

**PROGRAM/DISTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 2022 GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS**

GOAL: CREATE AN EQUITABLE COMMUNITY
Education Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Community Impact Grant Fund*: Unrestricted fund for general charitable and educational purposes.

ROC The Future: \$55,000

To improve academic outcomes for Rochester youth by aligning community supports from cradle to college or career.

GOAL: CREATE AN EQUITABLE COMMUNITY
Poverty Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Mary Elizabeth Conlon Fund*: This fund provides food and shelter for children up to age 12.
- *Women's Educational and Industrial Union Fund*: This fund promotes the educational, economic, legal, and social advancement of children and families.

Empire Justice Center: \$65,000

CASH (Creating Assets, Savings and Hope) provides the following services to low-income families in Monroe County: free income tax preparation, asset building opportunities, and referrals to community resources.

Common Ground Health (Summer Meals Partnership Coordinator): \$75,000

For a part-time staff member to provide coordination and leadership of the efforts to increase participation in Rochester's summer meals.

GOAL: CREATE AN EQUITABLE COMMUNITY
Racial Equity Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Community Impact Grant Fund*: Unrestricted fund for general charitable and educational purposes.
- *Racial Equity and Social Justice Fund*: This Foundation-created Fund supports projects, programs, and initiatives that address and remedy inequities and injustices and build common ground throughout our eight-county region.

***Democrat and Chronicle*: Diversifying the *Democrat and Chronicle* and Revisiting the Rochester Narrative: \$39,175**

The *Democrat and Chronicle* is planning an array of four initiatives to improve its diversity, inclusion, and equity and enhance news coverage in Greater Rochester by building a greater understanding of the forces that have created local social and economic inequities.

Urban League of Rochester and Coordinated Care Services, Inc. (CCSI): INTERRUPT RACISM and Racial Equity Audit Tool: \$160,000

This initiative leverages CCSI's development of an equity audit tool with Urban League's INTERRUPT RACISM platform to enhance the provision of accessible trainings and coaching support to Rochester organizations and businesses, so that their team members may thrive in a diverse, inclusive, and equitable work environment.

GOAL: STRENGTHEN REGIONAL VITALITY
Arts Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Anne McQuay Arts and Cultural Fund II*: A bequest from the unofficial "Mayor of Gibbs Street" benefits Rochester's music, dance, and cultural institutions.
- *Castle Fund for Music Education*: This was created through the will of John W. Castle, Jr. to support music education programs in Monroe County.
- *Christine Mertz Dear Fund*: Provides support for local arts organizations.
- *Dorothy Kitzing and Elizabeth Kitzing Fund*: These sisters made the Community Foundation one of five beneficiaries of a Charitable Remainder Trust to establish this fund for development of the performing arts and literacy training.
- *Esther Usdane Memorial Fund*: This fund was created for community theater in memory of a woman who loved it.
- *Loma Moyer Allen Arts for Youth Fund*: A bequest by this community volunteer, arts enthusiast and co-founder of the Urban League of Rochester enables financially needy youth to participate in local arts and cultural programs.
- *Rodney Hatch Family Fund*: A charitable remainder trust established this fund to support the arts.
- *Ruth and Manville Harris Fund*: Established through a charitable remainder trust, this fund supports community arts programs.

A Magical Journey Thru Stages: Building Bigger Bridges: \$5,000

The new Bridges program seeks to resolve the gap between ethnic and racial groups through youth theater. In collaboration with two or more local theater groups (Rochester Latino Theatre Company, Avenue Blackbox Theatre, and a larger, currently confidential, potential partnership), students will learn about each other's challenges and hear each other through a combined theater program that includes collaborative workshops and show productions.

Blackfriars Theatre: "Surely Goodness and Mercy" Creative Collaboration: \$5,000

Blackfriars Theatre is partnering with RCSD's School of the Arts to produce Chisa Hutchinson's play "Surely Goodness and Mercy" at Blackfriars Theatre in March/April 2022 with SOTA students in the lead roles, providing them with professional theater training and experience.

