



NEWS FROM TCA: FEBRUARY 2022

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We're using Black History Month as a reason to share this great photo from Theatre Arlington's 2020 production of A Raisin in the Sun. Every month of the year is the perfect time to enjoy art by people of African descent. Photo courtesy of the Arlington Cultural District and Theatre Arlington.

TCA Can Help! New Federal Changes to Affect TCA Grant Applicants



The federal government is transitioning between using DUNS numbers to the SAM UEI as a unique entity identifier for institutions. This will affect all TCA grant applicants. **We strongly urge that you address this transition and get your SAM UEI immediately and enter it into TCA's**

online grants system by March 31.

The SAM UEI is issued **at no cost** through the federal System for Award Management website (SAM.gov). Once the SAM UEI is assigned to your organization, it's yours for good, as long as your organization stays in good standing with the federal government. **It is always free to use SAM.gov and Grants.gov.**

The SAM UEI is a unique 12 character identifier (a combination of letters and

numbers) assigned to all entities (public and private companies, individuals, institutions, or organizations) that are required to register to do business with the federal government.

Once you have your SAM UEI, you need to update your Organization Information in TCA's Fluxx grants system. In order to change the Organization Information in Fluxx, you must be a **moderator for your organization**.

1. Go to the Organization Information Screen in Fluxx.
2. Click the edit button found in the top right corner of the screen.
3. Below where your DUNS number is shown there is a field for you to enter your new SAM UEI.

There are three categories that organizations are currently in:

Your entity has a DUNS number and is registered in SAM.gov

Your entity has a DUNS number and is not registered in SAM.gov

Your entity does not have a DUNS number

For each case, TCA has developed a **handout (with pictures!)** to walk you through the process you need to follow to get your SAM UEI, and we're happy to [provide you with one](#). A summary of the steps for each category was also included in our [December newsletter](#).

NEW: If you need help getting your SAM UEI, TCA staff can meet with you virtually in February and March. First, make sure you have your organization's DUNS number, the name it registered under for the DUNS, and the organization's physical address. If your organization does not have a DUNS number, [here](#) is how to get it. To request an appointment with a TCA staffer for SAM UEI help, go to [this link](#).

2022 Texas Poetry Out Loud Competition Goes Virtual

The 2022 Texas Poetry Out Loud finals will be held virtually on **March 10, 2022** at 6:00 PM Central. The finals will be open to the public and free to attend with advance registration. [Let us know](#) if you'd like to attend. This year's virtual competition will recognize each school winner and feature recorded recitations of the top five finalists. The event will be hosted by internationally renowned Texas poet Naomi Shihab Nye, who is also the national Young People's Poet Laureate for 2019-2021.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
AND POETRY FOUNDATION PRESENT



The [Poetry Out Loud](#) recitation contest is a national project of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. This exciting program helps students master public speaking skills, build self confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. High school students memorize poems and perform them in competition. At the state level, the winner and runner up receive cash awards and their school libraries receive money to help them buy poetry books. Each state champ will compete in the virtual national competition in May for a pool of \$50,000 in scholarships for students and cash awards for schools. TCA is proud to be a part of Poetry Out Loud, which helps high school students explore poetry interpretation and find new modes of self expression while refining their public speaking skills.

Upcoming TCA and Mid-America Arts Alliance Deadlines

TCA Grant Program: Arts Create

This program provides multi year operational support to arts organizations with

established cash budgets over \$50,000. **2022 is the “off” year for this multi-year program.** TCA will not be taking new applications. Current Arts Create grant recipients will fill out a required update form and submit it by their March 1 or March 15 deadline. The update form is available now, and grantees have been notified by email.

Mid-America Arts Alliance Grant Program: Artistic Innovations

This grant program from our partners at the [Mid America Arts Alliance](#) offers up to \$15,000 in support of expenses incurred in the art making process and premiere of these endeavors. Through generous support from the National Endowment for the Arts, M AAA supports individual artists and arts based nonprofit 501c3 organizations in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas. Applications are due **February 16**. M AAA staff [will be available](#) to answer questions about these grants during office hours via Zoom.

Get the Plate that Supports the Arts



Get TCA's *State of the Arts* license plate at <http://tinyurl.com/TXartsLP>. The plate looks great on all kinds of vehicles, shows Texas pride and support of the arts, and costs a mere \$30 a year in addition to vehicle registration. \$22 of the \$30 fee goes into TCA's grants budget! TCA is grateful to

the many Texas drivers who purchase the *State of the Arts* license plate, and to the wonderful arts organizations that help promote it to their patrons.

Save the Date: 2022 Young Masters Celebration

In early March, TCA Commissioners will name the 2022 class of Young Masters, and we can't wait to applaud them in person! Join us at ZACH Theatre in Austin on **May 10** to celebrate the Texas legends of tomorrow! Texas Young Masters is a joint initiative between the Texas Cultural Trust and Texas Commission on the Arts recognizing 8th through 11th grade students from across the state who demonstrate excellence in dance, theater, music, film/media, visual arts, literary arts, and folk & traditional arts. The program awards 15 students with \$10,000 in grants over two years to enhance and build their professional artistic study before they go to college.



The Young Masters event will feature these incredible young artists and live performances, including special guests Ray Benson and Peter More! More information on the event is [here](#).

Catching Up with 2018 Young Master Mikayla Johnson

Since its inception in 2002, the Young Masters grant program has provided 372 grants to Texas high school students for their advanced studies in



the arts. As TCA and our program partners at the Texas Cultural Trust get ready for the 2022 class of Young Masters, we want to share some details about the impact the program has made for one of the 2018 Young Masters, Floresville's Mikayla Johnson, who was named a Young Master in theater.

Mikayla writes, "Young Masters was the beginning of a journey of self discovery for me as an artist. I was floored when I won the grant. Although I won, I was horribly nervous and insecure in my acting abilities. My time with NYFA [New York Film Academy's acting for film training] and the Houston Shakespeare Festival took me out of my comfort zone and let me stretch as an actor and

creator. My time with the Stella Adler Black Arts Intensive, however, gave me a *new* comfort zone and really expanded my idea of what theater is and what it does for people. I can never forget the opportunities that Young Masters afforded me.

"I am now a junior at Yale University studying Theater and Ethnicity, Race & Migration. I have worked with the Yale School of Drama (now David Geffen School of Drama) and the Yale Cabaret. I've had the pleasure of performing in breathtaking student written work—I truly believe I've seen the next generation of playwrights—and I am currently in talks for my senior thesis production. I'm unsure if I want to be an actor or dramaturg professionally after college but theater is definitely part of my future. I'll be in three shows coming up this semester!" Mikayla's [upcoming shows](#) are *Everybody* by Branden Jacobs Jenkins (the Dramat Mainstage), *Edith* by Noah Parnes (the Dramat Spring Ex), and *Cave Canem* by A. Emmanuel Leadon.

Break a leg, Mikayla! TCA and the Trust are proud to have been a part of Mikayla's development as an artist all before she reached college. We can't wait to see what she does next!

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