NEWS FROM TCA: JUNE 2019

Texas Commission on the Arts
Investing in a Creative Texas

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The 2018-2019 class of Young Masters is going places! Scroll down to see how they're spending their grant money and their summers.

Texas Legislative Session Update

Texas' 86th Legislative Session ended on May 27, 2019. Toward the end of the session, the Conference Committee tasked with reconciling the differences between HB 1 and SB 1 added funding to TCA's biennial budget. With the new funding, TCA's Exceptional Items are budgeted at:
-Exceptional Item #1 - Restore Cultural Districts Project (CDP) Grants Base-Level Funding
TOTAL: $10,000,000 over the biennium.
-Exceptional Item #2 - Arts Healing Grants for Active Service Members and Veterans
TOTAL: $250,000 over the biennium.
-Exceptional Item #3 - CAPPS Financials Implementation
TOTAL: $50,000 over the biennium.

As well, the Conference Committee provided an additional $5,000,000 in fiscal year 2020 to provide a grant to the Flower Mound Cultural Arts Commission to construct a community cultural and performing arts center. TCA's budget as revised by the Conference Committee was approved by each chamber before the session ended. Governor Abbott has through Sunday, June 16 to sign the bill as it stands or to alter it via line item veto. You can use this page to follow the progress of House Bill 1.

Upcoming Application Deadlines

Mid-America Arts Alliance: Regional Touring Program Grants

Texas is a member of the Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA), a regional arts organization. Through their Regional Touring Program, M-AAA offers funding for presenters who are bringing in artists from outside their state to do a public performance and a related arts activity. Applications are accepted on a rolling deadline at any point during M-AAA's fiscal year, which is July 1-June 30. Grants are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, until the allocation for each state is gone. Full information on the grant program is here.

Texas Commission on the Arts Grants and Programs

TCA has several upcoming application deadlines. As always, the TCA staff is happy to discuss your goals and eligibility to determine which programs are right for you. You may also request that a TCA staff member review your application and provide feedback. Ideally, these requests would be made at least two weeks before the application deadline.

Designation Program: Cultural District Designation
This program designates special zones in cities and Texas communities that harness the power of cultural resources to stimulate economic development and community revitalization.
Application deadline: Letter of Intent to apply due January 30; application due June 17
Application form: On Cultural Districts Program page
Resources: program guidelines, contact TCA staff

Grant Program: Cultural District Projects
This program is designed for projects that focus on significant cultural tourism projects happening in a designated cultural district, by established arts organizations that are based in the cultural district and authorized to apply by their cultural district's managing entity (These eligible organizations have already been contacted directly by TCA). Note that the funding for this program will not be finalized until the Governor's bill signing/veto deadline passes on June 16.
Activity dates must be: Between September 1, 2019 and August 31, 2020
Application deadline: Midnight on June 17, 2019
Application form: Online
Resources: grant guidelines, contact TCA staff
A link to a recorded webinar about the application process has been sent to eligible account holders.

Grant Program: Arts Respond Project
This program provides project assistance grants to nonprofit arts organizations on a short-term basis and may include administrative costs directly related to the project. Projects must address one of the following priority areas: economic development, education, health & human services, public safety & criminal justice, or natural resources & agriculture. This program includes new anticipated funding specifically for art healing grants for active service members and veterans in the health & human services priority area.
Activities must start: Between September 1, 2019 and March 31, 2020
Application deadline: Midnight on July 15, 2019
Application form: Online
Resources: grant guidelines, contact TCA staff
A link to a recorded webinar about the application process has been sent to eligible account holders.

Grant Program: Arts Respond Performance Support
This program provides professional artist fees to Texas nonprofits, schools, colleges, and units of government for hiring an artist from the Texas Touring Roster to do a performance. These

applications are funded based on a percentage of contracted fees.
Activity dates must start: Between September 1, 2019 and December 14, 2019
Application deadline: Midnight on August 1, 2019
Application form: Online
Resources: grant guidelines, contact TCA staff

What to Expect When Building a Building: Free Professional Development Webinar

Becky Duval Reese

TCA's next live webinar, **What to Expect When Building a Building**, will be offered at **2 PM Central on Wednesday, June 19**. Is it time to move your organization to a new facility, but you don't know where to start? Learn what to consider, starting with assessing your building needs as an organization. **Becky Duval Reese**, former Executive Director of the El Paso Museum of Art, will address questions like:

- When is it time for a new building?
- How do you make decisions about space?
- Should you make sure the architect has experience with museums, theaters, nonprofits, etc.?
- What are the elements of the building where you need to budget more than you think?
- What about practical decisions like material selection?
- How can organizations prevent overreaching in terms of space? What if it's too big and expensive to run?
- What do you need to know about capital campaigns?
- How do you rework your budget in the future for operational costs of the building?
- What are the surprising things about the process? How do you handle the unexpected?

Register for the webinar now to reserve your spot!

