

## Letters of Support

Black United Fund	1
Clatsop County Historical Society	3
Columbia County Museum Association	5
Friends of the Oregon Caves & Chateau	8
High Desert Museum	17
Josephine Community Library Foundation	21
Literary Arts	24
Native Arts and Culture Foundation	30
Painted Sky Center for Arts and Culture	39
PAM Cut	58
Portland Institute for Contemporary Arts	70
Portland Playhouse	73
Rainier Oregon Historical Museum	75
Salem Parks Foundation	81
Sisters Folk Festival	83
Southern Oregon Historical Society	85
Very Little Theatre	86

# Black United Fund



Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

April 28, 2022

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations,  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations,  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Building United Futures Complex Construction – Portland, OR in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Black United Fund of Oregon, Inc. located at 2828 NE Alberta St, Portland, OR 97211.

The funding would be used for the social and economic development of Oregon's underserved communities and ethnic and culturally diverse groups. The Building United Futures Complex will be a shared space with office, retail, event, and community space for 20-25 nonprofits and businesses, with an emphasis on Black and BIPOC-owned and -led organizations..

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Earl Blumenauer".

Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

# Clatsop County Historical Society



Astoria School District No. 1C

Craig Hoppes, *Superintendent*  
785 Alameda Avenue – Astoria, OR 97103  
Phone: 503-325-6441 – Fax: 503-325-6524  
[www.astoria.k12.or.us](http://www.astoria.k12.or.us)

August 19, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Cultural Advocacy Coalition Board Members,

I'm writing in support of the expansion of the Oregon Film Museum in Astoria, Oregon.

I have seen the growth of the museum over the years and been surprised by how quickly it has outgrown the current building. Every 4<sup>th</sup> grader in Astoria visits the museum in the spring. The building is so small that classes have to be divided into small groups. The museum staff have created a wonderfully engaging, hands-on experience that our students look forward to. We've also had some of our high school creative writing classes and drama classes visit and find the experience worthwhile.

I am aware of the plans for the larger facility and am excited by the opportunity for students of all ages. The ability to engage students with a variety of avenues to the film-making experience – computers, costuming, make-up, technical, acting, writing, cinematography – will potentially spark interest in a career the student had never previously considered.

I know the Astoria School District will continue to include the Oregon Film Museum in our field trips and have no doubt schools across the State will do so as well.

I'm excited by this project and hope the Cultural Advocacy Coalition adopts this as one of their projects.

Sincerely,

Craig Hoppes  
Superintendent  
Astoria School District

**Columbia County Museum Association**

# COLUMBIA COUNTY



## Board of Commissioners Office

### Commissioners

Margaret Magruder  
Henry Heimuller  
Casey Garrett

### Administration

Jacyn Normine  
Kathy Coddington

### Communications

Mark Pacheco

ST. HELENS, OR 97051

230 Strand St., Room 338  
Direct (503) 397-4322  
Fax (503) 366-7243  
columbiacountyor.gov

August 24, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

### **RE: Letter of Support for Columbia County Museum Association (CCMA)**

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners strongly supports the CCMA application for project endorsement. The museum has long been a welcome component of Columbia County's community, having occupied space within the county courthouse for over 50 years. Preserving and sharing Columbia County's history is a high priority for the Board of Commissioners. In 2006, Columbia County and the Columbia County Historical Society formed the Columbia County Museum Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, to manage the Columbia County Historical Museum collection in trust for the benefit of the public.


CCMA members have proven themselves to be dedicated caretakers of the county's history. They continue to expand the museum's collection, preserve it, and make it available to the public. Museum association members dedicate thousands of hours every year to keeping the Columbia County Historical Museum open for the public to visit and enjoy access to a vast collection of locally significant archives and a variety of exhibit spaces. The association has also developed an impressive array of programs and projects made available online, throughout the county in public areas, and during community events.

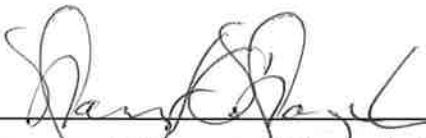
Columbia County has recently acquired a historic building to provide a new home to the county's administrative offices and the museum. The new location will give the museum improved community access and provide greater visibility of the historical collection. However, moving the collection will require great care and preparation of the facility to provide the necessary safeguards for preserving documents and artifacts. The historical documents and irreplaceable objects in the collection are essential to the county's governing bodies as we make decisions that may affect the preservation and promotion of historic sites.

The Board of Commissioners highly supports this project and urges you to approve this endorsement application. This opportunity will permit the history of Columbia County to be available and accessible to a broader audience.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By:   
Henry Heimuller, Chair

By:   
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

By:   
Casey Garrett, Commissioner



# Friends of the Oregon Caves & Chateau



*Grants Pass & Josephine County*  
**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Sue Hildick, Senior Advisor  
Cultural Resources Economic Fund  
P.O. Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue,

The Grants Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce would like to offer our support for the application from the Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau. We commend the restoration of the Chateau to the Cultural Resources Economic Fund as one that will have significant benefits for Southwestern Oregon and the entire state.

The restoration of the exterior and interior doors of the Chateau will play an important role in welcoming guests back into the lodge and show the warmth of the 1930 design and care that was taken in the original design of the lodge to new visitors. The Chateau was designed and built by local members of the Grants Pass and Cave Junction communities in 1933 and 1934 using local materials.

We are pleased that a local contractor, The Ausland Group, has been chosen by the National Park Service to complete the Life, Safety, Accessibility, Seismic and Stabilization upgrades. This project not only supports local business including local construction and artistic restoration jobs, but will also bring around 75 permanent local jobs back when the Chateau opens again. This is a huge asset to the region in many ways.

The Friends are active members of the Chamber and have hosted Greeters while also engaging with Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Grants Pass area. The Friends have created a temporary location in Grants Pass where all the historic Monterey furniture is and have welcomed the community to tour, host events in that location and enjoy the entire rare original furniture collection in one place as it undergoes restoration and re-design needed to meet the current visitor expectations.

The Friends have also been thoughtful in engaging local artists and craftsmen in the design of replica dining room chairs to replace the ones lost down the canyon in the flood of 1964. A competition is under consideration to engage local artists to create designs for the splats of the 60 chairs in a style similar to the designs on the original Monterey furniture.

Over the last 15 years, The Friends have been instrumental in helping the National Park Service (NPS) gain funding for the needed wiring, plumbing, seismic, structural and ADA work. The NPS funding does not include the restoration of the Historic Character of the lodge. The Friends have taken on that responsibility and are working on raising the remaining funds needed to restore the Historic Character. After many years and many delays, the NPS work is finally underway – with the goal of opening the

Chateau in the 2025 season. So the timing of this request is critical to the overall success of the restoration.

The Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve and its National Historic Landmark Chateau are both very important to the life and economy of Southwestern Oregon. As the gateway off I-5 to the Oregon Caves and the Oregon Coast, we proudly display the Caveman statue by our building. We are always happy to share the fun, educational and family friendly opportunities the Oregon Caves offer when we have visitors stop at our visitor center. Josephine County is honored to be the home of the Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve and its iconic Oregon Caves Chateau.

Sincerely,



Josie Molloy

President & CEO

Grant Pass & Josephine County Chamber of Commerce



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

August 29, 2022

Sue Hildick, Senior Advisor  
Cultural Resources Economic Fund  
P.O. Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue,

I am pleased to support and endorse the proposal from the Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau (Friends) to complete the restoration of the original exterior and interior doors in the Oregon Caves Chateau. This is an important Oregon icon, and I urge the Cultural Resources Economic Fund to select this project for funding as I am confident upon completion, the Chateau at the Oregon Caves will once again welcome Oregonians from all over the state as well as visitors from across the nation for its natural, historic and architectural significance.

The Chateau was completed in 1934, built by a local team of investors, and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. National Historic Landmark Status is the nation's highest designation for Historic places, and one of only 11 other structures in Oregon have been honored in this way. Currently under restoration – to upgrade all the structural, seismic and electrical and plumbing, the lodge will for the first time in 89 years – have the capacity to welcome guests with limited mobility. Five rooms will be accessible on the first floor, an elevator will transport guests down to the two restaurants just to name a few upgrades. All the iconic, original Monterey Furniture will be restored and upgraded to meet current lodging standards.

The Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve and its National Historic Landmark Chateau are both very important to the life and economy of Southwestern Oregon. Families have traveled to the Oregon Caves for generations looking for unusual, fun, educational and family-oriented places to visit. The Oregon Caves is really a special place that affords such characteristics.

The Friends have been working for over 15 years toward the restoration of the Historic Character of the lodge. They are working closely with the National Park Service team to complete the restoration of all the historic elements – doors, lighting, balconies, hardwood floors, and the restoration of the Monterey furniture collection to hopefully open the Lodge to guests again in 2025.

Thank you for your interest in this important "Oregon" treasure.

Sincerely,

Representative Anna Scharf



# United States Department of the Interior



OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC MAIL SENT VIA EMAIL  
NO HARD COPY TO FOLLOW

National Park Service  
Interior Regions 8, 9, 10, and 12  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104-2828

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1.B. (PWR-PR)

August 25, 2022

Sue Densmore, Executive Director  
Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau  
P.O. Box 2195  
Grants Pass, OR 97528

densmore@mind.net

To Whom It May Concern

As Regional Partnerships Program Manager, I work with a wide spectrum of our Park Partners. From the start, the Friends of Oregon Caves and Chateau has had a laser focus on raising funds and taking whatever actions that are required and necessary to fully ensure an accurate and effective restoration of the historic integrity of the Chateau.

With their support, the National Park Service has been able to secure funding to address the life safety, accessibility, seismic and stabilization work to maintain the Chateau. This work has involved unanticipated complications and extensions. Throughout, the Friends has been dedicated, persistent and creative in fundraising and doing whatever it takes to ensure the historic features and furnishings are protected and restored to sustain the authentic historic experiences for visitors to the Chateau.

Ray Murray,  
Manager, Partnerships Program  
Pacific West Region  
National Park Service

INTERIOR REGION 8 • LOWER COLORADO BASIN\*  
INTERIOR REGION 9 • COLUMBIA—PACIFIC NORTHWEST\*  
INTERIOR REGION 10 • CALIFORNIA—GREAT BASIN  
INTERIOR REGION 12 • PACIFIC ISLANDS



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

August 29, 2022

Sue Hildick, Senior Advisor  
Cultural Resources Economic Fund  
P.O. Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue,

I am pleased to support and endorse the proposal from the Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau (Friends) to complete the restoration of the original exterior and interior doors in the Oregon Caves Chateau. This is an important Oregon icon, and I urge the Cultural Resources Economic Fund to select this project for funding as I am confident upon completion, the Chateau at the Oregon Caves will once again welcome Oregonians from all over the state as well as visitors from across the nation for its natural, historic and architectural significance.

The Chateau was completed in 1934, built by a local team of investors, and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1987. National Historic Landmark Status is the nation's highest designation for Historic places, and one of only 11 other structures in Oregon have been honored in this way. Currently under restoration – to upgrade all the structural, seismic and electrical and plumbing, the lodge will for the first time in 89 years – have the capacity to welcome guests with limited mobility. Five rooms will be accessible on the first floor, an elevator will transport guests down to the two restaurants just to name a few upgrades. All the iconic, original Monterey Furniture will be restored and upgraded to meet current lodging standards.

The Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve and its National Historic Landmark Chateau are both very important to the life and economy of Southwestern Oregon. Families have traveled to the Oregon Caves for generations looking for unusual, fun, educational and family-oriented places to visit. The Oregon Caves is really a special place that affords such characteristics.

The Friends have been working for over 15 years toward the restoration of the Historic Character of the lodge. They are working closely with the National Park Service team to complete the restoration of all the historic elements – doors, lighting, balconies, hardwood floors, and the restoration of the Monterey furniture collection to hopefully open the Lodge to guests again in 2025.

Thank you for your interest in this important "Oregon" treasure.

Sincerely,

Representative Anna Scharf

**LILY MORGAN**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 3  
JOSEPHINE COUNTY



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cultral Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resources Economic Fund  
P.O. Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Coalition Board Members:

I am pleased to offer my support for the proposal from the Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau (Friends) to complete the restoration of the original exterior and interior doors in the Oregon Caves Chateau. I sincerely hope the Cultural Resources Economic Fund (CREF) will help fund this project that is very important to my district. This project is also very important to me as I have personally visited the Oregon Caves & Chateau many times throughout my lifetime.

Over the last 15 years, The Friends have been instrumental in helping the National Park Service (NPS) gain funding for the needed wiring, plumbing, seismic, structural and ADA work. Now the Friends are working on raising the remaining funds needed to restore the Historic Character of the Chateau. After many years and many delays, the NPS work is finally underway – with the goal of opening the Chateau in the 2025 season. So the timing of this request is critical to the overall success of the restoration.

