds were used to pay artist fees for her three designers, stage manager, and assistant stage manager, as well as to hire a professional videographer to document the production and to partially cover the cost of the one-week video equipment rental, which included three computers, a projector, and live-feed video camera setup. She performed at the Bootleg Theater in Los Angeles during March 27-29, 2019 where 270 audience members were present. The most beneficial benefit of this project was for her to bring her full team back together and share it with an audience over three nights in her hometown.
Arts Organizations Funded

Arts organizations grants are to increase an organizations capacity to hire artists with disabilities and improve their physical and programmatic accessibility for audience members. Arts organizations are eligible to apply for funds to (1) increase the representation of artists with disabilities in their arts events/programs; or (2) remove barriers to audiences/visitors with disabilities. Six (4 new), arts organizations were funded to make their productions, workshops or exhibits more inclusive or offer accessibility to their audience members. Arts organizations used funding towards access for: 5 performances and 1 film festival.

**Circus Bella** (First Time Applicant)
San Francisco, CA
Circus Bella was awarded support to pay for consultant Judy Finelli, renowned juggler and director as an artistic consultant and coach for the June 2019 Circus in the Parks season of performances. Funds were used to pay for Ms. Finelli’s consultant fee, her assistant, and accessible transportation to and from the rehearsals and performances. Since its formation, Circus Bella has concluded its performances with The Big Juggle a full company ensemble act which is a nod to the Pickle Family Circus. The performances took place in June and July, 2019. They had 6,500 audience members attend their performances.

As, a result of applying for and receiving this grant, the company took steps to improve our accessibility in other areas. Staff members attended a panel discussion specifically discussing issues of Arts and Accessibly at the Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired in San Francisco. Because of connections we made at the panel, we partnered with Gravity Access Services to add a Haptic Access Tour as well as live audio descriptions at one of our show. We are planning to make this an annual event and hope to expand this programming to more shows next year.
**LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired**
San Francisco, CA
LightHouse for the Blind was awarded support to provide audio description for four films screened at Superfest Film Festival. Funds were used to audio describe 155 minutes of film that had never before been audio described. Superfest Disability Film Festival took place on October 12 and 13, 2019 in Berkeley at the Freight and Salvage and in San Francisco at the contemporary Jewish Museum. 422 attended the Film Festival.

Some comments from the audience members that used the audio description:
*I appreciate audio description and I think of it as a uniquely distinguishing feature of the Superfest Film Festival.*

*Loved this feature! As a sighted person it enhanced my viewing by pointing out things I may not have noticed otherwise.*

*I love, love, love having open audio description. It shows the audience how accessibility can be just part of the way stuff is done*

**Producers Associates (First Time Applicant)**
Oakland, CA
Producers Associates was awarded support to enhance the audience experience for hearing impaired audience members for their Woodminster Amphitheatre, a 2000 seat theatre run by Producers Associates since 1967 in Oakland. Funds were used to purchase 50 assistive listening devices. The assistive devices were used in 2019 season, starting in July, to offer their hearing impaired patrons the same outdoor entertainment that other Bay Area patrons have enjoyed over the last 52 years. The 53rd season ended September 2019. An average of 1000 attend each show. The patrons were thrilled that they were able to offer the use of hearing enhancement devices at no charge. Audience members brought friends and family who previously were unable to come to the show due to hearing challenges. They plan to incorporate closed captioning for all performances in their future seasons. They are looking for funding to support this now. On an average they distributed 10-20 hearing units per show.
Our patrons were absolutely thrilled that we were able to offer the use of hearing enhancement devices at no charge. It was a resounding success and people actually brought friends and family who previously were not able to come to our shows because of hearing challenges.

You are amazing! Your positive and kind responses to all of our questions was very encouraging to us. We could not have had a season this year without you!

**The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts**
Los Angeles, CA

The Wallis was awarded support to enhance the experience for hard of hearing audience members by enabling them to hear music and dialogue during their shows in Bram Goldsmith Theater. Funds were used to acquire 30 brand new, high quality assistive listening headsets. These new devices helped to fully accommodate the audiences’ needs, as in some recent performances they completely ran out of headsets early in the evening and were unable to serve all audience members who requested them. They were expected to complete project by December 2019.

**Teatro Vision** (First Time Applicant)
San Jose, CA

Teatro Vision was awarded support to increase attendance and enhance the experience for deaf and hearing-impaired audience members at two of their performances. Funds were used to provide tri-lingual (English/Spanish/ASL) interpreters at both their March production of The Transition of Doodle Pequeño and the October production of Macario. They offered captions and created promotional materials for their shows. Their goal was to increase attendance and enhance the experience for deaf and hearing-impaired audience members. By offering ASL for two shows they saw an increased trust and attendance from the deaf community. They already have built in access accommodations in their budgets for their 2020 productions. A total of 3,345 attended their productions of Macario.
As a result of this project, we have also begun larger discussions about accessibility and how we can continue to improve the accessibility of our programs. We are working on a plan to convene an advisory committee of people with disabilities to assist us.

**Viver Brasil (First Time Applicant)**

Los Angeles, CA

Viver Brasil was awarded support to make their production accessible for the Deaf community. Funds were used to provide artist fees, travel and lodging for award-winning Bay Area-based Deaf dancers Antoine Hunter and Zahna Simon to participate at the Cultural Equity Summit on April 17, 2019; and for ASL interpretation services for the audience and performers. By making the Summit accessible for the Deaf community, both in-person and via public livestream, they were able to broaden the scope of their event and catalyze important dialogues about diversity and visibility in the arts that audience members and participants will continue beyond the Summit. They had 365 registered participants attend the Summit.