

Established Organization Project Specific Support

Project Name: Deep Roots Storytelling and Advocacy Series

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: South Tower Community Land Trust

Address: 115 N Calaveras, 93705

Funding Request: \$75,460.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Grant, Deep Roots Storytelling and Advocacy Series will host a series of eight planned workshop convenings in Fresno, including virtual and in-person panel discussions, conversations, and seminars on topics of writing, performing, visual storytelling, as well as land and place-based topics of community interest for participants age 18 to 60, centered in the South Tower neighborhood of Fresno, and open to the public.

Anticipated Impact:

- Strengthen connections and engagement amongst literary arts, public advocacy, and civic engagement
- Create a deeper sense of pride in the storytelling capacity in Fresno

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Through fiscal sponsorship with the South Tower Community Land Trust will be serving zip codes within District Three as well as the greater Fresno and Central Valley area via hybrid virtual resources.

Project Name: Rangrez: Stories of the Soil

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Jakara Movement

Address: 5470 W. Spruce Ave. Suite 103, 93722

Funding Request: \$150,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, the Jakara Movement will launch a community arts and storytelling initiative, titled "Rangrez: Stories from the Soil." The project will be an immersive community-driven arts initiative, highlighting the rich cultural tapestry of Fresno's Punjabi and broader South Asian communities. Through a multidisciplinary approach incorporating visual arts, ceramic arts, storytelling, and music, Rangrez will engage youth, elders, and local artists in co-creating art installations, performances, and oral history exhibitions that speak to immigration, identity, labor, and resilience. Activities will be hosted at the Paaras Community Center in collaboration with local schools and other community partners. This initiative aims to foster cultural belonging, artistic skills, and intergenerational dialogue while transforming community spaces into vibrant landmarks. Investing in young people's creative potential, this project will strengthen community cohesion and expand access to cultural participation for historically marginalized communities in Fresno.

Anticipated Impact:

- Cultivate creative confidence and cultural pride amongst Fresno's Punjabi and South Asian communities
- Give at least 300 participants new artistic skills through hands-on workshops in ceramics, murals, and storytelling
- Increase economic opportunity, visibility, and professional growth for local artists
- Pay at least 6 Fresno-based artists, including 2 artists-in-residence, and showcase their work
- Foster intergenerational connection, social cohesion, and neighborhood pride at the community level
- Create murals, exhibitions, and performances

Organization Council District: District Two (2): Council President Mike Karbassi

City Service Area: The primary zip codes we serve include 93722, 93723, 93705, 93727, 93702, and 93725

Project Name: Dulce UpFront Community Space, Cultural Hub & Creative Incubator

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Dulce Upfront Labs

Address: 2029 N. Arthur Ave, 93705

Funding Request: \$149,996.00

Project Description: With support from the Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Dulce Upfront will enrich our 2025-2026 programs in our three areas of service as a 1) Community Gathering Space, 2) Artist Hub, and 3) Creative Incubator. Project funding will help us strengthen our program services by expanding accessibility, outreach, and technical support, and will grow our capacity to serve artists, culture bearers, and creative organizations throughout the City of Fresno. EAAC funding will have an impact on the 80+ Fresno-based projects we fiscally sponsor, the dozen+ local artists/collectives we co-shared program space with, and enhance accessibility for diverse communities, particularly LGBTQ+ and BIPOC populations, through culturally rich and inclusive programming

Anticipated Impact:

- Engage at least 10,000 residents annually, including 2,500 youth, through culturally rooted, multigenerational programming
- Expand accessibility to public arts funding by providing culturally responsive Measure P info sessions, 1:1 grant coaching, and fiscal sponsorship for over 80 local creatives
- Support the professional growth of at least 20 artists, guiding them from emerging creatives to organizational leaders, performers, and mentors
- Give 50+ artists access to high-quality gear and tutorials
- Activating our shared-use cultural hub for 100+ events annually
- Increase artist visibility and capacity
- Continue mentorship and infrastructure for grassroots groups
- Elevate youth engagement
- Sustain creative output across communities

Organization Council District: District One (1): Councilmember Annalisa Perea

City Service Area: Dulce Upfront primarily serves central Fresno and surrounding neighborhoods, including but not limited to zip codes: 93701, 93702, 93703, 93704, 93705, 93710, 93721, 93722, 93728, 93741

Project Name: Broadway Parque Public Art and Activation

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: South Tower Community Land Trust

Address: 115 N. Calaveras St., 93701

Funding Request: \$117,366.08

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, South Tower Community Land Trust will implement the Broadway Parque Public Art and Activation Project, a community-centered public art initiative transforming two newly built 150-foot-long, 8-foot-high concrete block walls at Broadway Parque in the South Tower neighborhood. This project will involve local artists and community members in designing and painting murals that celebrate neighborhood history, cultural resilience, and the organizing work that brought Broadway Parque to life. The project will include storytelling, design workshops, and intergenerational community events. We aim to engage 650+ residents of all ages, with a special focus on South Tower's diverse, low-income, and LGBTQ+ populations. The project's impact will be lasting visual beautification, deeper neighborhood pride, and public art that reflects the voices and histories of a vibrant, historically marginalized community.

Anticipated Impact:

- Create a vibrant, community-driven mural that reflects the cultural identity, resilience, and organizing history of the South Tower neighborhood
- Deepen local relationships and strengthen social cohesion across South Tower
- Elevate and support of local artists and storytellers
- Offer paid opportunities for 3–5 Fresno-based artists, and potential mentorship or stipend roles for youth or emerging creatives
- Reshape how art and public space function in Fresno, demonstrating that cultural infrastructure can be co-created, grassroots, and equity-driven
- Share the story of Broadway Parque's creation

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: South Tower Community Land Trust (STCLT) centers our work in the South Tower District, south of Olive Ave, north of CA-180, west of Blackstone Ave, east of H Street/Weber Ave. This area is included in 93728 and 93701 zip codes.

Project Name: Creative Legacies: Youth Artists Documenting Fresno's Arts Impact

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Funding Team

Address: 1040 E Herndon Ave Ste 101, 93720

Funding Request: \$99,995.50

Project Description: With support from the Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, The Funding Team will launch a youth-centered documentary and storytelling initiative designed to uplift the legacy and impact of Fresno's nonprofit arts organizations, which Measure P supports. This project will engage local student artists, ages 16–24, with professional documentarians, writers, and media mentors to capture and share the stories of community arts organizations across Fresno. Through hands-on training in filmmaking, interviewing, editing, and digital storytelling, participants will gain creative experiences, job skills, and an understanding of the cultural landscape. Youth interns will be matched with a Measure P-funded nonprofit arts organization, supporting site visits, interviews, and media production that highlight the organization's history, mission, and cultural contributions. Final projects—including short films, social media reels, and written features—will be publicly shared through community events, digital platforms, and collaborative showcases, broadening public access to the stories behind Fresno's thriving arts ecosystem.

Anticipated Impact:

- Document and preserve the legacy of a vital local nonprofit by producing a professional documentary
- Provide practical, paid media experience for college interns by offering hands-on training and career development
- Raise awareness about a key social issue through visual storytelling by using the documentary as platform to highlight important issues
- Engage the public through a community screening and panel discussion by hosting a free public screening event for 200+ Fresno residents and post-film discussion
- Expand the film's reach through broad distribution by reaching out to public broadcasting and distributing the film through schools, nonprofit partners, and digital platforms

Organization Council District: District Six (6): Councilmember Nick Richardson

City Service Area: Primary Zip Code Service Areas: 93701, 93703, 93706, 93720, 93726, and 93722. This project will primarily serve youth and communities in Central, Southwest, and Southeast Fresno.

Project Name: Black Youth Empowerment Program

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Central Valley Scholars

Address: 710 Van Ness Ave #141, 93721

Funding Request: \$91,949.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Central Valley Scholars will continue the Black Youth Empowerment Program (BYE). The BYE Program creates a network of Black leadership across the Central Valley, and advances the wellness, education, creativity, and empowerment of the Diaspora. The Fresno-based program is focused on the following three goals:

Understanding Self: Hold Space for Black high school students to learn about their identities, histories and wellness, as well as to celebrate themselves and their own excellence.

Building Community: Creating a network of young Black Leadership rooted in the Central Valley.

Arts & Culture: Students use arts and culture to express and self-reflect on their personal journeys.

The program provides a unique blend of self-exploration & community building through an artistic lens, while analyzing the intersectionality of the Black experience, specifically in the Central Valley.

