

Latest TAP Teaching Artist Residencies and Capital Grants

Last December, The Heinz Endowments awarded a major round of grants through its Transformative Arts Process (TAP), totaling \$480,000. TAP is a participatory grantmaking initiative that will invest \$1 million over two years to build the field of those working with youth through the arts in African American and distressed neighborhoods.

As part of the program, Endowments staff collaborate with an 18-member Advisory Board comprising Pittsburgh artists, educators, funders and cultural leaders committed to equity. TAP also reflects the concept of a Just Pittsburgh, which is a core theme of the Endowments' new strategic planning that addresses issues of racial and economic justice.

A panel of local and national professionals working in the arts and arts education reviewed submissions through a request-for-proposals process. It recommended awards to the following organizations for two-year teaching artist residencies or capital improvements.

The grantmaking strategy that guided the selections includes five priorities:

- Invest in teaching artists who challenge structural inequities through their practice.
- Invest in the work of young people pursuing the arts as a profession.
- Invest in transformative arts education organizations that are located in or primarily engage with youth from African American and distressed neighborhoods.
- Expand the relationships, knowledge and visibility of teaching artists, arts organizations, young artists and grantmakers working in or with these communities.
- Experiment with philanthropic practice by partnering with grantees and youth in the implementing and evaluating of the TAP strategy.

\$60,000 Teaching Artist Residencies

- Legacy Arts Project; artist in residence, Toni Stowers
- Assemble; artist in residence, Darnell Chambers
- POORLAW; artist in residence, Blak Rapp Madusa
- YMCA Lighthouse Project; artist in residence, James Robertson
- Focus on Renewal; artist in residence, Trevor Miles
- Garden of Peace Project; artist in residence, Michael David Battle
- Ujamaa Collective; artist in residence, Dawn Surgest

\$10,000 Capital Grants

- Alumni Theater Company – to support capital campaign for a new rehearsal/performance space.
- BOOM Concepts – to purchase equipment, including computers and bikes, which will help increase the effectiveness of the organization's teaching artist practice
- The Entertainment Consortium – to purchase recording equipment to facilitate the organization's arts instruction.
- Union Project – to support the redesign and re-purpose of two classrooms.
- The Hill Dance Academy Theatre – to support physical improvements to the organization's studios including portable mirrors and additional ballet barrés.
- Urban Impact Foundation – to support the purchase of instruments and equipment for the organization's percussion program.