

Creative Community Grant Summaries

Round 1 – Safety Theme

216 Pike Art Wall

Recipient: Christopher J. Meyer

Amount: \$5,000

The 216 Pike Art Wall project is a new wall across an open lot at 216 Pike Street that will be used as a public art display area. The wall will include flower boxes, night time lighting, and an overhang to shelter people and the artwork. Chris Meyer will curate the art, soliciting work from local artists and rotating the display on a monthly basis. The Art Wall will prevent non-resident access to the vacant lot, eliminating a space that in the past has been a nuisance and attracted negative attention.



Analematic Sundial & Solar Light

Recipient: David Rice

Amount: \$5,000

David envisions his project as using the sun's rays to address safety in the Westside neighborhood in two different ways. First, the interactive sundial will be a half-circle, 12 feet by 6 feet, where a person uses their body to provide the shadow-casting object that will be used to tell time. The sundial will attract people to an otherwise vacant space and allow them to interact with the sculpture. The second part of the project is a solar light that will be placed on top of a metal sculpture to illuminate the parking lot on Orchard Street, thus creating a more safe and inviting space for residents and visitors. David is an experienced sculptor with pieces appearing around Covington and Cincinnati where he has worked with organizations like the Art Museum, Cincinnati Museum Center, Artworks, and Visionaries and Voices.



CYC Crosswalk Campaign

Recipient: Covington Youth Commission

Amount: \$3,175

The Covington Youth Commission (CYC) will address safety for children and other pedestrians on the streets around John G. Carlisle Elementary School by installing artwork in the crosswalks. The CYC is working with artist and Holmes' High School teacher, Donny Roundtree, and youth leaders in the BLOCK program at John G. to design and paint the pavement that makes up the crosswalks. The CYC students came up with the idea when brainstorming strategies for addressing the safety issue of cars failing to come to a complete stop at intersections.

Art on 12th

Recipient: Julia Martin

Amount: \$4,342.25

In this project, Julia will be installing lighted artwork on windows of empty building on or around 12th Street. These pieces will all be original works of art created either by Julia or by students at one of her community art classes. The project will also feature an Art Walk, to view the pieces and effectively create safety through occupation of space and community interaction.



Orchard Park Swing

Recipient: Lauren DiFulvio Wolf

Amount:

\$5,000

The funds awarded for this project will go almost entirely to the purchase of a group swing to be permanently placed in the vacant lots known as Orchard Park in the Westside neighborhood. Lauren will donate her photography skills to hold a one-day session, open to the community where anyone is welcome to attend and have photos done as individuals, of their children, or as a whole family. Prints of the photos will be given to the subjects as keepsakes, and will also be displayed in and around the park to attract attention and remind visitors of neighborhood's energy and diversity. This project aims to further activate the vacant space at Orchard Park and provide an opportunity for families to have professional photographs taken at no cost.



B Visible: See and B Seen

Recipient: Kenton County Library

Amount: \$4,595

The Coder and Maker Group from the Kenton County Library will host workshops for Covington residents and students to modify and create artistic garments and bike accessories that will increase their safety as pedestrians and cyclists. The project will culminate with a fashion show to celebrate Bike Month and Covington's bicentennial.

Goats in Goebel

Recipient: Gus Wolf & Lauren VanDyke Wolff

Amount: \$5,000

Goats in Goebel will bring goats to the hillside in Goebel Park to eat and eliminate overgrowth and invasive species. The dense foliage of the hillside and the lower portion of the park currently creates an unsafe and unused area in what is Covington's largest concentration of greenspace in the urban core. This project takes a sustainable and inexpensive approach to clearing out the brush and making the space more appealing and usable for park patrons.



Pones in Public

Recipient: Pones Inc.

Amount: \$3,500

Pones Inc. have used their unique brand of public dance to enliven spaces and create a sense of belonging with music and dancing in a variety of genres. This grant will fund 8 PIP performances that will encourage families, groups, and strangers to engage in a shared experience, express their creativity, and have fun! This program is designed to create a vibrancy and excitement around public space and a perceived safety and cultural narrative about the area and its residents. PIP will address safety themes like knowing your neighbors, anti-street harassment, biker/driver safety, and food access. All PIP activities are free, easy to understand, engage all ages and abilities, and will be featured in conjunction with existing community activities.