Anticipated Impact:

- Participants will emerge from the program with a deeper understanding of their identities, their histories, and their place within the Black Diaspora, building both individual confidence and a collective sense of purpose
- Students will develop leadership skills, wellness practices, and pride in their cultural heritage making them feel affirmed, connected, and empowered
- The program will inspire a generation of Black youth in the Central Valley to lead with confidence, advocate for their communities, and create change through the arts and education

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Our program primarily serves youth from across the city of Fresno and the broader Fresno County area. In past cohorts, the primary zip codes we serve are: 93710, 93706, 93704, and 93727.

Project Name: Fiestas Patrias and Lend a Hand Posada

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: FRESNO AREA HISPANIC FOUNDATION

Address: 1444 Fulton Street, 93721

Funding Request: \$150,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, the Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation (FAHF) will host two cultural events—Fiestas Patrias in Downtown Fresno and the Lend a Hand Posada—to celebrate the rich heritage of the San Joaquin Valley and strengthen local economic activity. Fiestas Patrias will feature a parade, traditional Folklórico performances, live music, and food vendors, creating opportunities for small business owners and artisans to showcase and sell their work. The event will engage families from across the community in cultural celebrations. The Lend a Hand Posada will take place in Fresno and bring together low-income children and families for a festive holiday experience including music, art, and seasonal activities. Grant funds will support essential expenses such as equipment rentals, artist fees, staffing, materials, marketing, and stipends. The desired impact is to increase access to cultural experiences and celebrate while supporting community connection and economic inclusion.

Anticipated Impact:

- Build stronger relationships that can lead to more events and programs in the future
- Support artists and entrepreneurs and give them exposure
- Bring the community closer in celebrating Hispanic traditions and culture
- Offer bilingual activities and workshops
- Celebrate the rich culture of Fresno in a way that everyone can enjoy

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: The Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation (FAHF) primarily serves residents within the City of Fresno, where our headquarters and Business Incubator are centrally located in downtown. The primary ZIP codes where we deliver services include 93701, 93702, 93706, 93721, 93722, 93725, and 93727—all of which fall within the municipal boundaries of Fresno.

Project Name: Intergenerational Arts Healing Project

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: WEST FRESNO FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Address: 700 Van Ness Avenue, Ste. 201, 93721

Funding Request: \$149,999.30

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, West Fresno Family Resource Center (WFFRC) will launch the Intergenerational Arts Healing Project, a community-based cultural arts project to foster healing and connections among 40 unduplicated, historically marginalized southwest Fresno youth ages 18-24 and elders, ages 55 and over through the arts. Activities will take place at our headquarters located in downtown Fresno at 700 Van Ness Avenue, in southwest Fresno - Neighborhood Resource Center located at 1515 E. Annadale Avenue, and New Kingdom Church at 1825 S. Delno Ave. Offering opportunities to engage in visual arts, storytelling, and quilting, the project aims to bridge generational gaps, reduce social isolation and depression, while ensuring equitable access to healing-centered creative expression. The desired impact is to build stronger community bonds, promote cultural arts, and ensure equitable access to healing-centered creative expression in an area historically underserved by mainstream arts funding.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase access to culturally relevant arts programming for underserved individuals and families in West Fresno
- Build stronger intergenerational relationships and connections, especially between youth and elders, through shared creative experiences
- Improve emotional well-being and reduce social isolation among participants
- Elevate visibility for local artists through paid opportunities, community exhibitions, and public events
- Empower youth who gain confidence, communication skills, and a deeper connection to their cultural identity and create/express their stories and emotions through art
- Host over 40 workshops and events and engage at least 500 individuals
- Foster cross-generational understanding and creative emotional expression through tactile projects, shared storytelling, and available clinical mental health support

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: 93706 and 93721

Project Name: Khalsa Community Center's Year Long Arts and Music Series

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Khalsa Foundation

Address: 4335 N Golden State Blvd. Ste. 103, 93722

Funding Request: \$149,897.00

Project Description: With support from Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Khalsa Foundation of California will offer free culturally responsive, Punjabi music and arts programming to youth and families in Fresno. Classes will include harmonium, tabla, Punjabi singing, calligraphy, and mental health-focused art sessions. These classes will take place at the Khalsa Community Center in Northwest Fresno, serving participants as young as 6. Our goal is to connect the Punjabi diaspora and the whole Fresno community to Punjabi heritage while supporting creative expression and emotional well-being through the arts. These classes will remove financial and accessibility barriers for underserved immigrant communities, many of whom lack exposure to culturally relevant arts education. By providing consistent, linguistically appropriate, and community-rooted instruction, we aim to inspire pride, a sense of belonging, and healing through cultural connection. This grant will help us establish a foundation for future arts programming that is both sustainable and inclusive.

Anticipated Impact:

- Deepen appreciation for Punjabi arts and culture among participants
- Empower youth to express themselves more confidently in various aspects of life
- Create opportunities for showcasing participants' work through exhibitions and performances
- No less than 95% of participants will leave with a greater appreciation for Punjabi culture
- No less than 80% of participants will strengthen family bonds and foster a sense of belonging within the broader community
- 90% of consistent participants will learn the techniques of music, calligraphy, visual arts, and enhance their critical thinking, teamwork, and communication skills

Organization Council District: District One (1): Councilmember Annalisa Perea

City Service Area: The primary ZIP codes we serve include: 93722, 92723, 93711, 93727, 93725, 93720, 93730, and 93721.

Project Name: Traditional African Braiders Workshop and Black Hair Anthology

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Another Level Training Academy

Address: 1244 N Mariposa St, 93703

Funding Request: \$146,715.25

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Another Level Training Academy will launch the Traditional African Braiders Workshop and Black Hair: A Visual Anthology to celebrate and preserve the artistry of Black hair culture. Activities will include hands-on braiding workshops, cultural history workshops about each culture and their art of braiding, and curated art exhibit featuring local Black artists. Programming will occur at ALTA's community hub in Southwest Fresno and pop-up exhibit locations citywide. The project will serve youth and adults ages 13 and up, with a focus on underserved African and BIPOC communities. The desired impact is to empower cultural identity, create workforce pathways in the arts sectors, and foster intergenerational learning through the lens of African and BIPOC heritage. These programs make visible the artistry, legacy, significance of African and BIPOC textiles in Artistry and amplify voices often excluded from mainstream cultural narratives.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase cultural awareness, intergenerational healing, and economic empowerment within the Black community
- Preserve and celebrate African and African American cultural traditions, particularly those surrounding Black hair and braiding
- Increase access to culturally relevant arts programming for underserved youth and families
- Train and employ local artists, particularly BIPOC artists, to deliver impactful workshops and produce meaningful works
- Establish an archive of cultural expression through the "Black Hair: A Visual Anthology" exhibit and living gallery
- Foster community dialogue, pride, and identity through storytelling, education, and visual arts

Organization Council District: District Five (5):

City Service Area: 93706, 93722, 93721, 93703

Project Name: Saints Rest Community Economic Development Corporation Diversity in Motion Project

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: SAINTS REST COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP

Address: 1550 Reverend Chester Riggins Ave., 93706

Funding Request: \$149,996.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, the Saints Rest Community Economic Development Corporation will deliver a series of cultural arts activities in the 93706 area. These activities will include visual arts workshops, music performances, dance performances, and community art installations, engaging residents of all ages. By providing accessible, high-quality arts experiences, we aim to foster creativity, cultural pride, and community unity. This initiative will create opportunities for expression, collaboration, and skill development, with a focus on uplifting the diverse voices within the community. Through these efforts, we seek to enhance cultural engagement and promote long-term positive social impact in the 93706 area.

Anticipated Impact:

- Develop artistic skills in disciplines such as vocal training and sound engineering
- Build stronger community bonds
- Increase youth engagement
- Broaden community outreach through performances and events
- Provide opportunities to partner with local organizations and initiatives
- Improve participants' technical skills, leadership skills, self-esteem, personal empowerment, and confidence
- Preserve and promote cultural expressions, such as traditional music
- Promote inclusivity and diversity by encouraging participation of all ages, backgrounds, and skill levels

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Project DiM will serve the 93706 area in Fresno, California. We will extend our outreach to the surrounding zip codes in Fresno, including but not limited to: 93611, 93612, 93619, 93702, 93703, 93705, 93710, 93711, 93721, 93722, 93725, 93726, 93727, 93728, and more!

