

For Immediate Release

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City of Fairfax, Commission on the Arts awards \$24,200 in Project Support Grants to 12 Art Organizations providing access to quality arts in the City of Fairfax

City of Fairfax, VA—Commission on the Arts awarded \$24,200 in project support grants to 12 arts organizations in Fairfax for FY 2022. These programs will allow city residents of all ages to experience everything the arts has to offer without having to leave the City!

The City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts' grant program provides funding to organizations for activities that are not otherwise funded by the City of Fairfax through a direct grant from the City Council. The project grants range from \$700-\$3500. The projects must provide any or all of the following...

- Educational programs that increase understanding and appreciation of the arts
- Access to high-quality art for the citizens of Fairfax
- Opportunities for artists to develop skills and demonstrate their abilities
- Support of emerging art organizations and activities

For FY 2022, the Commission on the Arts is proud to support a diverse group of organizations.

Acting for Young People – Young Playwrights Festival Young playwrights will submit original short plays and have their development mentored by professional playwrights. Plays will be rehearsed and play readings performed in festival format, featuring professional actors, teaching artists and students from the AFYP program.

Cathedral Brass - "Look to the Skies" A live performance by The Cathedral Brass, a 22-member ensemble comprised of brass and percussion performers, performing a repertoire of light classics, and jazz and popular favorites. The theme of the program will be "Look to the Skies" and will include a featured guest soloist. This concert will be preceded by two free outdoor performances by the Cathedral Brass's small ensembles – the brass quintet, trombone quartet, and jazz combo – to provide general entertainment to members of the public gathered there, as well as to promote the primary concert event.

City of Fairfax Theatre Company (CFTC) – *True West* CFTC's sixth year presenting a spring drama entry in the Spotlight on the Arts Festival. An iconic piece from Shepard's work, *True West* was a Pulitzer finalist in 1983, and on various stages on both coasts it's been a launching platform for many now-recognizable careers.

Fairfax Academy's Musical Theatre and Actors Studio – *Newsies* Set in turn-of-the century New York City, *Newsies* is the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a band of teenaged "newsies." When titans of publishing raise distribution prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack rallies newsies from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions and fight for what's right!

Fairfax Academy for Communication and the Arts – *Sustainable Fashion Show* The fashion students of Fairfax Academy will create apparel collections that either use sustainable materials and/or speak about the urgency of creating a fashion movement that is in harmony with nature. This is the future of fashion that the students envision and hope to share with the community.

Fairfax Art League - *Art in the Pandemic -2* The Art League will invite a guest artist to demonstrate their work virtually. The guest artist will be an expert in their field, both as an artist and as an art educationist. The artists will use various art media, such as oils, watercolor, mixed media, etc.

Fairfax Ballet Company – *Nutcracker* The Company performed P. Tchaikovsky's opulent classical ballet, "*The Nutcracker*" in the Fairfax High School auditorium over Thanksgiving Weekend.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra - "*Link Up*" An innovative education program that connects the classroom to the concert hall for students in grades three through six. Students sing and play soprano recorder while learning basic musical concepts and composing their own music. This program provides extensive standards-based teacher and student materials and culminates in an interactive concert. Students sing and play soprano recorder with the FSO from their seats in the audience based on the music they have learned in the program. This year, over 500 elementary school students from Daniels Run and Title 1 Providence Elementary schools will participate in Link Up.

Mason Community Arts Academy – *Spring Recital* Live music concert performance by advanced Academy music students and select Academy music faculty – including piano and strings, mainly classical music genre curated for the general public to expand their experience and appreciation; a video component for livestreaming and subsequent recorded video social media posts to maximize accessibility to the community at large.

Next Reflex - "*Flight*" A carefully curated and produced performing arts production taking place in parks throughout The City of Fairfax. These 6 outdoor performances, to take place in the fall and spring, will highlight women and women identified artists and arts organizations in Fairfax County and the larger Northern VA area. The performances will be nestled into the landscape of three identified parks in The City of Fairfax; Van Dyck Park, Blenheim Historic Site and Ashby Pond. The migration of the performances will give audiences a sampling of the parks in The City of Fairfax but also a sampling of creativity and performance in a non-traditional but accessible setting.

Parkway Brass – Children’s Concert A free children's concert outside at Old Town Square. Our show will focus on fun music aimed for the young and young at heart.

Shoestring Theatre Company – The Frenchman In August, Shoestring staged the world premiere of the original play, *The Frenchman*, the remarkable true story that has ramifications even today. In a remote corner of Southwest Virginia, Pierre Francois du Tubeuf staked his claim to build St. Marie on the Clinch River — a new French colony far from the threats of the French Revolution. With letters of introduction from Lafayette and dreams of creating his coal empire in Virginia, du Tubeuf was forced to leave his wife behind in France. He survived a deadly sea voyage only to have his servants abandon him upon arrival in Virginia. Then he faced greater nightmares when he reached Russell County, where nothing was as he had been promised

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The City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts was established in 1979 by the City of Fairfax Council to encourage, promote and to provide opportunity for artistic expression within the city. Since then, the Commission on the Arts has been working to continue the enrichment of the community through funding, information, encouragement, exhibits, education and coordination.