The State of Oregon has supported this restoration project in several ways. The Oregon Heritage Commission has recently supported the restoration of 9 of the historic doors, Travel Oregon has assisted with the writing of the Historic Furnishings Plan and Maintenance plan – critical to the ongoing care of the lodge and in 2017 the Cultural Advocacy Coalition supported the restoration of the balconies as one of the earlier prioritized projects. Also – the CARES act funding came at a critical time when the Friends needed the support. Thank you.

The Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve and its National Historic Landmark Chateau are both very important to the life and economy of Southwestern Oregon. As we know, travelers are looking for unusual, fun, educational and family-oriented places to visit. The Oregon Caves is really a special place that affords such characteristics. The Oregon Caves, especially the Oregon Caves Chateau, stand out as a spectacular investment for the Cultural Resources Economic Fund, with sustained long-term impacts – exactly the kind you like to fund. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and the completion of this project will be very beneficial for Southwest Oregon, and the state as a whole. I hope the CREF fund will be glad to be affiliated as a significant funder.

Sincerely,

Lily Morgan

August 26, 2022

Sue Hildick, Senior Advisor  
Cultural Resources Economic Fund  
P.O. Box 9160  
Portland, OR 07207

Dear Sue,

I am reaching out to share my support of this grant request for the restoration of a unique National Historic Landmark Lodge—the Oregon Caves Chateau. This project is one that will benefit the state of Oregon, particularly the lodging, travel and entertainment amenities here in the southwest region of the state.

Situated by the “Marble Caves of Oregon” (only 5% of all the caves in the world are marble), and near the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, which is home of an amazing array of rare botanical species, the Chateau was constructed in the 1930s to reflect and enhance its natural surroundings. The PBS special *Great Lodges of the Pacific Northwest* described the Chateau as “one of the most architecturally exciting lodges in the entire Parks system.” Spanning a woodland ravine, the Chateau makes exceptional use of the land's contours, and a stream runs through the dining room!

The lodge was designed and built by local folks, with an emphasis on natural materials. Much of the building's original siding of shaggy Port Orford-Cedar bark is still intact after 70 years. However, after 89 years of continuous use, this lodge needs to be revitalized. The National Park Service is contributing the project's central systems, including health/safety and seismic/structural stabilization to assure the lodge can welcome visitors into the future.

The Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau are responsible for the restoration of the lodge's Historic Character, which includes the original doors—a critical component to maintain its original grandeur.

The Chateau has authentic, historical, quirky, and natural features worth restoration, and as one of the three great lodges in Oregon, its attraction to visitors generates an economic boon for the region. Support from the Cultural Resources Economic Fund will help accomplish this work, simultaneously making a great investment in Oregon's tourism industry.



It's time for the renaissance of the Oregon Caves Chateau to ensure it can welcome guests for the next 100 years. Thank you so much for your consideration of this important effort.

Best regards,

*Pam Marsh*

Pam Marsh  
Representative House District 05  
Southern Jackson County

# High Desert Museum



*from the office of*

**REPRESENTATIVE JACK ZIKA**

August 16, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, Oregon 97207

Dear CACO Capital Project Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to endorse the High Desert Museum's proposed capital project. Central Oregon is a very special place due in part to its unique location and outdoor amenities. Our region also presents some challenges as we are more than three hours from a metropolitan center and the art and culture experiences a larger city provides. In fact, the closest dedicated art museum is 120 miles away on the University of Oregon campus. This project will provide engaging arts and cultural opportunities otherwise lacking in Central Oregon and be a significant economic driver in the region's arts and culture sector. It's critical that Central Oregon has a venue for these experiences that is accessible to our community on this side of the Cascades.

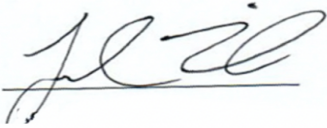
From educational programs to exhibitions and community discussions, the Museum has a strong track record of providing vibrant, high-quality programming that enhances our community. The proposed museum expansion will enrich their programming and expand opportunities for residents and visitors to participate in meaningful art and cultural experiences.

Encompassing a new art gallery, classrooms, gathering and event spaces, and a renovated exhibition, this new public space will create opportunities for innovative art and cultural experiences not otherwise possible in our primarily rural region. It will facilitate immersive art and cultural exhibitions, engaging educational experiences for K-12 students and teachers, and thought-provoking community events. Dynamic new programmatic spaces will bring together artists, scholars, thought leaders, policy makers, and community members and use the power of art and cultural experiences to transform conversations about the region and significantly broaden and deepen community engagement. This new space will

enhance the Museum's position as a catalyst for a vibrant art and cultural community that enriches the quality of life for community members and serves as an economic driver for the region.

This capital project will be an asset to the Central Oregon community, and I fully support it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Zika", written over a horizontal line.

Representative Jack Zika, House District 53

**JASON KROPF**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
**House District 54**



**OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

August 24, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, Oregon 97207

Dear CACO Capital Project Committee,

It is with great pleasure that I write to express my support for the High Desert Museum's proposed capital project. With its natural beauty and rich culture and history, Central Oregon is a wonderful place to visit and a special place to call home. For 40 years, the High Desert Museum has played a vital role in connecting people to the history, ecology, art, and culture of the region, promoting appreciation and understanding of the Oregon high desert. The museum is also important to our area because it provides art and cultural experiences that are limited in our primarily rural location.

The proposed project will support the construction of a new wing at the museum, as well as the renovation of their permanent exhibit on the Indigenous Plateau. These spaces will facilitate exciting educational opportunities for K-12 students and teachers, provide the public with new immersive exhibitions, and serve as an event space that will play host to important conversations about the region.

The High Desert Museum has continually demonstrated the ability and commitment to creating dynamic, high-quality programming. The proposed expansion and renovation will enrich the museum's offerings and expand opportunities for residents and visitors alike to engage in meaningful art and cultural experiences. I see this project as an important investment in our community and encourage your support.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Kropf".

Jason Kropf  
State Representative, House District 54

# Josephine Community Library Foundation

**LILY MORGAN**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

DISTRICT 3  
JOSEPHINE COUNTY



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Cultral Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resources Economic Fund  
P.O. Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Coalition Board Members:

I am writing in support of the proposal by the Josephine Community Library Foundation for the New Grants Pass Library Property Purchase. Josephine Community Library Foundation is submitting a Cultural Resources Economic Fund proposal for \$424,603 that will complete the property purchase. This purchase will be a major first step toward building a new Grants Pass library and community commons in the downtown area.