Round 2 – Bicentennial Theme

Bicentennial Time Capsule

Recipient: CVG Made - Steven Sander, Cov200

Amount: \$5,000

For Covington's 200th Birthday, COV200 is partnering with local maker Steven Sander to create a memorable time capsule constructed of local/Covington-inspired material to be installed in the Hellmann Lumber Mill in Covington's Westside. Steven will develop time capsule designs inspired by Covington materials (i.e. the Roebling Bridge, Stewart Iron Works, etc.) to be voted on by the community. City-wide participation via surveying and polling will be encouraged with regards to the contents of the capsule. In late September/early October we will host a proclamation ceremony presenting the time capsule and its contents to the public before locking it up for the next 100 years.

Past & Future Fashion

Recipient: Annie Brown

Amount: \$5,000

The B Visible team returns to Holmes Middle School to expand the sewing capabilities of the students and reach out to others who were not able to join us for our first program. We will also offer the same program to Prince of Peace School. During a 6 week session, students will combine needle crafts of the past with technology of the future to create wearable art for themselves. We will also offer workshops at the library. The program will end with the items the students create on display at Holmes Middle School, Prince of Peace School and the Covington Library.

Try Together Fly Together

Recipient: Jim Guthrie

Amount: \$5,000

In partnership with Savannah, Georgia based artist Matt Hebermehl, a large scale mural will be created and installed that celebrates Covington's 200th birthday and expresses optimism in its future. Matt and Jim will host a public discussion regarding a public mural strategy/process. Matt will discuss his experience in Savannah with SeeSAW and how public murals can be de-mystified and be used as a tool in creative placemaking and community building. The community will gather to assist Matt in the creation of the mural.



Covington Story Project

Recipient: Covington Youth Commission

Amount:

\$4,000

The Covington Youth Commission (CYC) will celebrate the Bicentennial by collecting stories from youth reflecting on their past, describing their present, and looking to their future in the context of growing up and living in Covington. They will also use the art of photography to supplement their stories in the city. They will work with writing instructors, like Roger Auge of Wallace Woods, and a photographer, Katie Woodring. The written pieces and photographs will be displayed on posters at the Kenton County Public Library and other locations and will also be made into a booklet.

Different X Design

Recipient: Julia Keister

Amount: \$5,000

Different X Design is an opportunity for Covington to become a leader in social equality in its 200th year. This unique initiative will bring recognition to Covington by establishing an arts and nature focused internship network for local individuals that society labels as having a 'disability'. Different X Design will provide visibility to both people that are often denied access as well as Covington's diverse community of people, businesses, and organizations dedicated to the arts and nature. Through this program Covington will become a pioneer in community integration and simultaneously strengthen its art and nature notoriety.



Welcome to the Westside

Recipient: BLDG

Amount: \$5,000

This Westside gateway mural will depict an inviting, celebratory message for residents and visitors to the Westside Neighborhood. It will utilize the brand guidelines developed in Center for Great Neighborhoods' new Creative Facades Look Book. The verbiage will include "Welcome to the Westside" with a tagline below indicating "Covington's Bicentennial 1815-2015". Residents will be invited to participate in the selection of mural designs as well as in an unveiling ceremony.



Dougherty Claywork Architectural Ceramics

Recipient: Patrick Dougherty

Amount: \$5,000

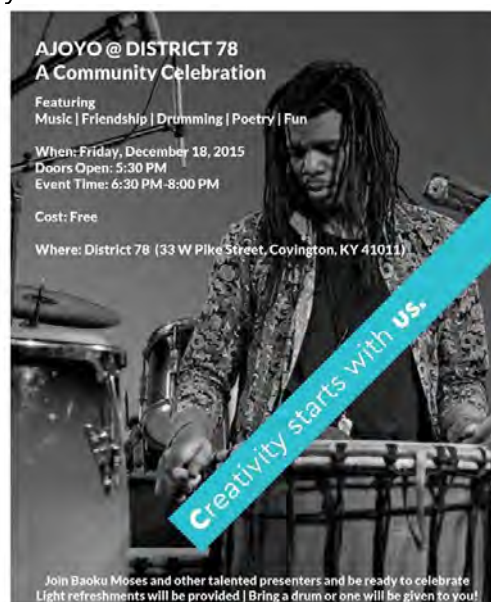
Patrick has proposed a number of possibilities for creating a piece of ceramic art that will combine influences from the Westside neighborhood's history and present direction. His extensive experience working as a ceramicist (including a stint at Rookwood Pottery) will inform the creation of a project that may end up being a relief mural, a ceramic clad concrete bench, signage, or other piece of public art. Patrick will work with the community in every step of his project, from selection of project type, content, and location, to actually creating alongside him in his studio, to installation and unveiling.

