

For Immediate Release

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The City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts awards \$25,000 in Project Support Grants to 13 Art Organizations providing access to quality arts in the City of Fairfax

City of Fairfax, VA—The City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts awarded \$25,000 in project support grants to 13 arts organizations in Fairfax for FY 2023. 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 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

The Commission on the Arts Grant program is funded through a grant from the City of Fairfax and the Virginia Commission for the Arts Creative Communities Partnership Grant.

For FY 2023, 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 - "Day of Brass" The Cathedral Brass will provide a high-impact opportunity for high-school and advanced middle-school brass players to participate in a "Day of Brass" event focused on student enrichment and development. Registered students will rehearse together as a large ensemble and receive instruction on brass music performance. During master classes and rehearsals, students will learn about their instrument, how to improve their technique, and work with concepts that they can take back to their individual programs. Students will perform at the concluding concert, which will also feature performances by each guest clinician, along with the Cathedral Brass.

Fairfax Academy's Music & Computer Technology (MCT) – MCT Fest Students from the MCT program will exhibit original music. The entire show is developed, performed, managed, and

executed by the MCT I & 2 Students. This includes creating the schedule, setting up the gear, running live sound, MCing the event, coordinating tickets, special guests, marketing, and promotions.

Fairfax Academy's Musical Theatre and Actors Studio – Legally Blonde the Musical Harvard's beloved blonde takes the stage by pink storm in this fun, upbeat story of self-discovery. A fabulously fun award-winning musical based on the adored movie, Legally Blonde The Musical, follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Action-packed and exploding with memorable songs and dynamic dances - this musical is so much fun, it should be illegal!

Fairfax Academy for Communication and the Arts – Fashion in Motion The fashion students of Fairfax Academy will create apparel collections to present in a live fashion show (Fashion in Motion). Fairfax Academy seniors enrolled in Advanced Fashion Careers will present completely original and exciting designs from their final fashion collections, which they will be developing throughout the school year. Fashion I students will create sustainable mostly repurposed looks derived from thrift garments purchased locally and in support of the Goodwill of Greater Washington. This is the future of fashion that our passionate students envision and hope to share with the community. The event will be a fun evening where fashion lovers can come and support the new local generation of the industry.

Fairfax Art League - The FAL Art Education Project The Fairfax Art League Education Program is one of the important activities of the Fairfax Art League. It consists of two parts: a monthly art demonstration by a guest or member artist and an art program for the children of the Main Street Child Development Center.

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 650 elementary school students at 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.

Milky Way Educational Cultural Association (MECA) - Live Performance by Generation Alpha Immigrants Art and music class students from MECA will perform live music, songs, drama, and dances for the audience.

Music to Free - Handbell Concerts Music to Free will present at Christmas Concert and a Spring Concert. The repertoire will demonstrate that Handbells, as an instrument, are more versatile

than most people are aware. Since Handbells are so frequently used in a church setting, this concert will highlight how far the instrument has advanced in the last 20 years due to the creativity of handbell composers and arrangers.

Next Reflex - "Flight" "Flight" is a carefully curated and produced performing arts performance series taking place in parks throughout The City of Fairfax. These outdoor performances take place in the fall and spring and try to highlight artists and arts organizations including, music, dance, storytelling, performance art and theater from any genre or cultural form. The performances will be nestled into the landscape of parks in the City of Fairfax; Van Dyck Park and Providence Park. The migration of the performances will give audiences a sampling of the parks in The City of Fairfax while also a sampling of creativity and performance in a non-traditional but accessible setting.

Shoestring Theatre Company – *The Tuesday Afternoon Meeting of the Saturday Morning Garden Club* In this fun, light-hearted tale, the 100-year-old Saturday Morning Garden Club of Big Stone Gap relies on traditions and the seasons and members see no reason to change. But with the town's biggest event coming up and membership dwindling, the Saturday Morning Garden Club will need to make some changes or will not be a part of the celebration -- or anything else.

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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.