From the time I was a young child, my family has gone to the current library. Sadly, the current library, which was built in 1959, is overcrowded, with inadequate space for books, computers, storytimes, adult programs, quiet spaces, and meeting areas. Library and community stakeholders have been diligently working to resolve this issue since 2018. Together they envisioned a vibrant and community-centered library building in an accessible location. They developed a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan and then located and entered into a purchase option agreement with the owner of the ideal property in the center of downtown Grants Pass.

The library foundation has been raising money from the local community to make the option payments and is on track to close the sale with a final \$1.4 million payment by June 30, 2023. According to the sale terms requested by the owner, \$424,603 in subsequent mortgage payments will start in July 2023. This is the amount being requested from the Cultural Resources Economic Fund.

Completing the purchase of the property will allow the library to move immediately to the fundraising phase for actual library construction. The new library will be a modern two-story public facility on a downtown city block that will be a centralized and accessible space for all residents.

The construction of the new library will revitalize this section of downtown. The new Grants Pass library will be a place in which all can come together to learn, work, and play, with space for local community organizations and groups to meet and connect.

I heartily support this project and this request for CREP funding. This new Grants Pass library will be a transformative investment in the region, creating stronger and healthier environments for all their residents.

Sincerely,

Lily Morgan



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Dear Cultural Advocacy Coalition Board:

I'd like to state my support of the New Grants Pass Library Property Purchase, for which the Josephine Community Library Foundation is seeking CREF support.

The current library is housed in a deteriorating 63-year-old building belonging to Josephine County and leased back to the library district. Apparently, the county has expressed the desire to reclaim and repurpose the building for its own uses.

More than 250,000 physical items and 60,000 online materials are checked out annually. Each year in the libraries, more than 15,000 patrons use the public computers and another 75,000 connect to library Wi-Fi. More than 20,000 people attend educational, cultural, and enrichment programs for all ages. Although well-used and well-loved, the current library is easily half the size it should be to serve the needs of this growing community.

A new Grants Pass library will significantly advance access to literature, art, heritage, and the humanities, and therefore is an appropriate use of CREF. Acquiring this property will be the important first step to constructing a new downtown public space to be used by all community members for their information needs and cultural enrichment. The centralized location in the Grants Pass downtown corridor will be a town centerpiece, enhancing a strong sense of place, community pride, and southern Oregon identity.

I support the efforts toward the New Grants Pass Library and encourage the Cultural Advocacy Coalition to endorse the New Grants Pass Library Property Purchase as part of its package of cultural capital projects to be submitted for consideration by the 2023 Oregon Legislature.

Sincerely,

Duane Stark  
Oregon State Representative  
House District 4



## Literary Arts



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

August 24, 2022

Ms. Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland OR 97207

SUBT: Letter in Support of Literary Arts New Community Space in SE Portland

Dear *Ms. Hildick* and Board Members of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition:

I'm writing in support of Literary Arts' new community space, located at 716 SE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97214 in House District 42.

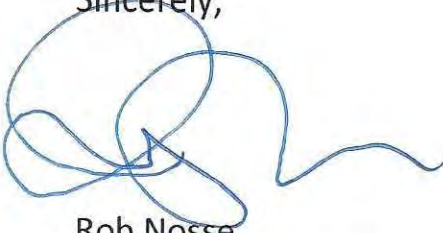
Literary Arts is a 38-year-old Portland based nonprofit with a mission to engage readers, support writers, and inspire the next generation with great literature. They recently purchased a 2-story commercial building on SE Grand to be the permanent home of the organization, which will be transformed into a community space featuring a bookstore, coffee shop, and venue for free public events while also housing their administrative office.

The new home base at 716 SE Grand Avenue will physically integrate Literary Arts into a landscape filled with some of the city's rising cultural institutions in a vibrant, burgeoning neighborhood, and enable the organization to provide more programs to more people to meet the needs of our community. A combination of rising income inequality, political polarization, and a growing cultural divide means that opportunities to create community around literature are needed now more than ever. The new home will enable Literary Arts to provide more spaces for healing dialogue and learning and will play a critical role in the rehabilitation and revitalization of our community.



I am excited about this fantastic community resource and implore you to consider this project for funding. Should it be chosen I look forward to helping to get it across the finish line in the Oregon Legislature with your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a trailing line that ends in a small hook.

Rob Nosse  
State Representative  
HD 42 inner SE and NE Portland



## OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Senator Kathleen Taylor  
State Senator District 21  
900 Court St. NW S-423  
Salem, OR 97301

August 26, 2022

Dear Sue Hildick and Board Members of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition,

I'm writing today in support of Literary Arts' new community space, located at 716 SE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97214 in Senate District 21.

Literary Arts is a 38-year-old Portland based nonprofit with a mission to engage readers, support writers, and inspire the next generation with great literature. They recently purchased a 2-story commercial building on SE Grand to be the permanent home of the organization, which will be transformed into a community space featuring a bookstore, coffee shop, and venue for free public events while also housing their administrative office.

The new home base at 716 SE Grand Avenue will physically integrate Literary Arts into a landscape filled with some of the city's rising cultural institutions in a vibrant, burgeoning neighborhood, and enable the organization to provide more programs to more people to meet the needs of our community. A combination of rising income inequality, political polarization, and a growing cultural divide means that opportunities to create community around literature are needed now more than ever. The new home will enable Literary Arts to provide more spaces for healing dialogue and learning and will play a critical role in the rehabilitation and revitalization of our community.

I am excited about this fantastic community resource and implore you to consider this project for funding.

Sincerely,

Senator Kathleen Taylor

Susheela Jayapal



Multnomah County Commissioner, District 2

August 29, 2022

Dear Sue Hildick and Board Members of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition,

I'm writing today in support of Literary Arts' request for funding for its new community space. As a former chair of the Literary Arts board (and having recently rejoined the board) and as a Multnomah County Commissioner, I truly believe in the work Literary Arts does to build a more inclusive, empathetic community by providing the space and a platform for diverse voices to be shared and heard.

Literary Arts is a 38-year old Portland based nonprofit with a mission to engage readers, support writers, and inspire the next generation with great literature. They recently purchased a 2-story commercial building on SE Grand to be the permanent home of the organization, which will be transformed into a community space featuring a bookstore, coffee shop, and venue for free public events while also housing their administrative office.

The new home base at 716 SE Grand Avenue will physically integrate Literary Arts into a landscape filled with some of the city's rising cultural institutions in a vibrant, burgeoning neighborhood, and enable the organization to provide more programs to more people to meet the needs of our community. A combination of rising income inequality, political polarization, and a growing cultural divide means that opportunities to create community around literature are needed now more than ever. The new home will enable Literary Arts to provide more spaces for healing dialogue and learning, and will play a critical role in the rehabilitation and revitalization of our community.