As director of the El Paso Museum of Art (1991-2005), Becky Duval Reese oversaw the completion of a new 104,000 square foot building located in downtown El Paso. During her tenure the museum's collections grew by more than 1,000 objects. Her achievements resulted in a museum nationally recognized both for the strength of its collections and for its new building. Her museum career began at New Mexico State University where she was founding director of the University Art Gallery. From 1976 to the spring of 1991 she was educational curator, assistant director, and then interim director of the Archer M. Huntington Art Gallery (now the Blanton Museum of Art) at the University of Texas at Austin. She served on the Texas Association of Museums Council in the early 1980s and has served the Texas Fine Arts Association in various capacities from board member to president. She has served as a field reviewer for the Institute of Museum and Library Services and as panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

If you missed the **Preparing for the Worst** webinar we offered on April 17 with the **Houston Ballet**, good news! All of our professional development webinars are recorded and available at https://www.vimeo.com/txartspd for free. We all hope for the best, but sometimes the worst does happen. Whether the threat is a natural disaster, financial uncertainty, or unexpected changes in leadership, it is important for organizations to create contingency plans before an emergency hits. In this webinar, the team at Houston Ballet share how they prepared for and recovered from the destruction of Hurricane Harvey. You'll hear from Houston Ballet's

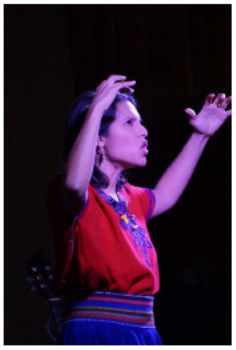
Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Development Officer, and Director of Marketing and Public Relations, on how they navigated insurance claims, developed communications plans, and reimagined, rescheduled, and reticketed the 2017/18 performance season.

Summer Rural Tours

In an effort to provide more quality performances and arts opportunities in rural areas of the state, TCA has chosen eight Texas Touring Roster artists and groups to provide free performances in rural counties (TCA pays each artist a flat fee for the performances.). Each artist or group provides six performances in an assigned area, and the performances are hosted by local nonprofits, units of government, or schools. We shared information about the spring rural tour artists in our April newsletter.

Kim Lehman. Photo: Mark Wieland

In the summer, the rural tours focus on youth summer reading programs in libraries. Hosts are reminded that any Texas nonprofit or unit of government (including schools and libraries) is eligible to apply for an Arts Respond Performance Support grant for up to half of a Texas Touring Roster artist's fee.



Carolina Storyteller

Storyteller Kim Lehman will perform for Borden County 4-H participants in Gail on June 3; the next day she will give two performances for different age groups at the Dawson County Public Library in Lamesa. On June 5, Kim will perform at the Scurry County Library in Snyder and the Post Public Library.

Bilingual storyteller Carolina Storyteller will perform at the Marlin Public Library on June 4 and at the Groesbeck Public Library on June 7. She will perform at the Cameron Public Library on July 1, give two performances at the Giddings Public Library on July 10, and will close out her rural performances at the Smith Welch Public Library in Hearne on July 31.

On June 19, recent Houston Poet Laureate Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton will perform for middle school ages at the Sarah Bain Chandler Public Library in Stockdale and the Kenedy Public Library. The next day, she will perform at the Joe Barnhart Bee County Library in Beeville. Ms. Mouton will provide a one-hour visual storytelling workshop for students ages 12 and over at the Cuero Municipal Library on June 21. On the same day, at the Carl and Mary Welhausen Library in Yoakum, Ms. Mouton will perform and give a workshop for middle school ages.

Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton. Photo: Houstonia Magazine

Will Dupuy. Photo: Matt Wright Steele

As "Mr. Will," musician Will Dupuy will perform his children's songs on July 31 at the Decatur Public Library and the Bowie Public Library; on August 1 at the Nocona Public Library and the Edwards Public Library in Henrietta; and on August 2 at the Gladys Johnson Ritchie Library in Jacksboro and the Boyce Ditto Public Library in Mineral Wells.

That's a lot of great summer reading programming free to rural libraries! TCA is grateful to the fantastic Texas Touring Roster artists conducting rural tours on TCA's behalf this year!

What the 2018-2019 Young Masters Are Doing for Their Summer Vacations

Since its inception in 2002, the Young Masters grant program has provided 343 grants to Texas high school students for their advanced studies in the arts. With this year's set of $5,000 grants to each of the fifteen current Young Masters, **TCA and our partners at the Texas Cultural Trust have surpassed $1 million in total Young Masters grants!** We're using this month's newsletter to let you know what the current class of Young Masters is doing with their 2019 grants this summer.

Pianist **Antonio Ajero**, who just completed his 9th grade year in Nacogdoches, will be studying with Yoheved Kaplinsky at the Aspen Music Festival and School in Colorado. Dr. Kaplinsky is the chair of the piano department at the Juilliard School.

Percussionist **Noah Avelar** will attend three music programs this summer: MalletLab Summer Intensive in Lake Worth, FL; Texas Tech Band and Orchestra Camp in Lubbock; and the University of the Pacific Music Camp in Stockton, CA. Noah graduated from Veterans Memorial High School in Corpus Christi and will attend the University of North Texas in Denton.