BOA Editions, Ltd: Expanding the BOA Audiobook Series: \$4,000

The BOA Audiobook Series aims to produce forthcoming and backlisted BOA poetry collections in audiobook format, making literature more accessible, widening the poetry audience, and creating new opportunities for poets.

Borinquen Dance Theatre: Self-Development & Dance Program: \$5,000

Borinquen Dance uses Latin dance to foster discipline and essential life skills to help underserved youth achieve well-being, success in school, and self-sufficiency, while expanding access to the arts and contributing to vibrant communities.

DEEP Arts, Inc.: LIKAH!: \$5,000

LIKAH! a new family musical, is conceived to support children, families & teachers to fulfill their need for high-quality, contemporary theatre & learning activities carefully crafted to specifically address the sense of loss.

Eastman Community Music School: ECMS Play it Forward: \$5,000

Play It Forward (PIF) aims to offer access to music opportunities in the form of private lessons and summer music camp tuition scholarships for underserved students in the Rochester City School District community.

Finger Lakes Opera Inc.: Bringing More Opera to More People: \$7,500

Finger Lakes Opera (FLO) seeks continued support of its community engagement programming, which includes partnerships with other non-profit organizations and elementary schools throughout the Finger Lakes region.

Friends of Bristol Valley Playhouse Foundation Inc.: Bristol Valley Theater 2022 Summer Season: \$5,000

Bristol Valley Theater's 2022 Summer Season will celebrate the diversity of our region by including the voices and talents of BIPOC and disabled artists who are historically under-represented and provide outreach to engage a more diverse and inclusive audience with relatable theatrical programs.

Garth Fagan Dance: Safely and Fully Reopening GFD School: \$4,824

Following its successful partial opening with smaller classes in fall 2021, the Garth Fagan Dance (GFD) school seeks to reopen more fully and safely, with Covid precautions in place, in preparation for anticipated increased enrollment.

Gateways Music Festival 2022: \$20,000

Gateways Music Festival 2022 supports and promotes classical musicians of African descent and raises awareness about their historic role in classical music through concerts, lectures, artistic residencies and public events.

Genesee-Orleans Regional Arts Council: Explore Art! \$5,000

GOART! will further develop the Explore Art! Program to provide diverse and inclusive enrichment and arts education to residents of Genesee and Orleans Counties in a creative and pedagogically sound variety of classes and experiences.

Genesee Valley Council on the Arts: Creative Artists Migrant Program Services (CAMPS): \$5,000

The project will support a varied series of workshops and new planned exhibit that promotes ongoing arts engagement with farmworkers and family bonds, through CAMPS' ongoing successful program that reaches this underserved, multicultural demographic.

Geneva Music Festival: Geneva Music Festival-Ontario: \$5,000

Geneva Music Festival presents a series of eight to 10 concerts featuring classical chamber music, jazz, tango, and bluegrass performances for Finger Lakes area residents and visitors and provides complimentary music programs for children and seniors each season.

Joseph Avenue Arts and Cultural Alliance: Drum and Strum: \$3,500

Drum and Strum, part of the Joseph Avenue Arts and Culture Alliance's Rising Stars Educational Series, is a free 10-week experiential percussion-performance course for youth ages 5 to 18 in which participants explore the "building blocks" of music.

Pegasus Early Music: Echoes of Orpheus: \$4,000

Echoes of Orpheus is a series of free concerts and events taking place around Rochester to bring awareness, education, and enthusiasm for Pegasus' summer 2022 opera production of Monteverdi's L'Orfeo.

PUSH Physical Theatre: Someone No One Can See: \$8,000

Someone No One Can See is a collaboration that combines the spoken stories of transgender actor and stand-up comedian Penny Sterling with the nonverbal storytelling of PUSH Physical Theatre.