I am excited about this fantastic community resource, and urge you to consider this project for funding. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susheela Jayapal".

Susheela Jayapal



**Founders**

José Eduardo González  
*Executive Artistic Director*

Dañel Malán  
*Artistic Director Teatro Milagro*

Olga Sanchez  
*Artistic Director Emerita*

**Board of Directors**

Jaime Soltero, *President*  
Dañel Malán, *Secretary*  
Clinton Hendricks, *Treasurer*  
José E. González  
Pete Johnson  
Maya Malán-González  
Ellen Thomas

**Staff**

Tania Dominguez-Rangel  
*Development Associate*

Jackelyn Cortez-Fregoso  
*Education Coordinator*

Rafa Moraga  
*Community Engagement Coordinator*

Dylan Hankins  
*Teaching Artists*

Daniel Jaquez  
Maya Malan-Gonzalez  
*Artistic Associates*

**Affiliations**

Theatre Communications Group  
National New Play Network  
Latinx Theatre Commons  
Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber  
Coalition for Communities of Color  
Small & Midsized Arts Coalition  
Portland Area Theatre Alliance

August 25, 2022

Dear Sue Hildick and Board Members of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition,

I'm writing today in support of Literary Arts' new community space. As a long-time fan and 2019 recipient of The Stewart H. Holbrook Literary Legacy Award for significant contributions to Oregon's literary community, I truly believe in the work Literary Arts does to build a more inclusive, empathetic community by providing the space and a platform for diverse voices to be shared and heard.

As Vice-President of the Central Eastside Together and active member of the Central Eastside Industrial Council, I can assert without question, that the neighborhood businesses, organizations and residents will welcome Literary Arts move with enthusiasm. The addition of another creative institution, one with a long record of creative and community engagement, will enhance the district's growing reputation as an innovative and inclusive location.

Literary Arts is a 37-year old Portland based nonprofit with a mission to engage readers, support writers, and inspire the next generation with great literature. They recently purchased a 2-story commercial building on SE Grand to be the permanent home of the organization, which will be transformed into a community space featuring a bookstore, coffee shop, and venue for free public events while also housing their administrative office.

The new home base at 716 SE Grand Avenue will physically integrate Literary Arts into a landscape filled with some of the city's rising cultural institutions in a vibrant, burgeoning neighborhood, and enable the organization to provide more programs to more people to meet the needs of our community. A combination of rising income inequality, political polarization, and a growing cultural divide means that opportunities to create community around literature are needed now more than ever. The new home will enable Literary Arts to provide more spaces for healing dialogue and learning, and will play a critical role in the rehabilitation and revitalization of our community.

I am excited about this fantastic community resource, and implore you to consider this project for funding. Please feel free to reach out to me at [jefe@milagro.org](mailto:jefe@milagro.org) or 503-236-7253.

Sincerely,

José E González y Salazar  
Executive Director & Co-Founder  
Milagro

## **Native Arts and Culture Foundation**



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

August 20, 2022

Ms. Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland OR 97207

SUBT: Letter of support for Native Arts and Culture Foundation Building Purchase and Transformation of the former Yale Union Building

Dear ~~Ms. Hildick~~ **Ms. Sue!** and Members of the CAC Board of Directors:

Please allow this letter to signal that I fully support the capital funding request from Native Arts and Cultures Foundation (NACF) toward the transformation of the historic Yale Union building as The Center for Native Arts and Cultures (The Center). I have personally toured the building, met with their leadership team, and seen the architectural schematics as well as their cost estimates. I am confident this will be a successful and engaging addition to our state.

As you are probably aware, over the past 20 years, activity and connectivity around Native arts and cultures in the United States has notably increased. Native artists are engaged deeply in a heightened discourse on urgent contemporary issues, such as environmental stewardship and community vitality, and the success and recognition of individual Native artists is inspiring younger generations. But even as awareness of and interest in Native arts and cultures increases, indigenous artists, culture bearers and Native-led arts & cultural organizations face tremendous challenges thus why this project is vital.

In the early 2000's, led by former Program Officer Elizabeth Theobald Richards (Cherokee), the Ford Foundation responded to the call for a national, Native-led resource for Native artists and organizations by engaging in a deep consultative process. The study explored the creation of a new philanthropic resource to support the diverse arts and cultures of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities. Informed by this research, the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation was created. Since its public programming launched in 2010, the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation has engaged in grassroots community organization and outreach to listen to and amplify the voices of the Native arts community.

My support for this project offers us a chance to support Native artists and culture bearers locally, regionally, and nationally. Oregon has strong relationships with nine federally recognized tribes. Many other tribes are active in our state along with Portland



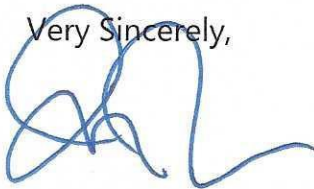


having one of the largest urban Indian communities in the United States. The fact that this national organization will have a base of operations here make this project even more exciting and meaningful.

Honestly this opportunity is unparalleled, and NACF is the organization to make this happen. I am proud and frankly lucky to have such an important organization and venue in my district and in my state.

I hope you will join me in supporting this vital addition to Oregon Arts and Cultures. Should it be chosen I look forward to helping to get it across the finish line in the Oregon Legislature in the Capital Construction process with your help.

Very Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rob Nosse', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rob Nosse  
State Representative  
HD 42 Inner SE and NE Portland



**WILLAMETTE**

THE FIRST UNIVERSITY IN THE WEST

900 STATE STREET  
SALEM, OR 97301

Aug 23, 2022

Ms. Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland OR 97207

Dear Ms. Hildick and Members of the CACO Board of Directors:

It is with great pleasure that I write in support of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation (NACF) application for CACO recommendation to support its development of a Center for Native Arts and Cultures in Portland, Oregon.

I am a professor of anthropology at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, where I have taught since 1996 and have been associated with NACF since its founding. I specialize in the study of Indigenous arts and am a curator at the university's Hallie Ford Museum of Art, where I have curated dozens of exhibitions and public programs over the course of my career. I have served as a reviewer for NACF fellowships and as a workshop presenter at its convenings of Native artists. From my vantage point of nearly twenty-five years of experience in curating Native arts in this region, the proposed project is tremendously valuable and will be transformative in supporting the Indigenous arts ecosystem at this moment of great challenge.