Project Name: The LAByrinth Art Collective: Propagating Roots

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Labyrinth Art Collective

Address: 236 E Cornell Ave, 93704

Funding Request: \$149,050.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, The LAByrinth Art Collective will facilitate the Propagating Roots project, which will serve to continue and expand upon our continuous efforts to increase the artist, performer, culture bearer, and audience pool in Fresno by providing access to venue space, collaboration opportunities, and increased exposure to various art forms and resources. Through at least 10 produced events of various artistic media and intentionally representative collaborations, dozens of people from a wide array of demographics will have opportunity to refine and share their crafts, passions, and education, in turn inspiring and motivating their respective communities to ignite or perpetuate their own ventures, exposing potentially hundreds of community members in our city to the rich cultural and artistic fabric that exists in Fresno, but does not often get platformed.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase opportunities for artists in creative events, skill sharing, and development
- Compensating artists and contractors
- Increase prevalence and consistency in artistic programming
- Fortify networking and strengthen community building
- Increase diversity and inclusivity in communities, performers, collaborators, and audiences
- Continue to conduct events and mentor the community in a more ethical, inclusive, skilled, and expanded capacity

Organization Council District: District One (1): Councilmember Annalisa Perea

City Service Area: 93701, 93702, 93703, 93706, 93721, 93722, 93727, and 93728.

Project Name: Grandma's Tiny House

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Storyland and Playland Inc

Address: 2405 Tulare Street, Suite 100, 93721

Funding Request: \$149,996.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Storyland and Playland, Inc. will plan, develop and install a permanent interactive cultural arts exhibit at Storyland in Fresno, CA. Specifically, the Storyland and Playland, Inc. Board plans to install an exhibit celebrating the African-American/Black culture and community based upon Dr. JaNay Brown Wood's children's book, Grandma's Tiny House - which draws inspiration from her childhood community in West Fresno. The Board is collaborating with both Dr. JaNay Brown Wood and community members to ensure cultural authenticity. Our target audience for this project is children (of all ages) and their families, with a particular focus on children aged 0 to 8 years. Our ultimate goal is to create an artistic, playful, and educational experience for Fresno's children and families that celebrates our local cultures. We anticipate more than 1,000 children and their families to visit on an annual basis.

Anticipated Impact:

- Promote literacy with interactive exhibits
- Create an artistic, playful, and educational experience
- Celebrate local cultures
- Increase participation and access
- Create STEAM learning outcomes

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: 93728

Project Name: heARTs of Downtown

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Arte Americas the Mexican Arts Center

Address: 1900 Tulare St, 93721

Funding Request: \$127,655.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Grant, heARTs of Downtown will continue our goals as a collaborative initiative designed to cultivate creativity and share knowledge. Recognizing the importance of art in community development, we will continue to offer accessible workshops to all ages and integrate some key projects: The Artist Mentorship Project & Joystick Vending. The Artist Mentorship Project fosters growth by connecting artists for skill-sharing and professional development, enriching local talent and strengthening community ties. Joystick Vending makes art accessible in public spaces, showcasing local artists and providing economic opportunities. These projects address the need for skill development, professional guidance, and platforms for local artists. The heARTs of Downtown Fresno will continue to provide learning opportunities, mentorship, accessible art, and amplified artist voices, building a connected and thriving creative ecosystem in the heart of Fresno.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase arts participation for Fresnoans of all ages and backgrounds through workshops and public installations
- Create a more skilled, connected, and financially sustainable community of local artists where they can gain professional development and income
- Democratize art access and have art seamlessly integrated into daily life
- Enhance civic pride and community cohesion through shared creative experiences
- Increase diversity and inclusion across all facets of Fresno's arts scene – from leadership to artists and audiences

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: We are located in Downtown 93721. Our work expands to all of the city of Fresno. The youth that we focus our outreach on is 93721, 93701, 93702, 93727, 93725

Project Name: California Opera Arts and Education Festival

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: California Opera Guild

Address: 1305 North Teilman Avenue, 93728

Funding Request: \$149,996.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, California Opera will organize and produce this summer's annual opera arts festival, a summer-long learning and performance program culminating in free performances throughout Fresno, followed by fully-staged children's opera presentations in the Fall. The summer opera engages youth with opera professionals through a daily structured curriculum for different age/experience categories. All participants perform throughout festival concerts, masterclasses, opera scenes, chamber operas, and fully-staged festival finales, themed to highlight new and traditional works of relevance. Presentations during the months that follow involve multicultural literary themes and opera arts integration into K-12 curriculum materials while opera artists visit Fresno schools to work with students and teachers in preparation for performance experiences. The visual arts are integral, with children creating opera art for venue windows, programs, and lobbies. Select artwork may be incorporated into sets, costumes, and props of the children's performances.

Anticipated Impact:

- Provide diverse, high-quality programs and performances at reduced or no costs to both participants and audiences
- Increase audience attendance and participating artists
- Collaborate with other organizations, schools, and professional artists to promote cultural education, art, and music for Fresno youth
- Help revitalize downtown and neighboring communities through artistic and cultural programs in non-traditional venues
- Provide for the creative innovation of newly commissioned opera scores and never performed, socially relevant works
- Continue outreach to children through enrichment programs and socially relevant works

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Programs are operating in and serving residents located throughout the majority of Fresno's zip codes. Summer opera training and rehearsal venues extend across the city of Fresno, including collaborations with Simba School of Music, Diana's Studio of Dance, Fresno City College, and Fresno Pacific University. Summer performance venues will include Fresno's art museums, retirement communities, parks, libraries, schools, places of worship, and high-profile performance venues.

Project Name: Promoting the Arts in Fresno

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: San Joaquin Valley Media Alliance

Address: 1584 N Van Ness Ave, 93728

Funding Request: \$61,102.80

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant the San Joaquin Valley Media Alliance, in collaboration with the Community Alliance, we will provide coverage of and promote local arts and cultural artists and events/activities via an Arts & Culture calendar, arts-related content and dissemination of such content in print and online with physical distribution throughout the city of Fresno and online dissemination through a dedicated online Arts & Culture calendar, the newspaper's website and various social media platforms. The target audience is all ages with a geographic focus on areas south of Shaw Avenue in the city of Fresno and particular attention to providing all information in both English and Spanish. Our goal is to increase awareness of and interest in arts and cultural events/activities and the artists and providers who make them happen within the city of Fresno.

Anticipated Impact:

- Continue an ongoing provision and maintenance of the Arts & Culture calendar (in print and online, in English and Spanish) as a one-stop source for information on arts-related events/activities in the City of Fresno
- Increase awareness in the arts community of the Arts & Culture calendar and the rich diversity of cultural activities in the City of Fresno
- Enhance cooperation in submitting information on events/activities and providing access to artists and entities for interviews

Organization Council District: District One (1): Councilmember Annalisa Perea

City Service Area: 93701, 93702, 93703, 93704, 93705, 93706, 93710, 93711, 93721, 93722, 93725, 93726, 93727, 93728, 93741

Project Name: Fresno Emerging Documentary Filmmakers Fellowship

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Dulce Upfront Labs

Address: 4660 E. Vassar Ave, 93703

Funding Request: \$149,930.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Si Se Puede Cinema Academy proposes the Fresno Emerging Documentary Filmmakers Fellowship- a launchpad for a new generation of socially engaged storytellers. Our project will serve as a platform for 10 local, emerging filmmakers developing powerful, original documentaries that explore Fresno's most pressing social issues— grounding their projects in the lived realities of Fresno communities. The year-long program will expand access to professional development and creative tools, by providing Fellows with workshops, mentorship, and hands-on training in documentary techniques—cinematography, editing, and multimedia storytelling- learning to use film for advocacy and change. By amplifying voices often excluded from dominant narratives, the Fellowship supports a more inclusive, vibrant, and representative arts ecosystem in Fresno. A culminating public screening will further this goal by sparking dialogue and building connection between storytellers and the communities they represent.

Anticipated Impact:

- Have 10 emerging filmmakers develop their skills and create original documentaries that amplify local voices, explore pressing social issues, and reflect the cultural complexity of the region
- Empower a new generation of socially engaged storytellers from historically underrepresented communities in Fresno
- Increase in access to professional tools, mentorship, and training for BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and low-income artists
- Strengthen community dialogue through public screenings and events
- Create a growing network of local filmmakers and cultural workers who are equipped to mentor others, collaborate, and lead future arts-based civic projects
- Create a long-term investment in Fresno's creative economy through place-based artist development and partnerships with local institutions

Organization Council District: District Two (2): Council President Mike Karbassi

City Service Area: The Fresno Emerging Documentary Filmmakers Fellowship will primarily serve zip codes 93706, 93702, 93721, 93725, and 93727.