Rochester Fringe Festival 2022: \$30,000

The 2022 Rochester Fringe Festival will take place September 13-24, 2022, and will present performances in a range of genres — theatre, music, comedy, dance, Kids Fringe, multidisciplinary, spoken word, and visual arts and film. At least one-third of the performances will be free of charge.

Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra: 2022 Education Programs: \$7,500

RPO education programs provide orchestral music experiences annually to 15,000 Rochester students, including 100% of Rochester City School District third and fifth graders; concerts are paired with pre-concert classroom curricula tied to NY State Education Department Learning Standards for the Arts.

Teaching Artists ROC: AV Stipend 2022: \$4,000

The funding would continue support for staffing that has expanded the expertise and outreach of Teaching Artists ROC to provide online videos and studio time for local teaching artists.

The Center for Youth: Strings for Success: \$5,000

Strings for Success (SFS) is an innovative, free, inclusive instrumental strings program fostering the whole child development of students in grades 3 to 8 at School 19 in Rochester, providing lessons, ensembles, performance opportunities, and interaction with visiting artists, designed to create skilled musicians, strengthen social-emotional development, and create pathways for future academic success, career development, and personal transformation through music.

The Hochstein School: Need-Based Scholarships – Making Music, Making Strides (Pre-K): \$5,000

Making Music, Making Strides is a partnership between Hochstein and urban childcare centers of the YMCA, providing early music education to children ages 3 to 4 from low-income families in the City of Rochester.

The Hochstein School: ROCmusic Collaborative: \$5,000

ROCmusic Collaborative will provide access to musical instruction, instruments, meals, and transportation to the youth of Rochester at no cost to families, with music serving as the vehicle for employable skill acquisition, leadership training, and cultural competencies.

Visual Studies Workshop: Community Curator: Empowering Audiences and Activists through Archives: \$4,000

The Community Curator program at Visual Studies Workshop invites community groups, educators, and activists to curate public screenings from its collection of film and video titles.

GOAL: STRENGTHEN REGIONAL VITALITY
Environmental Justice and Sustainability Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Community Impact Fund*: Unrestricted fund for general charitable and educational purposes.
- *Environment and Natural Resources Fund*: This endowed fund, originally created through a challenge grant from the Great Lakes Environmental Collaborative, supports projects, programs, and initiatives that address inclusive solutions to the impact of our actions on the region's natural resources and environment.
- *H Fund*: To support environmental programs
- *Joseph E. Brown Environmental Education Fund*: To improve our community

Climate Solutions Accelerator: Collective Impact Backbone Support: \$70,000

The Climate Solutions Accelerator is continuing its work to build a climate-focused collective impact initiative and develop a regional climate action strategy to achieve the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals of the New York State Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), while maximizing the co-benefits of equitable climate action for our region.

Rochester Ecology Partners: Sustainability, Environmental Justice and Climate Justice Study: \$20,000

The Rochester Ecology Partners proposes a community-driven research project that will identify and analyze the activities of organizations in our community that are working towards a healthier, more just and sustainable environment.

GOAL: STRENGTHEN REGIONAL VITALITY
Historic Preservation Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Elizabeth Gibson Holahan Fund for Historic Preservation I*: A prominent decorator and preservationist bequeathed her historic East Boulevard home and residual estate to the Community Foundation, creating this fund for historic preservation.

Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives: Memorials for Anna Murray & Annie Douglass: \$15,000

This grant would support memorials for the previously unmarked graves of Anna Murray Douglass and Annie Douglass, the wife and daughter of Frederick Douglass.

Cross-Cutting

Cross-cutting grants support our work in more than one Goal or Action Area.

Recommendations supported by:

- *Community Impact Fund*: Unrestricted fund for general charitable and educational purposes.

Multiple Applications: NeighborGood Grants Program, West 2022: \$35,000

NeighborGood provides funding for projects throughout the City of Rochester and is a signature collaboration between the city, neighborhood-based groups, and the Community Foundation.