The NACF's opportunity to develop the Yale Union building into a Center for Native Arts and Cultures is an historic game-changer for Native arts not only in the Northwest but in all of the U.S. There is no similar facility in existence in the U.S., and the planned artist studio, performance, exhibition, and retail spaces are sorely needed. The Yale Union building has a long and storied history and a strong reputation as a center for contemporary arts. The fact that it is being *given* to NACF is itself historic and sends a powerful message about the need for societal reconciliation and healing through the creation of community resources and artistic expression. I have no doubt that the philanthropic community in and beyond Portland will embrace this project, even at this time of economic and public health crisis, because of the hope for the future that the project represents. I for one will do everything I can to support the fund-raising efforts of the NACF for this project and I know I am not alone.

Finally, this center has profound potential to make Native arts and cultures available to all Oregonians, and nationally, through its service to Native artists who can then share their work and perspectives with broader local, national and international communities. There is no limit to the creativity and resilience of Native arts, and this project is deeply worthy of CACO support. I support this project whole-heartedly and will lend my energy to its success.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Dobkins, Ph.D.  
Professor of Anthropology, Curator of Native Art

August 23, 2022

Ms. Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland OR 97207

Dear Ms. Hildick and the CACO Board of Directors,

Thank you for considering this extremely enthusiastic letter in support of Native Arts and Cultures Foundation's application for recommendation for state funding. The project for which NACF seeks funding—to create a Center for Native Arts and Cultures in a remarkable building in inner Southeast Portland, Oregon—is a project of clear national significance and indisputable humanities significance. Every aspect of this project—from the facility itself (the 1908 Yale Union Laundry Building) to the programmatic activities CNAC would host and make possible to the symbolic power of a Native-led center in this particular building, city, and state—stands out to me as worthy of support. (One note: as a CACO board member, I will recuse myself from consideration of this application.)

In my role as executive director of Oregon Humanities (state humanities council in Oregon), I've come to learn and grow increasingly excited about the vision for the CNAC. It would serve as a gathering place, exhibit space, educational center, archive, and living testament to the complex and often under-recognized people and stories that are essential to this part of the world. I believe that the CNAC will quickly become one of this state's most important cultural spaces.

The CNAC will help artists, visitors, and cultural partners deepen and expand their understanding of pluralism, our nation's foundations, and current hopes for an inclusive, vibrant democracy. The state and region need an ambitious, connected, visible institution run by and central to American Indians, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Native peoples. The CNAC would be that institution, and the building's location, structure, and history would ensure that it would be of enormous practical and imaginative significance to general audiences as well.

I'm particularly excited about the programming opportunities that the CNAC will give rise to, and I'm looking forward to exploring how Oregon Humanities and other humanities organizations throughout the state will partner with Native Arts and Cultures as the project becomes an established part of Oregon's cultural fabric.

Thank you for considering what I imagine is a deep pool of strong applications. I hope you see the strengths of this application from Native Arts and Cultures, and I hope you'll reach out to me if any more detail or elaboration would be helpful.

With appreciation,



Adam Davis  
Executive Director, Oregon Humanities

**College of the Arts**  
Office of the DeanPost Office Box 751  
Portland, Oregon 97207-0751  
349 Lincoln Hall  
1620 SW Park Ave503-725-3105 tel  
503-725-3351 fax  
the-arts@pdx.edu  
www.pdx.edu/the-artsMs. Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
P.O. Box 9160  
Portland, Ore. 97207

In re. Native Arts and Cultures Foundation Endorsement

Dear Ms. Hildick and Members of the Coalition Board of Directors:

Please consider this letter in heartfelt support of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation's request for the Coalition's endorsement relative to Cultural Resources Economic Funds from the state legislature. I am an educator, art historian and critic, corresponding editor for *Art in America* magazine, former associate dean at Portland State University, and longtime resident of the Pacific Northwest where the NACF is headquartered. When in 2020 I received news of the Foundation's plans for a new Center for Native Arts and Cultures in Portland, I leapt at the opportunity to submit a recommendation to the National Endowment for the Humanities along with the NACF's grant application to that federal agency. The Foundation's successful bid for NEH support is testimony to the excellence of their vision and the significance of the new Center—not only for our state but also for the nation. In writing my NEH letter, I had to ponder how I, as a non-Native non-expert, might best aid the agency in its assessment, and I wish to reiterate here why I believe the Foundation's project merits both generous philanthropic and substantial governmental sponsorship. Having considered the NACF's mission statement and the goals of the Coalition, I write as a member of the general public for whom the NACF aims to "expand awareness and access to Native knowledge" and as an Oregonian eager for "the opportunity to access arts and culture in [my] own community."

I have no doubt that with your endorsement the NACF will be able, as detailed in their letter of interest which I have read, to fulfill the Coalition's goal for organizations "to provide innovative, world-class programming that allows for the export of ideas . . . and creative work while contributing to Oregon's economy and quality of life." While others may emphasize the inarguable value that such work will have for Native artists and audiences, I dwell here instead on what it will mean for a larger population of individuals such as myself, hoping to learn about Native perspectives but with limited opportunities do so—except as filtered through mainstream museums. With the American Alliance of Museums estimating approximately 850 million visits to museums each year in our country, "more than the attendance for all major league sporting events and theme parks combined" (<https://www.aam-us.org/programs/about-museums/museum-facts-data/>), it is not surprising that these institutions play such a significant role in shaping cultural and historical understanding. The centrality of museums in educating children about Native experience past and present is widely recognized, but there is too often a disjunction between narratives of Native life conveyed by mainstream museums and those generated by Native communities themselves.

We are fortunate in Portland to have the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde Center for Native American Art as well as the Center for Contemporary Native Art (CCNA) at the Portland Art Museum, where a Native curator, Kathleen Ash-Milby (Navajo), oversees the collections and collaborates with Native artists on exhibitions. Elsewhere, however, backward-looking and/or unintentionally misleading displays of Native materials persist. A few years ago, for example, I visited a regional museum in central Oregon, whose stated mission is "to explore the High Desert's unique landscape, cultures, wildlife, history, and arts" (<https://highdesertmuseum.org/>), and was shocked to see Native American art represented by an exhibit of *Navajo* jewelry that had been collected by a local white woman and a sculpture by a contemporary artist of *Seneca* descent. These exhibits had nothing to do with peoples native to Oregon; rather, the regrettable impression conveyed was that Indian arts are not unique but interchangeable.