Project Name: Art and History in Lowell

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: LOWELL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Address: 250 N. Calaveras Street, 93701

Funding Request: \$53,342.30

Project Description: With Support from the Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Grant, Lowell Community Development Corporation will deepen the community's connection with each other and their sense of place by adding a mural in the Lowell Community, replacing neighborhood banners, expanding and producing an interactive community tour and by giving residents of Lowell the opportunity to learn and express their history and culture through art in our parks.

Anticipated Impact:

- Produce an interactive tour that connects art, culture, and history for Lowell community residents, giving them a deeper sense of place and belonging
- Give 100 residents the opportunity to learn from a local artist and create their own art
- Add 1 new mural on the Lowell CDC office building that represents the culture of the Lowell community
- Add 7 new banners in the community to replace the old ones

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: 93701

Project Name: Rooted in our Power: Celebrating Voices of the Valley Through Art & Culture in Fresno

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Power California

Address: 2721 E Ventura Street, #203, 93721

Funding Request: \$147,027.10

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Power California will expand and strengthen our arts and cultural programming in Fresno to uplift youth, artists, and community voice in the Central Valley. We will partner with 5 Fresno-based artists and cultural influencers to create visual and digital artwork that reflects the experiences, pride, and dreams of young people of color. We will also train 20 young people ages 18–30 through a six-week storytelling and cultural messaging program, equipping them with tools, cultural education, and leadership development, to share their stories and visions for the future. Finally, we will host a community-wide arts and cultural event featuring performances, visual art, and interactive exhibits that celebrate youth-led visions for a safe, just, and joyful Central Valley. Through this project, we aim to foster a vibrant cultural ecosystem in Fresno that nurtures creative expression, leadership development, and collective imagination.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase access to youth-led arts and cultural experiences in Fresno, where young people of color see their stories, leadership, and creativity uplifted and valued
- Have 5 local artists and cultural influencers resourced to create original visual and digital artwork that reflects community identity
- Train 20 young people (ages 18–30) in storytelling and cultural messaging through a six-week program
- Have a vibrant, intergenerational community arts festival showcasing youth-led art, performance, and cultural vision
- Strengthen connections between young people, artists, and community members through shared cultural experiences

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Our work is centered around ZIP codes 93721 (Downtown Fresno and location of our office), 93741, 93703, 93710, and 93726.

Project Name: Raíces y Alas

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Familias En Accion

Address: 3994 E Orleans Ave, 93702

Funding Request: \$50,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Familias En Accion will present a yearlong series of cultural festivals and community workshops that celebrate Mexican heritage and connect youth, families, and elders through the arts.

Programming will include heritage-based cooking classes, traditional art workshops, and storytelling sessions hosted in local parks, as well as at our community space in District 5, near Butler and Cedar in southeast Fresno. The project will serve Spanish-speaking youth and their parents alongside elderly residents through bilingual, hands-on activities that promote cultural pride and intergenerational learning. All events will be free, accessible, and culturally rooted—designed to reduce barriers to art access while celebrating identity and belonging in an underrepresented area of Fresno.

Anticipated Impact:

- Host at least 10 free community events and workshops that uplift Mexican and Latino culture
- Engage at least 300 residents, with intentional outreach to youth, parents, and elders in District 5
- Hire local artists and cultural workers, ensuring that community wealth and recognition stay within the neighborhood
- Create opportunities for intergenerational connection, where youth and elders learn from each other through shared cultural experiences
- Install murals and other public-facing artworks that beautify our neighborhoods and reflect local identity

Organization Council District: District Five (5):

City Service Area: Familias En Accion primarily serves residents in southeast Fresno, focusing on neighborhoods within and around District 5. The core zip codes we serve include: 93702 93706 93727 93721

Project Name: Care Fresno: Celebrating Cultures of Fresno

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Care Fresno Inc

Address: 1940 N Fresno Street, 93703

Funding Request: \$150,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Care Fresno will provide high-quality, accessible arts programming to over 280 youth (ages 6–17) and more than 300 family members in six underserved Fresno neighborhoods (zip codes 93701, 93702, 93703, 93722, 93726, 93727). Through our Celebrating Cultures of Fresno Project, we will offer weekly visual and performing arts classes, youth-led exhibits, cultural field trips, and various therapeutic art experiences—such as painting, poetry, collage, creative movement, and collaborative art-making—at six Care Club afterschool sites and community events. Our goal is to foster creativity, cultural pride, and emotional well-being while advancing equitable access to arts experiences. We will measure impact through participation data, youth and family feedback, and growth in creative expression and community connection—aligned with the goals of the community as expressed in Fresno’s Cultural Arts Plan (p. 21).

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase collaborations with local teaching artists and cultural educators
- Fostering youth development and strengthening the city’s arts ecosystem
- Give underserved youth arts opportunities—often for the first time
- Empower youth leadership and enhance youth creativity, confidence, and expression
- Over 280 youth (ages 6–17) will:
 - Have consistent, no-cost access to high-quality visual arts programming rooted in cultural relevance
 - Build skills in visual arts, storytelling, journaling, and cultural expression
 - Organize and lead public art exhibits, performances, and family-centered events
 - Demonstrate growth in artistic skills, emotional regulation, and engagement in learning
- Over 280 youth and up to 300 families will engage with diverse artists and culturally reflective programming, including refugee and immigrant communities

Organization Council District: District Seven (7): Councilmember Nelson Esparza

City Service Area: 93703 (Summerset Village), 93722 (The Courtyard at Central Park), 93727 (Kings Palace Apartments), 93702 (Hidalgo CDC), 93701 (On Ramps Center), 93726 (Bethel Center)

Project Name: Guelaguetza Fresno

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: CENTRO BINACIONAL PARA EL DESARROLLO INDIGENA OAXAQUENO

Address: 2911 Tulare St, 93721

Funding Request: \$62,740.15

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño (CBDIO) will organize the Guelaguetza Fresno, a traditional event from Oaxaca that leaders from the community have organized for the past 25 years in Fresno. It is the largest Oaxaqueño celebration across the Central Valley. Our goal this year is to once again bring the Guelaguetza free to the public and closer to the community by hosting it at the Veteran Square at Fresno City College on September 28, 2025 from 10:00am-4:00pm. The event is open to all Fresno residents and families. We invite children, adults, and seniors to join us. The Guelaguetza provides a space where Indigenous families can learn and access their culture and traditions to share with their children, and it gives the Fresno community an opportunity to learn something new about the Oaxaqueño culture and traditions.

Anticipated Impact:

- Fundraise money to make the entrance to this event free
- Continue to provide a safe space for our Indigenous communities in the region
- Spread awareness and cultural understanding about Oaxaqueño culture
- Increase community engagement
- Create a stronger sense of identity
- Provide educational opportunities
- Inspire creativity among attendees

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Our Fresno office is located near downtown Fresno. The zip code where most of our community lives is 93702, 93706, 93725, 93722, 93701, 93708.

Project Name: Chanticleer Shakespeare Co. - Season Two

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Arts Enrichment for All Inc

Address: 280 W. Shaw Ave, 93704

Funding Request: \$149,995.16

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Chanticleer Shakespeare Co. will produce a professional staging of The Tempest at Fresno's Historic Warnors Theatre in Spring 2026. Featuring Broadway veteran Jacqueline Antaramian and a cast blending national and local talent, this production will provide a transformative live theatre experience for audiences across Fresno. Special performances and discounted ticket pricing will ensure access for youth and students from underserved communities. Audiences of all ages will be invited to engage more deeply through post-show talkbacks with professional artists. By presenting timeless Shakespearean themes of forgiveness and redemption in an inclusive, high-caliber setting, the project aims to inspire new generations of theatre-goers, support the region's artistic workforce, and advance cultural equity in the Central Valley.