AJOYO

Recipient: Baoku Moses

Amount: \$4,000

In the spirit of the 200th year celebration of the city of Covington, AJOYO will focus on creating a series of community celebrations in the style of African musical celebrations. Whether it is by the tap of the foot, nod of the head, or a full blown participation in African drumming or dance, neighbors will have no choice but to celebrate as a community! Baoku looks forward to bridge the thousands of miles between Covington and Africa by bringing Africa to Covington in AJOYO "A -Community Celebration".



Round 3 – Inclusion Theme

Collective Mosaic Mural

Recipient: *Ximena Flores, Anne Marie Herrera, Luis Laya*

Amount: \$5,000

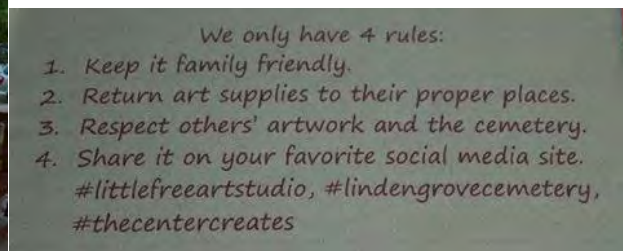
Inspired by the Westside neighborhood, these artists have designed a mosaic mural of flowers blossoming from the ground and transforming into a variety of birds, spreading their wings and flying together as a flock. The image will reflect the neighborhood's diversity, growth, community, and transformation. The community will be invited to not only help assemble the mosaic, but to bring small items that are personal to them, like a mismatched earring or a note, to incorporate into the design.

Little Free Art Studio

Recipient: *Annie Brown*

Amount: \$1,000

Think Little Free Library, for art. Annie will design and build a free standing, weatherproof art studio complete with art supplies where visitors become artists and are invited to make art, take art, or just enjoy art.



Braille-ing A new Trail

Recipient: *Northern Kentucky Council of the Blind, in partnership with Covington chefs*

Amount: \$5,000

The NKCB will partner with local chefs and restaurateurs to encourage a more inclusive restaurant experience in Covington. Restaurants will offer group cooking classes for the blind and visually impaired and in exchange for their time and teaching, the restaurants will be provided with menus in large print and braille. The braille printer will be purchased with funds from the grant and will be housed at The Center for use by any Covington restaurant or service provider seeking to make their business more accommodating. Wunderbar has already signed on as the first to participate by teaching how to roll their famous pretzels!

Westside Makers: A Community Event

Recipient: *Calcagno Cullen*

Amount: \$5,000

Covington is a community of makers. This project aims to illuminate this trademark by hosting a "meet the makers" field day and publishing a DIY Westside Makers book. Any resident of the Westside neighborhood who identifies as a maker, including anything from knitting to fly-tying to carpentry, is invited, for one afternoon, to move their practice outdoors and to share with the community. The event will serve as the release for the accompanying book that shares submitted DIY recipes, designs, and instructions along with stories and portraits of Covington makers.



What Makes a Street Pleasant?

Recipient: Anissa Lewis

Amount: \$5,000

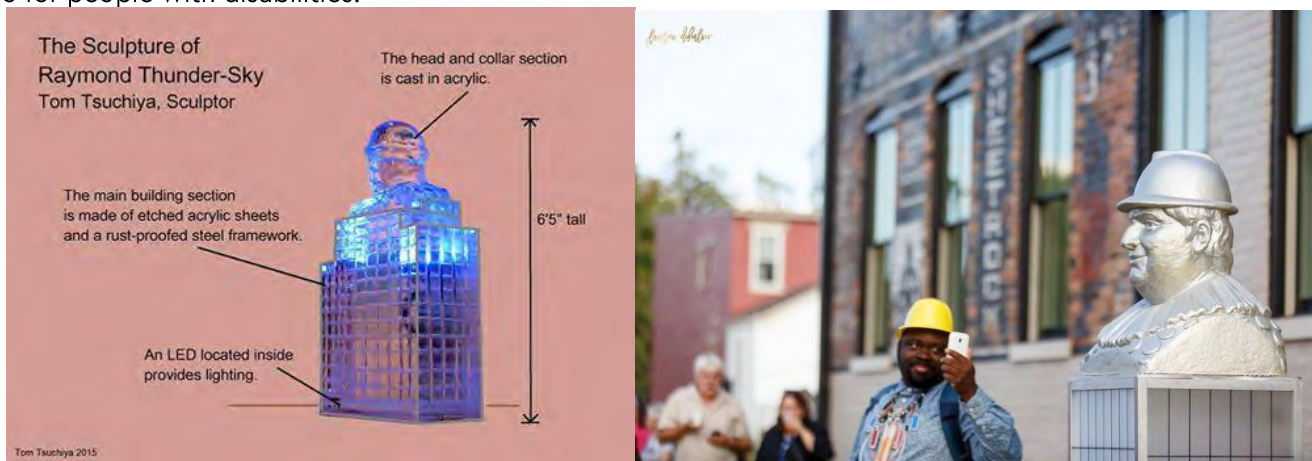
This project is an invitation to engage Covington residents living on and around Pleasant Street in the Eastside neighborhood in conversations about what Covington means to them. It starts with one on one conversation, then broadens the conversation to the whole community, and ends with a face to face community meal. Residents will have the chance to share about the role Covington plays in their lives and the role they play in Covington, with the goal of resulting in a neighborhood that is better acquainted and **better equipped** to improve their lives and their neighborhood.