To find authentic displays and programs devoted to regional Native American arts, language, history, and customs, one can travel to more remote areas of our state, to the Tamástlikt Cultural Institute on the Umatilla Reservation in Pendleton, for instance, or The Museum at Warm Springs operated by the three Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Imagine in addition to such important sites in Oregon an independent, entirely Native-run Center in a city where audiences from all over the state, nation, and around the world may access accurate and truthful representations of Native peoples. (Pre-pandemic, in 2018 for example, Portland had 8.6 million visitors, see <https://www.travelportland.com/about-us/research-and-reporting/>.) It is a thrilling prospect and a much needed corrective to misconceptions often perpetuated even today by mainstream cultural and educational institutions no matter how well meaning. Moreover, the national scope of the Center will transcend the necessarily regional purviews of tribal-run institutions such as those mentioned above. The Center's organizational chart includes an exhibitions manager rather than a permanent curator; this plan ensures that Native guest curators will bring to Oregonians and other audiences diverse perspectives, not interchangeable but unique to each curator's respective tribal heritage.

In 2017, I was privileged to attend an NACF dinner and celebration for that year's artist fellows from across the U.S. Without exaggeration I can say that it was one of the most memorable evenings of my life. I was seated at a table with one of the fellows, writer Susan Power (Yanktonai Dakota), a PEN award winner who spoke of her novel in progress, about Native American students at Harvard, her alma mater. Then all guests watched, entranced, as Native Hawaiian dancer/choreographer Christopher Kauai Morgan performed a powerful dance inspired by traditional hula. (I had until then been entirely unaware that hula had in the past been danced by warriors!) Filmmaker Erica Tremblay (Seneca-Cayuga Nation) showed a very moving clip of her documentary then in progress on how (matriarchal) tribes confronted and rehabilitated perpetrators of domestic violence on the reservation. Musician Laura Ortman (White Mountain Apache) performed a mesmerizing original composition on her electric violin. Two things occurred to me at that celebration and sampling of the fellows' work: first, how almost every reliable thing I know about Native Americans has come to me directly or indirectly through their art, and secondly, that in an ideal world the extraordinary experience of the several hundred guests present that evening would be shared universally, with everyone. In this respect, the Center for Native Arts and Cultures is a dream come true.

In her book *Yakama Rising* (Arizona, 2013), Michelle M. Jacob (Yakama) shows through the example of her own people how tribes possess the means for positive social change through grassroots activism and cultural revitalization. She discusses empowering, transgenerational instruction in traditional language, choreography and dance, and food preparation. One can envision how the transformational benefits of transmitting such tribal knowledge might be demonstrated to non-Native populations as well, fostering understanding, respect, and historical empathy. It is exciting to think of a Center for Native Arts and Cultures doing just that, and more, for all Oregonians, in an historic building on repatriated land, with well deserved support from the NEH, private foundations, and—one hopes—our own state legislature and other benefactors. Equally heartening, moreover, is the thought that such an institution will not be compelled like mainstream museums to respond to demands for decolonization—never having been colonized in the first place.

Finally, I understand that the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon is an all-volunteer lobbying organization, and I wish to express my sincere appreciation to its members for their conscientious work in behalf of all our fellow state citizens.

With much gratitude and kind good wishes,



Sue Taylor, Ph.D.  
Professor Emerita of Art History

24 August 2022

/st

# Brenda Mallory

2136 NE 10th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97212  
[www.brendamallory.com](http://www.brendamallory.com)

August 23, 2022

I am writing in support of the Native Arts and Culture Foundation. I believe deeply in the mission of NACF and the way the organization continually and successfully promotes the culture of indigenous people in the United States. They work tirelessly to increase the visibility and success of Native artists in areas of both traditional cultural practices and challenging contemporary art.

As a maker of contemporary art, I have directly benefitted from their programs by receiving a Visual Arts Fellowship in 2016 and a Mentor Artist Fellowship in 2020. While these awards are significant financially, beyond that they create networks and connections between artists and organizations that continue to evolve and provide support and opportunities for years.

The NACF's goal to create a physical center will be valuable to the Native community. As part of the 2016 National Artists Fellowships, NACF held a convening in Portland for all the current year's fellows and other arts professionals. That convening was actually one of the most valuable parts of the fellowship for all of us. I became friends with artists and curators I might otherwise have never met and have been invited to exhibit with them. Over dinner, a conversation led to me becoming a set designer for a choreographer whose performance will travel nationally to multiple venues over the next two years. Being together in a physical space is a special thing for communities that are spread far and wide across reservations and urban settings. Rather than a rare occasion, opportunities for physical convening like that can become ongoing in the NACF's Center for Native Arts and Cultures.

Native artists are not just one kind of artist — we are from multiple tribes, we have different backgrounds, and we have diverse interests. We are visual artists, performers, writers, filmmakers, scholars. NACF acknowledges those differences and promotes the visibility of all Native artists. Having a physical venue like CNAC where we can tell our different stories will help our cultures survive by creating deeper connections within the Native world, but also help us to be more visible and to tell our stories, our *real* stories to broader audiences.

# Painted Sky Center for Arts and Culture



**PAINTED SKY**  
CENTER FOR THE ARTS



**Letters of Support  
for Building Acquisition**

**CREF Full Application 2022**

***Painted Sky Center for the Arts***

118 Washington Street

Canyon City, OR 97820

[paintedskycenter@gmail.com](mailto:paintedskycenter@gmail.com)

(541) 575-1335

**The following letters of support are included in this document:**

1. **Corum Ketchum:** *City Manager, City of John Day*
2. **Sam Palmer:** *Grant County Commissioner*
3. **Representative Mark Owens**
4. **Senator Lynn Findley**
5. **Cheryl Puddy:** *Oregon Community Foundation*
6. **Don Merritt:** *Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site*
7. **Tory Stinnett:** *Grant County Economic Development*
8. **Alicia Griffin:** *PSCA Board President, Parent*
9. **Ryan McKnab:** *PSCA Youth Programs Director, Parent*
10. **Kim Randleas:** *PSCA Executive Director, Parent*
11. **Heidi Brooks:** *PSCA Cultural Department*
12. **Katrina Randleas:** *Parent and John Day City Council Member*
13. **Karin Barntish:** *PSCA Licensed Tax Consultant*
14. **Community Signatures for PSCA Support**



# CITY OF JOHN DAY

mayor  
Ron Lundbom

August 17th, 2022

interim (pro-tem) city  
manager  
Corum Ketchum

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

chief financial officer  
Nicholas Green

RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts

city recorder  
Anna Bass

Dear Sue Hildick,

office manager  
Chantal DesJardin

The City of John Day is in full support of Painted Sky Center for the Arts' application for Cultural Resource Economic Funds (CREF) to purchase a building for an arts and cultural center in John Day at 116 NW Bridge Street.

council  
Dave Holland, President  
Shannon Adair  
Heather Rookstool  
Chris Labhart  
Katrina Randleas  
Elliot Sky

John Day and surrounding Grant County are frontier communities, historically underserved and geographically isolated from the rest of the state, located hours from the nearest metropolitan area. We are working with partners, like Painted Sky Center for The Arts, to revitalize our county's economy and celebrate our unique culture by making investments that provide for both residents and visitors. This facility will provide educational opportunities and access to the arts for people regardless of their age or income, in a place accessible to all.