Anticipated Impact:

- Establish Chanticleer Shakespeare Co. as Fresno's premier professional theatre company—one that the community takes pride in and feels a sense of ownership over
- Build a production that exemplifies the highest caliber of Shakespearean performance, created by a collaborative team of Fresno-based talent and nationally recognized professionals
- Provide transformative opportunities for local artists, deepen community engagement with classical theatre, and position Fresno as a cultural leader in the performing arts—not only in California, but across the country
- Target a 20% increase in attendance in our second season

Organization Council District: District Four (4): Councilmember Tyler Maxwell

City Service Area: Our primary service areas include ZIP codes 93720, 93710 (Downtown Fresno), and will extend into 93722, 93727, 93720, 93702, 93704, 93726, and 93706.

Project Name: WhoShare Memories Phase II

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Armenian Heritage Museum A Calif Nonprofit Pub Ben Corp

Address: 550 E. Shaw Ave, 93710

Funding Request: \$149,998.75

Project Description: With support from the Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, the Armenian Museum of Fresno will collaborate with local artists, ethnographers, craftsmen, AI experts, software and virtual designers, significantly diversifying the number of artists involved in Phase II of the project. A display mockup of the Old Armenian Town neighborhood will be installed, linking the interviews and engaging visitors to interact and electronically input their family history, memories, and personal stories related to Fresno. AMF will continue the process of encompassing additional stories that began during Phase I of the project and artistically exhibiting them in the City of Fresno. Phase II broadens the scope of presenting cultural experiences and embracing the unique diversity in artistic genres. The project will target diverse segments of our community, income levels, geographic locations, and all ages, with a focus on youth. The project aims to preserve and enrich the city's multicultural fabric.

Anticipated Impact:

- Engage the Armenian American community in Fresno
- Open the physical and online inaugural exhibition in June 2025
- Expand access to arts and cultural education programs to provide educational opportunities for people of all ages
- Create an educational venue for the public and school districts to explore the artistic interpretation of life during the early years of Fresno history
- Inspire the community through the artistic presentation of their own stories and participation in the development and financial stability of the organization
- Help the museum's financial stability in its capacity-building efforts
- Bring together archival records and artistic disciplines to combine their talents and equip other artists, cultural practitioners, and organizations with new skills and resources

Organization Council District: District Four (4): Councilmember Tyler Maxwell

City Service Area: The Armenian Museum of Fresno is centrally located at 550 E. Shaw Ave., in Fresno. Our primary zip code is 93710. We serve visitors from the following City of Fresno Zip Codes: 93701, 93702, 93703, 93704, 93705, 93706, 93706, 93710, 93711, 93720, 93722 93726, 93727, 93728, and 93730.

Project Name: SWF POWER's 'West Fest' Event Series

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Saint Agnes Medical Center

Address: 1303 E Herndon Ave, 93720

Funding Request: \$65,535.80

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Southwest Fresno POWER (Partnership for Opportunity, Wellness, Equity, and Restoration) aims to establish a monthly community engagement event series to strengthen local connections to the arts and the diverse cultures of residents in Southwest Fresno. The "West Fest" and "Southwest Showcases" will celebrate the community's demographic and geographical diversity by featuring art-based activities and workshops, including painting, literature, cinema, theater, dance, music, and the revitalization of the 93706 California Avenue Neighborhood Street Mural. These events will be held at various locations in West Fresno, such as local churches, community centers, Southwest Community Schools, Fresno Housing properties, and the West Fresno City College campus.

Anticipated Impact:

- Establish safe spaces
- Improve community engagement
- Strengthen relationships within the community
- Ignite a creative flourishing wave in southwest Fresno
- Expose, mentor, and inspire individuals interested in creative expression through the arts

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Southwest Fresno POWER (Partnership for Opportunity, Wellness, Equity, and Restoration) primarily serves the neighborhoods in the southwest and downtown Fresno areas, including 93702, 93706, 93721, 93725, and 93728.

Project Name: BOYS & GIRLS CLUB KIDS EXPERIENCE ART!

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno County

Address: 540 N Augusta Street, 93701

Funding Request: \$63,749.40

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, the Boys & Girls Club will offer programs like Alebrijes, which involves written and creative design, and sculptural creations, to youth ages 6-18. Alebrijes, which comes from a Latino folk tradition, are brightly colored Oaxacan-Mexican folk-art sculptures of fantastical creatures. In addition, we will provide paid internships to youth who would assist staff in providing cultural art programs and on trips to museums and cultural art events. An Artist Program Instructor will be hired to work with youth and staff, developing additional art forms. These activities will take place at the Zimmerman, East Fresno, West Fresno and Pinedale Boys & Girls Clubs. All 4 Clubs are located in extremely poor neighborhoods within the Fresno Metropolitan area.

Anticipated Impact: This is an opportunity to

- Encourage and develop a sense of identity in Latino youth, grounding them in their culture through the history and appreciation of the Alebrijes art form and the collaboration with the Artes Americas Museum
- Introduce other cultures to new art including African American youth, Hmong youth, and Caucasian youth
- Provide an outlet for youth to learn how to freely express themselves through art and storytelling, and be engaged in positive activities instead of gang activity, bullying, drugs, and other risky behaviors
- Decrease negativity, and promote mental health wellness
- Work with the neighborhood surrounding each Club, involving the parents and families as we recruit youth to participate in this project

Organization Council District: District Seven (7): Councilmember Nelson Esparza

City Service Area: Zimmerman Boys & Girls Club (93701, Central Fresno), East Fresno Boys & Girls Club (93702, Southeast Fresno), West Fresno Boys & Girls Club (93706, West Fresno), Pinedale Boys & Girls Club (93650, North/Central Fresno)

Project Name: The Legacy and Heritage of Chinatown Fresno

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: CHINATOWN FRESNO FOUNDATION

Address: 912 F Street, 93706

Funding Request: \$110,293.43

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, the Chinatown Fresno Foundation will develop the legacy and heritage of Chinatown Fresno through three inter-connected activities created to appeal to a broad audience. Within this project will be the exploration of underground life from centuries ago through tours, installation of custom street signs paying tribute to each of the eleven original cultures, and banners honoring the resilience of these cultures collectively. All efforts will connect children, adults, and seniors to the vibrant cultures that populated Chinatown Fresno from the late 1800s. This project serves to recognize the original and ongoing contributions of multiple cultures surviving and thriving together.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase public understanding of Chinatown's diverse cultural histories
- Improve the public space and transform the streets of Chinatown into a place of identity, memory, and inclusive celebration
- Improve cultural placemaking that inspires interaction like photographing and sharing the street sign overlays and banners
- Empower community identity of all ages so that our historically underrepresented neighbors can see their stories honored and made visible in the public realm
- Sustain cultural tourism and boost local economic activity
- Create stronger intergenerational and intercultural ties within the community
- Provide multi-generational programming

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Chinatown Fresno and the work of the Chinatown Fresno Foundation is in zip code 93706. The surrounding zip codes are 93701, 93702, 93720 and 93721

Project Name: Mariposa Plaza Activated through the Arts

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Downtown Fresno Foundation

Address: 2020 Tulare Street, 93721

Funding Request: \$141,444.60

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Downtown Fresno Partnership (DFP) will enhance the cultural and artistic vibrancy of Downtown Fresno through dynamic, publicly accessible performing arts programming. This funding will support performing artists and ensure proper permitting, insurance coverage, and commonly used equipment for key activations at Mariposa Plaza and surrounding locations, including weekly CartHop, monthly ArtHop nights, and a Cinco de Mayo celebration. These events will provide an inclusive platform for diverse local performing artists such as musicians and dancers, fostering cultural engagement. Serving a diverse audience—from young families to professionals — these activations will be free and open to all ages, with an estimated annual attendance exceeding 100,000 across more than 50 event days. By supporting artists and removing financial and other barriers to participation, this initiative strengthens Downtown Fresno’s role as a cultural hub while expanding equitable access to the arts.

Anticipated Impact:

- Bring performance art to public areas along the Fulton Street Corridor, centered at Mariposa Plaza
- Pay artists equitably and offer more access to perform/activate at events with a range of formats and frequencies
- Allow more artists to be incorporated into Downtown events
- Increase exposure of small businesses to community members, driving up sales and foot traffic
- Increase in community engagement and cementing Downtown’s role as a cultural center

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: All activations/programming will occur in Downtown Fresno, zip code 93721, along the Fulton Street corridor, with a central focus at Mariposa Plaza. While activities take place on Fulton Street, the community served is much wider. These 19 Fresno city zip codes account for 64% of all estimated visits to Fulton Street over the past 12 months: 93706, 93727, 93722, 93702, 93705, 93703, 93726, 93725, 93704, 93728, 93710, 93711, 93720, 93721, 93701, 93723, 93730, 93650, 93737

Project Name: Youth Activism Project

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Youth Leadership Institute

Address: 1252 Fulton Street, 93721

Funding Request: \$150,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Youth Leadership Institute will engage 15 to 25 youth ages 14 to 24 from across the City of Fresno in a yearlong art and activism program. Based in our downtown Fresno space, youth will develop original artwork rooted in social justice themes and participate in monthly workshops facilitated by local artists. Workshops will explore the intersection of art and one of yli's six justice platforms: economics, education, environmental, gender, health and racial justice. The program will host quarterly ArtHop events open to the public to showcase the young people's art. This project aims to uplift youth voice, foster creative expression, and expand access to arts and culture for youth across Fresno.