Raymond Thunder-Sky Spirit Tower

Recipient: Thunder-Sky, Inc.

Amount: \$5,000

This project will erect an outdoor sculpture commemorating the life and legacy of Raymond Thunder-Sky, a Native American artist (also labeled with a developmental disability) who traveled around the region dressed as a construction worker and clown, drawing construction and demolition sites in Cincinnati, Dayton, and Northern Kentucky. The sculpture will be created by Tom Tsuchiya, a Cincinnati-based sculptor whose works are known throughout the world, as well as here in the region; his sculptures of famous Cincinnati Reds players line the entry ways into the Great American Ballpark. Since passing away in 2004, Thunder-Sky's reputation as an "outsider artist" and cultural icon has grown. He is known throughout the area and is the inspiration for Visionaries + Voices, an art studio for people with disabilities.



The Mini Microcinema – Exhibition at The Carnegie

Recipient: The Mini Microcinema, C. Jacqueline Wood

Amount: \$4,000

In this exhibition of The Mini Microcinema, a small pop-up movie theater will be hosted by the Carnegie in their gallery space during March and April. These 7 weeks of programming will be free to the public and feature film screenings, performances, and moving image installations by a variety of national, regional, and Northern Kentucky artists, with diverse backgrounds and points of view.

Round 4 – Health Theme

B-FIT with Bi-Okoto

Recipient: Bi-Okoto

Amount: \$5,000

Bi-Okoto is a cultural institution that shares and promotes African heritage through cultural experiences. With this grant, Bi-Okoto will provide access to the B-FIT with Bi-Okoto classes in the City Heights community. B-FIT with Bi-Okoto classes are fun and interactive ways to move into a healthy lifestyle by introducing specifically youth and teens to culturally inspired dance fitness. They will be motivated to participate in physical activities through fun dance fitness routines to increase their cardio, strength, endurance and flexibility with creative goals that enhance their self-esteem, character development using strategic challenges, nutrition tips and rewards.

Colliding Light

Recipient: David Rice

Amount: \$5,000

Artist, sculptor, and metalworker, David Rice, will build the world's first bicycle powered stereoscopic kaleidoscope. The aim of this kinetic and interactive sculpture is to encourage physical activity more often and for longer intervals by captivating the participant with the synergy of light, color, shape, and motion that they actualize by exercising. David will work with students in The Center's summer BLOCK program to gather the materials and construct the colorful inner workings of the kaleidoscope.



Kids Cook Too

Recipient: Laura Murphy

Amount: \$3,700

Kids Cook Too! is an afterschool cooking class that makes eating healthy creative and fun. Students will get the skills, knowledge and experience they need to plan and cook their own nutritious meals and snacks, empowering them to take their health into their own hands. They'll also learn how to find fresh produce and healthy food options in their own neighborhood, and create their own maps they can use to help teach others and raise awareness around disparities in food access and availability.

Pool Party

Recipient: Emily Wolff

Amount: \$5,000

The purpose of this project is to make creative and healthy amenity improvements at Goebel Pool in Mainstrasse Village, to make the pool an attractive destination that encourages residents to come, stay, play, and enjoy an afternoon with their family. The City has committed to matching the funds for this grant to make sure that pool improvements include: large shade structures, picnic tables with umbrellas, paint for the pool house, and some artistic installations, designed by Make Goebel Great and created and installed by the community.