Fort Worth theater artist **Tobi Berman** will be 1 of about 20 high schoolers chosen for a month-long musical theater intensive at the Southeastern Summer Theatre Institute in Hilton Head, SC. The program will culminate in a professionally produced musical theater performance. Tobi graduated from North Crowley High School and will attend Missouri State University in Springfield, MO.

Dancer **Riley Canterbury** is returning to the Complexions Summer Intensive in Dallas. Then, at the Broadway Dance Center Summer Intensive in New York, NY, she will take more than 20 hours of dance classes taught by in-demand BDC faculty and guest instructors. Styles include jazz technique, ballet, theater, contemporary, improvisation, hip-hop and more. In the fall, Riley will enter the 11th grade at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas.

Riley's high school classmate, dancer **Joziah German**, will attend the Juilliard School Summer Dance Intensive in New York, NY. The program is designed to give young dancers a taste of a Juilliard conservatory education: refining technique and performance, and broadening understanding of various dance styles. Since being named a Young Master, Joziah was awarded 2018 Teen Male Best Dancer of the Year at the Dance Awards in Las Vegas. He was on the television show "World of Dance" as a member of the Untouchables.

Elizabeth Heyns, named a Young Master in visual arts for special effects make-up, will attend the CMC Makeup School in Dallas. The program offers hands-on instruction in make-up for stage and screen, including special effects and silicone prosthetics. Elizabeth was featured in D Magazine after she was named a Young Master.

Floresville theater artist **Mikayla Johnson**, who recently graduated from the Edgewood Fine Arts Academy, will attend the Stella Adler Studio of Acting's Black Arts Institute in New York, NY this summer. In April, Mikayla received the top acting scholarship offered by the Joci Awards, and for the second year in a row, she was named the overall award winner, too. She was a finalist in the August Wilson Monologue Competition at Southern Methodist University. Mikayla has also received the Young Arts Honorable Mention Award and was invited to Miami, FL for a week of training as a result.

Plano violinist **Megan Lin** will attend the Heifetz International Music Institute in Staunton, VA. In addition to the intensity of two private lessons per week, chamber music coaching, and five hours per day of practice time, students take a series of one-hour classes each afternoon (one

per day) in public speaking, voice, drama, movement, health & wellness, and freedom of expression. The cross-disciplinary curriculum is designed to help musicians become more expressive, effective communicators. Megan graduated from high school in May, and will attend the Cleveland Institute of Music in Ohio for college.

Cellist **Lauren Mathews** will spend part of her summer at the Meadowmount School of Music in Lewis, NY. The program is a seven-week summer school for accomplished young violinists, cellists, violists, and pianists training for professional careers in music. In the fall, Lauren will enter the 11th grade at Seven Lakes High School in Katy.

Dallas' **Aisha Mpiana**, a visual artist, will attend the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) Summer Pre-College Art and Design Residency Program in Baltimore, MD. Through the program, Aisha will learn from distinguished artists, explore the Baltimore art scene, and build her own professional portfolio. A graduate of the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts, she will matriculate into MICA in the fall.

Dancer **Ava Noble**, another new graduate of the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas, will attend Orsalina 28 in Moncalvo, Italy. The program focuses on movement methodology across a wide spectrum of styles and techniques, ranging from modern dance to hip-hop. Ava will attend college at the University of Southern California's Glorya Kaufman School of Dance.

Indian classical dancer **Isha Parupudi** will use her grant to study with the renowned Indian classical dance teacher, Rama Vaidyanathan, at Ganesa Natyalaya in Qutab, India. A graduate of Clear Springs High School in League City, she'll attend Columbia University in New York, NY. Isha was one of the twenty students named 2019 US Presidential Scholars in the Arts.

Austin violinist **Ian Stripling Jenson** will attend the Aspen Music Festival and School in Colorado. The Aspen Music Festival and School is regarded as one of the top classical music festivals in the United States, noted both for its concert programming and its musical training of mostly young-adult music students. In May, Ian graduated from the A. N. McCallum Fine Arts Academy.

Guitarist **Leif Tilton** will pursue private study with Matt Smith in Austin this summer. Leif will study rock and jazz on the electric guitar to learn about multiple styles of play and to be more versatile. By acquiring and studying electric guitar, Leif will increase his access to jazz, pop, rock, session, and other commercial arenas. He will enter the 11th grade at James Bowie High School in Austin this fall.

Visual artist **Lauren Yang** will use her grant to attend the Paris College of Art Summer Program in France. The program's studio work, lectures, and independent research projects will help Lauren develop new skills, refine her understanding of art and design, and create portfolio pieces. A graduate of Dulles High School in Sugar Land, Lauren's artwork was one of about 80 selected by the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards to be on display in a year-long exhibition in Washington, DC.

Along with our partners at the Texas Cultural Trust, TCA is proud to be a part of the 2018-2019 Young Masters' early development as artists, and we wish them productive summers.

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