Anticipated Impact:

- Replicate and increase the success of the first iteration of this program
- Continue to foster youth development and leadership
- Continue to provide young people with arts resources
- Showcase youth art at quarterly ArtHops
- Maintain an accessible and welcoming space for community members to engage with local artists and explore the intersection of art and activism
- Emulate and expand our workshops

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: We are based in downtown Fresno, but through youth programming, we reach multiple parts of the city. Our primary service areas are in the south, southeast, and southwest regions of Fresno, and the ZIP Codes we primarily serve include: 93721, 93706, 93725, 93702, 93727, 93701, and 93728.

Project Name: KFCF Tower Live!

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Fresno Free College Foundation

Address: 1449 N Wishon Ave, 93728

Funding Request: \$58,564.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, KFCF will host “KFCF Tower Live!” a series of monthly performances held at The Vista Theater in Fresno’s Tower District to showcase the depth and diversity of Fresno’s performance talent. The live concerts will be simulcast on KFCF radio and rebroadcast multiple times throughout the grant duration. Most performances are in the evening and will serve the young adult and adult population of Fresno. “KFCF Tower Live!” will attract 500-600 people to the live performances, draw 3,600+ in radio audiences, and employ approximately 96 performers, show hosts, and crew. “KFCF Tower Live!” will impact artists directly through compensation and promotion of their work and offer Fresno audiences a way to discover and support the extraordinary diversity of local talent in the unique and lively arts scene in Fresno.

Anticipated Impact:

- More visibility for the artists involved in our “KFCF Tower Live!” series and greater connection for KFCF with the arts community
- Compensation for artists and production staff
- Measurable increases in our live stream numbers
- Expanded arts partnerships and collaborations with allied groups and individual performers and artists
- Updated remote-broadcast equipment capability
- Increased event resources
- Robust community participation as the events offered at no charge
- More in-person events in the future

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: KFCF is a community radio station with a large signal reach and serves all Fresno city zip codes including: 93650, 93701, 93702, 93703, 93704, 93705, 93706, 93707, 93708, 93709, 93710, 93711, 93712, 93714, 93715, 93716, 93717, 93718, 93720, 93721, 93722, 93723, 93724, 93725, 93726, 93727, 93728, 93729, 93730, 93737, 93740, 93741, 93744, 93745, 93747, 93750, 93755, 93760, 93761, 93764, 93765, 93771, 93772, 93773, 93774, 93775, 93776, 93777, 93778, 93779, 93786, 93790, 93791, 93792, 93793.

Project Name: Roots of Resilience: Empowering Foster Youth through Arts

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Good Dirt Coalition

Address: 3011 W Bullard Ave, 93711

Funding Request: \$146,696.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Good Dirt Collective will launch the "Roots of Resilience: Empowering Foster Youth through Arts" project. This initiative will continue to expand our groundbreaking social enterprise dedicated to empowering aged-out foster youth through transformative experiences in arts and culture entrepreneurship. All workshops and internship programs will be held at our pottery studio located in Northwest Fresno. Good Dirt Collective serves youth (ages 11-17) from various zip codes: 93702, 93706. Our art programming will engage a total of 10 underrepresented youth and aged-out foster youth enrolled in the Mud Girls social enterprise program. This project will create pathways for our youth to improve their well-being, build stronger social connections, acquire life skills, enter the workforce, and celebrate their upward mobility through the arts and culture.

Anticipated Impact:

- Develop a strong sense of independence and self-determination amongst participants
- Foster stronger social connections, enabling participants to build supportive networks
- Provide these young women with essential life skills, transferable skills, and job skill training so they can enter the workforce with confidence and readiness
- Develop a social enterprise that employs more individuals within the Mud Girls initiative
- Ensure personal sustainability for the participants and meeting their basic needs through stable income

Organization Council District: District Two (2): Council President Mike Karbassi

City Service Area: Good Dirt Studio is in Northwest Fresno. We focus on the primary zip codes of 93722, 93711, 93705, and 93721.

Project Name: Martin Park Creative Collection

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Martin Park Inc

Address: 931 N Blackstone Ave, 93701

Funding Request: \$130,048.60

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Martin Park will continue to offer free after-school Theatre, Music, and Painting clubs for youth ages 6–14 in Fresno’s underserved neighborhoods. Activities will take place at Martin Park’s community sites offering safe, structured spaces for students to express their thoughts and emotions through the arts. Research shows that high levels of arts exposure for youth of low socioeconomic status are associated with better academic results, improved workforce opportunities, and increased civic engagement. Through drama workshops, music sessions, and hands-on art projects, the program will promote social-emotional learning, self-confidence, and a growth mindset. Students will also participate in culminating showcases, such as performances, art exhibitions, and community concerts to celebrate their growth and share their talents with family and community members. This program will empower youth with creative outlets and grow positive community connections.

Anticipated Impact:

- Provide two theatre performances fully produced and performed by the students, showcasing their growth in acting, storytelling, and teamwork
- Provide ten step-by-step painting sessions where students will progressively build their skills and confidence in visual arts through guided projects
- Provide two concert band performances featuring music students who have learned instruments and collaborated to present original and arranged pieces
- Provide free, high-quality instruction from experienced teaching artists across multiple creative disciplines
- Ignite lasting passion and open doors to ongoing participation in arts
- Engage in culturally relevant art projects and celebrations

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: Our organization primarily serves the downtown Fresno area, focusing on communities within the 93701 zip code.

Project Name: Byzantine Iconography Project

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Serbian Orthodox Church of St Peter

Address: 3502 N. First Street, 93726

Funding Request: \$138,545.70

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, St. Peter the Apostle Serbian Orthodox Church will complete the next phase of its interior mural installation of Byzantine iconography within the church sanctuary located in Central Fresno. To broaden access to our collection, we will launch two new website features: a virtual 360-degree tour of the iconography and an online gallery with descriptive narratives. A free, informative brochure exploring the icons' meanings and the church's Serbian cultural heritage will also be produced. This project serves all Frenans, welcoming individuals of all ages to experience and learn about Byzantine sacred art in its authentic architectural and cultural context. We aim to increase public access to art, foster intercultural understanding, and support Fresno's diverse cultural landscape by sharing the beauty and significance of Serbian Orthodox artistic tradition, both in-person and virtually.

Anticipated Impact:

- Complete the next phase of Byzantine mural icon installation within St. Peter the Apostle Serbian Orthodox Church
- Improve intercultural engagement with Serbian culture and Fresno's Serbian community
- Increase public access, knowledge, and appreciation of Byzantine iconography
- Increase diversity of our audiences for iconography through expanded program offerings
- Foster a deeper understanding of the Byzantine iconographic tradition through both in-person and online experiences

Organization Council District: District Four (4): Councilmember Tyler Maxwell

City Service Area: Our services are provided at our church, which is in the 93726 zip code. However, we serve people from nearly every zip code in Fresno: 93650, 93702, 93703, 93704, 93705, 93706, 93710, 93711, 93720, 93722, 93723, 93725, 93726, 93727, 93728, 93729, 93730, 93737, 93755

Project Name: Culture Crosswalks: Art, Safety, and Belonging in Fresno

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Safe 2 School

Address: 4974 N Fresno St. #120, 93726

Funding Request: \$150,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Safe 2 School, Inc. will implement a collaborative community art and traffic calming initiative across high-traffic school zones in the City of Fresno, as well as Fresno Unified Schools, which are located inside Fresno County. Through partnerships with local artists, schools, and neighborhood stakeholders, this project will activate public spaces with culturally reflective crosswalk art, murals, and signage designed to slow traffic and increase student safety. The project will directly engage K–12 students, families, and community members in the co-design and installation process, centering voices from underrepresented communities to foster local pride and ownership. Activities will take place in priority neighborhoods, including 93706, 93702, and 93721, where schools face disproportionate pedestrian risks. By combining infrastructure improvements with community-led art, Safe 2 School will build safer, more vibrant corridors for students and families traveling to and from school each day.