None of Your Business

Recipient: Caroline Creaghead

Amount: \$5,000

Caroline Creaghead used to run behind the scenes operations for live stand-up comedy shows before turning her focus from the business of comedy to the comedy of business. This podcast will address the frustrating and funny parts of living as a working artist. Not as an advice show, but as a refreshingly honest and entertaining discussion about the taboo topic of money. This grant will fund 6 episodes, each featuring a Covington-based artist who is open to discussing their business like they're talking to a friend.

Cultural Culinary Experience

Recipient: James Payne & Luis Laya

Amount: \$5,000

Over the span of two days at the Hellmann Creative Center, Luis Laya and James Payne will help strengthen the Covington community with a cultural culinary experience. What's a better way to get to know your neighbor than to share a meal with them? Luis and James, two artists from Cincinnati, will create an event centered around building community through entertainment and educational cooking techniques involving open fire and the use of custom fabricated grills created by the two artists. Focusing on culinary health and educating the community on different cultural styles of cooking James and Luis strive to find our own cultural identity by embracing the rituals of cooking and eating as a community.



Healthy Mind & Body Day Camp

Recipient: Annie Brown & The Center

Amount: \$1,300

The Center partnered with the Kenton County Extension Office, local Westside artists, and contracted with Annie Brown to run a free day camp for elementary aged kids. We held the camp over three days and specifically timed it to take place between the end of the school year and the start of the summer programs run by CIPS. The kids learned about nutrition, exercise, gardening, composting, did yoga, made healthy popsicles, and lots of other creative projects.



Round 5 – Economic Opportunities Theme

AMP Your Brand

Recipient: Eye Candy

Amount: \$2,500

Too often, hiring a professional is not within the budget of a small company, yet professional design services are an essential component of creating a memorable company capable of building a strong customer following. Through the AMP Your Brand project, local design firm Eye Candy will provide the necessary tools for a selected local organization to be seen and heard, communicate clearly with their target audiences, and ultimately, drive economic growth and vibrancy in Covington. The process and experience will be documented by Eye Candy to be shared as a community story and a learning experience for the business. The business selected may be new, existing, or popup, and must be located or have plans to locate to the Westside neighborhood of Covington, preferably on 12th Street.

Herb & Thelma's

Recipient: Herb & Thelma's (Joe & Suzanne Fessler)

Amount: \$5,000

Owners (Joe and Suzanne Fessler) and customers of Herb & Thelma's Tavern, local artist Bret Schulte, and Lewisburg residents will create a mural on the eastern elevation of Herb & Thelma's (718 Pike) depicting the history and community connections of the business, which has been open since 1939. The mural and accompanying exterior improvements will enhance the aesthetics of the pre-Civil War building which serves as an anchor in the Lewisburg neighborhood and a gateway into the city of Covington. The mural will also signal the return of the Heine Social Club, a popular community building and fundraising group in existence from the 1940s through 1980s.



Fore: A Community Makerspace & Embedded Library

Recipient: Kenton County Library

Amount: \$5,000

The Digital Branch of Kenton County Public Library, led by artist and digital librarian Ann Schoenenberger, will create a pilot community makerspace within the Hellmann Creative Center. This embedded library project will work to develop resources and services with the groups served by the Hellmann Creative Center, the Westside neighborhood and Covington artists, community groups, youth and residents seeking to build creative and technical skills. Through open and free access to digital library content, technology, instruction, mentoring and collaborative projects, Forge will increase economic, creative and employment opportunities and strengthen the educational pipeline for Covington's emerging technology and arts corridors.

Covington ESP – Essays, Sketches, & Poetry Project

Recipient: Community & Restorative Justice - Covington

Amount: \$5,000

This project is a creative arts and therapeutic project for Covington residents in the Westside, Eastside, Helentown, & Austinburg neighborhoods who are unemployed and looking to break down barriers to employment. CRJ volunteers will use arts and the CRJ circle process to bridge gaps and create a healing process to get motivated individuals on a path to finding employment.

PRINTER:FAIRE

Recipient: Art Machine, Inc.

Amount: \$4,500

PRINTER:FAIRE is an arts fair focused on the printed art. Printmakers from around the region will sell prints and demonstrate their printmaking medium. Printmaker organizations and guilds will present history and different types of printmaking processes. Faire-goers can participate in a number of hands-on activities, as well as, sell any of the prints they make in a pop-up shop. Music and food will complete the faire atmosphere. The BIG attraction will be printmaking using a steam roller on the street outside of the Hellmann Creative Center.

