

2015-2016 Community Enrichment Mini-Grant recipients are: (L-R) Taylor Hayes (Sawtooth School for Visual Art), Margaret Rehder (Winston-Salem Civic Orchestra), Sukhada Gokhale (Winston-Salem Asian Film Festival), Mary Singer, Cathy Reynolds, David Formisani, Wanda Grantham (Kernersville Little Theatre), Chuck Spong, Rebecca Baltzer, (Love Out Loud), Carly Williams (imagiNation21 Communications), Vivian Bivins (Four Heads Publishing)

Arts Council awards fall mini-grants to seven groups

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County has awarded it first round of Community Enrichment Mini-Grants for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

These awards provide community groups and individuals with grant funds up to \$500 to infuse the arts into all segments of our community, promote creativity, provide greater access to the arts and bring people together.

"After a successful execution of mini-grants awarded earlier this year, we are pleased to be able to continue this program for the 2015-2016 year," said Dara Silver, director of Member Services and Grant Programs. "We continue to be encouraged by the community's interest and response to this new program.'

The Arts Council invested \$3,500 in seven grant projects in this first round. Group and individual grant recipients include the following:

- 1. Four Heads Publishing Productions will present an original play entitled, "Matheson's Children" written, directed, and produced by Vivian Bivins on Saturday, Nov. 21 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the WSSU Anderson Center. The play is about the lives and relationships between five pre-Civil War slaves and their master.
- Williams of imagiNATION21 Carly Communications, in conjunction with the Easton community, will host a free Cultural Arts Festival Expressions CAFÉ 2015 with live music, entertainment, and activities for children and youth on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Easton Park.

- 3. Kernersville Little Theatre will present a free family event, "Bring a Book to Life - The Art of Reading," on Saturday, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Kernersville Library, celebrating its upcoming November production of "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe." Activities will include photo ops with favorite characters, face painting, craft activities and a special live preview of the show.
- 4. Sawtooth School for Visual Art in collaboration with Victory in Life, a neighborhood after-school program for at risk children, will provide hands-on arts enrichment for their youth during the Saturday Academy program this fall at the Central Terrace United Methodist Church.
- 5. Love Out Loud will present "Visions of Hope Photography Journey," a community arts project and exhibition that pairs artists and photographers with homeless community members who will tell their journey of hope through their own photography. The culminating exhibition will be held on Friday, Dec. 18 from 4 to 9 p.m. at the Benton Convention Center during the annual Christmas for the City event.
- 6. Winston-Salem Civic Orchestra will present a free concert for the community on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. at Salemtowne Retirement Community. A donation of canned goods is requested in lieu of admission on behalf of the RJ Reynolds High School Key Club.
- 7. Winston-Salem South Asian Film Festival will hold its inaugural event Oct. 9-11 at a/perture cinema. The festival will feature feature-length and short-films about the

experience, perspective and unique voices from the South Asian community through the art of cinema.

"Access to the arts and serving the entire community is essential if we are to call ourselves a City of Arts and innovation" said Jim Sparrow, Arts Council President and CEO. "We recognize that having the flexibility to support artistic ideas and activities in ways other than traditional artistic institutions adds dimension and creates greater possibilities. These ideas and initiatives may come from a business, a group of individuals or a church as well as traditional institutions. Greater access to the arts requires creative and entrepreneurial thinking. This grant initiative is one small step in that direction.'

Community Enrichment Mini-Grants are open to individual residents, student and community groups, as well as local businesses in Forsyth County.

Criteria for funding include community benefit and engagement; artistic and/or cultural merit; collaborations or partnerships; community diversity; and additional sources of financial or in-kind support. Priority will be given to new applicants.

Upcoming deadlines are as follows: Monday, Jan. 4, 2016 for projects taking place Feb. 1 through May 30, 2016; and Monday, April 25, 2016 for projects taking place June 1 through Sept. 30, 2016.

For more information about Community Enrichment Mini-Grants contact Dara Silver, director of Member Services and Grant Programs at 336-747-1426 or dsilver@intothearts.org.



Carlise





O'Neil



Ministers' group, DA sponsor Community Outreach program

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Ministers' Conference of Winston-Salem and Vicinity (MCWSV) announces that Chief Assistant District Attorney Jennifer Martin and District Attorney Jim O'Neil's office reached out to The MCWSV with an active and meaningful purpose to work with community members in local churches, in order to help people get their driver's licenses back

The goal is to help working families,

MCWSV said. Various reasons have led to this struggle for some of Forsyth County's residents. The most common are due to missed court dates for financial reasons, or out of fear or ignorance on how to navigate the court system.

Local residents who do not have a driver's license are faced with several obstacles. The obvious obstacles are the difficulties associated with finding employment, as well as accessing educational

opportunities for their children. The Ministers' Conference of Winston-

Salem and Vicinity has been serving, in this endeavor, as chief administrators for the program.

This program is labeled the "Third Thursday Community Outreach." The Rev. Alvin Carlisle, 3rd Vice

President of the MCWSV and Social Justice Chair, has been diligently working toward making this program and partnership a success, MCWSV says.

From the start of this program, nearly 200 Forsyth County residents have been helped in getting their licenses back. Many reports of greater work opportunities have privileges

been unveiled because of restored driving The "Third Thursday Community Outreach Program" is one of many initiatives set forth by the Ministers' Conference

of Winston-Salem and Vicinity to help those in need. To learn more, email president@minstersconferencewsv.org or secretary@min-

stersconferencewsv.org.