Anticipated Impact:

- Improve traffic safety and neighborhood pride in high-need Fresno school zones through culturally reflective crosswalk art and community-designed traffic calming interventions
- Create safer school zones through increased visibility and driver awareness
- Increase student, parent, and staff satisfaction with neighborhood safety
- Strengthen community identity and cultural pride through collaborative design
- Elevate youth and resident engagement in public infrastructure decisions

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: This initiative will take place in school zones within neighborhoods such as Southwest Fresno (93706), Southeast Fresno (93702), and the Downtown corridor (93721).

Project Name: Creative Pathways: Arts, Heritage & Community Growth

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Highway City Community Development Inc

Address: 4718 N. Polk Ave, 93722

Funding Request: \$29,846.30

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, HCCD will implement two community-driven art installations that reflect the identity of the neighborhoods we serve. We will co-create a mosaic pathway, inviting residents to contribute meaningful cultural items, such as costume jewelry, pottery, tiles, masks, etc., and encouraging them to participate in the hands-on creation of the pathway alongside local artists and volunteers. This collaborative process will build ownership, connection, and pride.

Along the pathway and throughout our greenspace, we will install cultural markers that highlight key groups in our area, offering opportunities for education and reflection. We will also commission a complementary mural that aligns with our existing mural artwork and illustrates themes of housing, agriculture, and community life. These projects will enhance our center as a welcoming, expressive space. We continue to grow arts and culture efforts as part of our long-term vision.

Anticipated Impact:

- Foster a deeper sense of belonging, pride, and ownership within the neighborhood
- Build stronger social networks as neighbors collaborate, contribute ideas, and see their identities reflected in public spaces
- Build confidence in the power of collective action and lay the groundwork for ongoing civic engagement
- Include local artists and giving them a platform to share their work
- Transform our center into a vibrant cultural hub, where art is not an afterthought, but a central point of pride and expression

Organization Council District: District One (1): Councilmember Annalisa Perea

City Service Area: We serve the West Central region of Fresno, specifically within zip codes 93722, 93723, and 93706. The core of our service area lies within the triangle formed by Freeway 180, Freeway 99, Golden State Boulevard, and the Union Pacific rail lines.

Project Name: Fresno Stories

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: San Joaquin Valley Town Hall Inc

Address: 5588 N. Palm Ave, 93704

Funding Request: \$144,619.20

Project Description: With support from the Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, San Joaquin Valley Town Hall will host two talks at the Saroyan Theater. Each event of “Fresno Stories” speaks directly to the lives of Fresno’s diverse communities. On February 18, 2026, “Resilience and Resistance” by Tom Ikeda and Daniel Brown addresses the forced resettlement of Japanese Americans during WWII, an injustice rooted in this place that deserves awareness and reflection. On April 15, 2026, “Backyard Bird Chronicles” by Amy Tan explores storytelling and belonging—topics to resonate with Fresno’s immigrant families. For each talk, we expect an audience of 1,100, including 200 students and several hundred seniors. YouTube streaming will reach the home bound and Fresnans who cannot travel downtown. The goal is to connect audience lives to local history and American identity.

Anticipated Impact:

- Create a new “Faculty Connect” database that will serve as a direct communication channel with high school and college instructors across Fresno Unified, Fresno State, and Fresno City College who are interested in integrating Valley Town Hall events into their teaching
 - The database will allow us to share upcoming lecture details, curriculum tie-ins, classroom resources, and early access to student tickets
 - Our content will support educational goals, foster deeper engagement, and become part of meaningful classroom conversations
- Cultivate sustained participation, stronger educator relationships, and more consistent student involvement
- Give students a chance to engage with a local historian, ask questions, and connect the talk to their own studies and lived experiences
- Pilot methods to collect and analyze demographic and program evaluation data

Organization Council District: District Two (2): Council President Mike Karbassi

City Service Area: Each year, 6 of our 8 talks take place downtown at the Saroyan Theater where the audience is city-wide. In one study we did, 67% of paid attendees are from the Fresno City codes (most frequent codes are 93711, 93720 and 93704).

Project Name: "Our City, Our Stage"

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Stage View Performing Arts Foundation

Address: 783 E Barstow Ave, Suite A, 93710

Funding Request: \$149,998.20

Project Description: With support from the Established Organization Project Specific Support Grant, Stage View Performing arts will provide free dance classes to young dancers with minimal access to dance lessons, train young apprentices that are pre-professional, partner with arts vendors, low-income housing facilities and senior citizen centers, to bring two professional-level dance shows, "The Peppermint Mocha Nutcracker" and "Clueless", during our 2025-2026 season. This grant will provide access to young dancers that are dedicated to dancing but struggle to afford lessons, as well as outreach in high-need areas and train young dancers in their own communities. These grant funds will impact all ages by also giving seniors a free opportunity to attend a performance in their beloved city. We intend to lessen the equity gap in the dance community caused by financial and transportation hardships and increase exposure to the arts through community partnerships.

Anticipated Impact:

- Continue providing free classes to students currently in our program
- Partner with our city to produce dance shows in our own community
- Continue our work with less strain on our directors and employees
- Create a dance community that welcomes and develops talent regardless of a dancer's income status

Organization Council District: District Four (4): Councilmember Tyler Maxwell

City Service Area: Stage View practices and rehearses out of Cen Cal Dance Academy in the 93710 zip code. The students we have been able to serve through Project Specific Support and Operating Support in 2024-2025 have resided in the following zip codes: 93704, 93705, 93726, 93722, 93728, 93727, 93710, 93706, 93728, 93711, 93720, 93725, and 93703. The current partnerships with Arbor Court and Fountain Way residents are in the 93727 and 93705 zip codes. Summer Parks Senior Center is in the 93727 zip code.

Project Name: ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE ARTS

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: SER JOBS FOR PROGRESS

Address: 255 N. Fulton, Ste. 106, 93701

Funding Request: \$149,701.20

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, the Community Center for the Arts and Technology (CCAT) in partnership with SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc., - San Joaquin Valley (SER) will develop a project designed to engage youth ages 10 through 15 in the performing arts and civic participation while developing leadership skills to increase their understanding of social responsibility. The project will serve the neighborhoods of the City of Fresno. All proceeds from this grant will go directly to CCAT to operate the program.

Anticipated Impact:

- Expand arts access and visibility in underserved, low-income Fresno neighborhoods
- Increase public engagement in cultural events
- Increase student enrollment by 300 annually
- Increase capacity to serve more students each year
- Hire more instructors
- Develop new courses in dance, acting, music, video production, and sound engineering
- Enhance peer mentorship opportunities by using a structured mentorship model where students over the age of 15 can guide and support new participants. This will foster leadership, accountability, and community among students
- Strengthen Fresno's cultural ecosystem while building pathways for local youth to grow, lead, and succeed through the arts

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: The Community Center for the Arts and Technology's primary zip codes are 93701 and 93702.

Project Name: Empowering Youth: Mentorship Through Art & Culture

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California

Address: 4047 N. Fresno Street, 93726

Funding Request: \$134,046.51

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Cultural grant, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California will use the funding to hire a full-time staff member dedicated to planning 10 cultural arts events for youth ages 6–18 in the City of Fresno. The grant will also help us purchase tickets to local museums and performing arts shows, giving our youth firsthand access to inspiring cultural experiences. Additionally, we will partner with local artists and vendors to lead hands-on activities that reflect the diversity and creativity of our community. This investment is critical, as our limited resources often make it difficult to provide consistent access to the arts. Thanks to this funding, we can expand opportunities for youth to explore, learn, and grow through cultural engagement—experiences that not only enrich their lives but also highlight the importance of the arts in building identity, understanding, and connection.

Anticipated Impact:

- Give at least 200 youth ages 6–18 opportunities to participate in 10 culturally enriching events, including museum visits, live performances, and workshops with local artists
- Expose youth to diverse cultural traditions, art forms, and perspectives, helping to build empathy, pride in identity, and cross-cultural understanding
- Strengthen community connections by partnering with local artists, vendors, and cultural institutions
- Foster stronger ties between youth and the creative community
- Enhance youth development and participation in the arts.
 - This will support social-emotional growth, creativity, and self-expression—core outcomes aligned with our mentoring mission
- Establish a replicable model that ensures long-term integration of arts and culture into our youth programming by hiring a dedicated staff member

Organization Council District: District Four (4): Councilmember Tyler Maxwell

City Service Area: The primary zip codes where we provide services include 93701, 93702, 93703, 93704, 93705, 93710, 93720, 93721, 93722, and 93727.

Project Name: Education and Leadership Foundation 2026 Latinx Recognition Celebracion

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Education and Leadership Foundation

Address: 1308 E. Olive Ave., 93728

Funding Request: \$150,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, ELF will support youth leadership in producing the 2026 Latinx Recognition Celebracion. This celebrates the accomplishments of high school graduates in a Spanish family-oriented event which also celebrates the Latin culture of music, dance and poetry. The Student Leaders will actively participate in planning meetings, marketing strategy, event agenda and programs design, along with the public relations content in English and Spanish. They will outreach potential graduates to secure event participants; help get student speakers and promote the workshops to have volunteers learn and make flowers use as decorations. They will also assist on the day of the event with coordination and supervision of volunteers; help oversee set-up and tear-down. By supporting these efforts, funding will ensure the event continues to grow, while empowering youth and enriching our community through cultural education, leadership opportunities, and artistic expression.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase number of participating graduates and audience
 - There was a cap of 600 students in 2025. This grant would help us pay the additional Save Mart Center fee to increase the number of students
- Increase entertainment portion of the program
- Continue to celebrate the Latino community, their graduates, and families in English and Spanish
- Increase the event's footprint through media coverage

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: The Education and Leadership Foundation serves the Central Valley from Kern County in the south up north to Merced County with a focus on helping all Fresno City and County residents. In the City of Fresno, ELF serves residents living within all the city's zip codes.

Project Name: Shinzen Garden Cultural Education and Art Programs

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Shin Zen Friendship Garden Inc

Address: 323 W. Cromwell, Suite 101, 93711

Funding Request: \$140,166.97

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Shinzen Garden will present a year-long series of cultural and creative programs celebrating Japanese art, history, and tradition in Fresno. Set within Shinzen Garden—a space honoring Japanese culture—offerings will include Conversational Japanese Workshops, Matcha Tasting and Tea Making, Watercolor Classes, Tea Ceremonies, Art and Photography sessions, and a History and Art of the Kimono presentation. Additional events will feature Tea and Bouquets gatherings, Creative Writing and Kokedama workshops, Kintsugi art classes, and cultural demonstrations such as Toro Nagashi, Children's Day, the Tanabata Star Festival, Shogatsu New Year, and Ume bloom viewing. Programs are designed to engage audiences of all ages, with a focus on adults and seniors, and aim to foster creativity, community connection, and cross-cultural understanding through accessible, inclusive experiences rooted in Japanese heritage.

Anticipated Impact:

- Expand community access to culturally enriching programs
- Deepen cross-cultural understanding
- Increase public engagement and participation from underserved neighborhoods
- Provide more equitable representation of artists and audiences
- Sustain partnerships with diverse community groups
- Strengthen Shinzen Garden's role as a vital arts and cultural destination in Fresno

Organization Council District: District Two (2): Council President Mike Karbassi

City Service Area: Shinzen Garden serves residents citywide, welcoming visitors from throughout Fresno's diverse neighborhoods. Primary service areas include zip codes 93720, 93726, 93710, 93704, 93703, 93705, 93728, 93727, 93722, 93725, 93711, 93701, 93706, 93721, 93730, and 93737.

Project Name: Fresno Metro Black Chamber Foundation: Community Arts Programming Initiative

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: FRESNO METRO BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Address: 1600 Fulton Street, 93721

Funding Request: \$149,875.00

Project Description: With the support from Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, Fresno Metro Black Chamber Foundation Community Arts Programming Initiative will, empower community through a three prong approach, engaging youth, supporting community artist, and educating families primarily through visual arts. Activities will take place: Bizwerx Innovation and Mobility Hub located at 1600 Fulton Street, Fresno CA 93721 and RP Art Groove Gallery, 80E Via Del Oro, Fresno CA 93720. We will serve adolescents, system-impacted individuals, adults, and seniors. Students will explore various art mediums, drawing, and curating, culminating in quarterly themed exhibitions and artist receptions. We will support 15 established visual artists and showcase their work at events like 3rd Thursday ArtHop, Juneteenth, the Cultural Unity Festival, MLK Luncheon and our Black History Celebration. The desired outcome is to foster cultural pride, empower local artists and cultural practitioners by providing platforms to showcase their work and engage the broader community.

Anticipated Impact:

- Implement a visual arts program focused on building artistic skills, personal development, and cultural pride
- Have participants explore foundational and expressive techniques through structured projects
- Culminate quarterly themed student exhibitions and artist receptions, fostering storytelling, self-confidence, and community connection
- Serve adolescents, system-impacted individuals, adults, and seniors at both the Bizwerx Innovation and Mobility Hub and RP Art Groove Gallery
- Support 15 established visual artists and showcase their work
- Help participants express identity, build community, and strengthen Fresno's creative ecosystem

Organization Council District: District Three (3): Council Vice President Miguel Arias

City Service Area: At FMBCF we primarily serve community members in the west and southwest as well as downtown area. The primary zip codes we serve includes: 93721, 93702, 93706.

Project Name: From Fire to Flowers: Iranian Culture and Art for Community Connection

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Iranian Culture and Art Club of Fresno

Address: 8366 North Raisina Ave, 93720

Funding Request: \$112,926.00

Project Description: With support from the Expanded Access to Arts program, the ICAC will implement "From Fire to Flowers," a culturally enriching initiative designed to engage youth and foster community connection through the arts. This year-round program will offer instruction and hands-on experiences in visual art, poetry, Persian language, dance, and music for children and teens ages 5 to 18, hosted at our educational facility at E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno. Students will showcase their learning by participating in public performances celebrating major Iranian cultural events—from the fire of 4shanbeh Suri to the blooming beauty of Nowruz and beyond—instilling both artistic expression and cultural pride. To elevate these events and expand access, we will invite professional Iranian artists and performers from across California to present high-quality, inclusive performances for diverse audiences across Fresno County. These events will welcome individuals of all ages and backgrounds, strengthening community bonds and preserving Iranian heritage through art.

Anticipated Impact:

- Increase knowledge and appreciation of Iranian culture, language, and traditions among students and community members through weekly classes, bilingual programming, artist showcases, and inclusive public events
- Build confidence, language skills, and cultural pride in participating youth
- Increase community involvement in multicultural programs
- Expand access to Persian language and arts education for underrepresented groups
- Strengthen ICAC's ability to deliver quality educational and cultural programming through partnerships, professional artist involvement, and sustainable funding

Organization Council District: District Six (6): Councilmember Nick Richardson

City Service Area: The Iranian Culture and Art Club of Fresno primarily serves residents of the greater Fresno area, with programming based at 2672 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno, CA 93720. Many of our participants come from nearby neighborhoods in the 93720, 93710, 93726, 93711, and 93727 zip code areas.

Project Name: Philip Lorenz International Keyboard Concerts - Artists' Fees

Organization or Fiscal Sponsor: Philip Lorenz Keyboard Concerts Inc

Address: 1869 E Serena, 93720

Funding Request: \$100,000.00

Project Description: With support from an Expanded Access to Arts and Culture grant, The Philip Lorenz International Keyboard Concerts Series (Keyboard Concerts or KC) will pay artists' fees for the next two performance seasons. The KC board respectfully submits this request to continue its mission to provide young children interested in music and children learning an instrument with the opportunity to hear world class pianists in Fresno. An expanding audience of children and music lovers from throughout the community requires KC to raise more funding for performances and to consider finding a larger venue for hosting performances for the more than 5,000 Keyboard Concert supporters each year.

Anticipated Impact:

- Have a larger venue to continue operation and allow a bigger audience
- Continue to bring the most talented pianists performing on the world's stages to Fresno
- Increase opportunities for children to learn piano and hear world class pianists
- Increase in participants and audience
- Attract audiences outside of Fresno

Organization Council District: District Six (6): Councilmember Nick Richardson

City Service Area: The Philip Lorenz International Keyboard Concerts Series serves all of Fresno City. The concerts take place at the central Fresno location of the Concert Hall on Shaw Avenue located across from University High School.