The building itself is unique in our community. It is large enough to provide quality arts programming, education and performing space, in a location within walking distance of our working families, youth and seniors. It is also adjacent to our most cherished visitor destination, the Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site. The proposed facility capitalizes on investments the State and the City are making in the area, while offering a complimentary experience to the one-of-a-kind collection at Kam Wah Chung.

Enhanced livability, better access to the arts, and a platform for cultural expression are just some of the needs that this project addresses. Current and future generations of Grant County residents will ultimately reap the economic and social benefits that Painted Sky Center for the Arts will provide through this project.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or if you would like to discuss further. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Corum Ketchum, Interim City Manager, City of John Day  
[ketchum@grantcounty-or.gov](mailto:ketchum@grantcounty-or.gov)  
541-620-0003



**GRANT COUNTY COURT**  
Scott W. Myers, County Judge  
Jim Hamsher, Commissioner  
Sam Palmer, Commissioner

August 17, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts

Dear Sue Hildick,

This letter represents my full support of Painted Sky Center for the Arts' application for Cultural Resource Economic Funds (CREF) to purchase a building for an arts and cultural center in John Day at 116 NW Bridge Street. The art center is in desperate need of expansion and new location due the high demand of art services and programming from our local residents.

Being a lifelong resident and Commissioner of Grant County, I have never seen an organization make the impact that Painted Sky Center for the Arts has in by connecting people with community in a creative space. I have witnessed Grant County become stronger and more vibrant ever since the inception of the art center in 2018. The art center started as a grassroots initiative that has grown exponentially to offer robust programming, events, classes and workshops for all residents and visitors of Grant County. Before Painted Sky, there were no art services and any programming in schools was very limited, as we live in a remote, frontier community where resources are limited.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of Painted Sky Center for the Arts as they seek funding to purchase the building located at 116 NW Bridge Street in John Day, Oregon. I encourage the Coalition to consider endorsing this project, as it will make a tremendous positive impact to our community, improving our economic assets and quality of life in Grant County. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sam Palmer".

Sam Palmer  
Grant County Commissioner

August 23, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts

Dear Sue Hildick,

It is with great enthusiasm that I share my strong support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts' application for Cultural Resource Economic Funds (CREF) to purchase a building for an arts and cultural center in John Day at 116 NW Bridge Street. This project is an absolute need and will be a great benefit to the residents, communities, and economy of Grant County.

As a geographically isolated, underfunded, under-resourced, and sparsely populated frontier county, Grant County has lacked amenities and resources. Additionally, Grant County's creative assets are underdeveloped and there is a need to expedite the creation of a permanent and sustainable arts and cultural center. Painted Sky Center for the Arts' new building will enhance the quality of life by enriching and diversifying the economy in the Eastern Oregon region.. The acquisition and renovation of the new facility will not only improve the health of the broader economy in Grant County, accessing the arts will offer economic diversification and increase Grant County's ability to recover from economic downturns.

Painted Sky Center for the Arts has my full support in pursuing CREF funds and if there is anything I can do or any other way I can help move this project forward, please contact me. I can be reached at (541) 589-2379 or [Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:Rep.MarkOwens@oregonlegislature.gov).

Sincerely,



Representative Mark Owens  
Oregon House District 60

August 18, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Sue Hildick, Senior Advisor  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

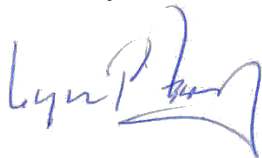
To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to formally recommend the Painted Sky Center for Arts and Culture for a Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon Capital Construction Grant. Promoting cultural development in rural Oregon is vital in small communities, such as Canyon City.

Being such an isolated community, a center such as this fills a large need in many ways. Bringing tourism to Grant County is extremely beneficial to the local economy. Adding art and culture to enrich the lives of the local community, where it is otherwise lacking, is an immeasurable benefit.

Thank you for the consideration of the Painted Sky Center for Arts and Culture project. I look forward to visiting the Painted Sky Center once completed. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lynn P. Findley". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Lynn P. Findley



August 16, 2022

To: Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
From: Oregon Community Foundation  
Re: Letter of Reference for Painted Sky Center for the Arts

The Oregon Community Foundation has partnered with Juniper Arts Council for the past 10 years to support arts programming in Grant county. More recently we have supported the development and expansion of Painted Sky Center for the Arts. Support has come from our Community Grants program as well as from our Small Arts & Culture program, the Oregon Arts & Culture Recovery Program and the K12 Summer Learning program which the State of Oregon requested us to administer in 2021. OCF Donor Advised funds also frequently contribute to Painted Sky Center for the Arts realizing the importance of maintaining a vibrant arts community in rural spaces.



Grant review comments highlight that the Painted Sky Center for the Arts events and program offerings are varied and unique, with the potential to bring long lasting positive change to a rural community with few other opportunities for enrichment. Volunteers are engaged and well organized and staff commitment to equity and inclusion is demonstrated through outreach to various sectors of the community.

Painted Sky Center for the Arts has established strong community collaborations with buy-in and support from the City as well as other local entities and organizations. They serve an at-risk community with higher-than-average levels of poverty in a region isolated from other opportunities for arts & cultural interactions. The expansion into a space with improved access for community comes at a perfect time in their evolution to meet the demands of resident's eager for connection to the arts and visitors excited to see small town culture.

Feel free to reach out for any questions or clarifications.  
Sincerely,

Cheryl Puddy  
Program Officer for Central & Eastern Oregon  
cpuddy@oregoncf.org



# Oregon

August 23, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick:

Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site (KWC), a unit within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), is excited to support Painted Sky Center for the Arts (PSCA) in their endeavor to have a new permanent arts facility here in John Day, Oregon. The new facility will help preserve an historic middle school and will be ideal to provide a more immersive and inclusive experience to our nearly 10,000 visitors to the Kam Wah Chung Museum. By having a new cultural and arts facility close to Kam Wah Chung, visitors will have the option of visiting the art center as they wait for guided tours of KWC and in the process be exposed to Chinese arts and culture. More importantly, KWC will be able to invite Chinese artists, cultural historians, and researchers to this remote part of Oregon. The addition of the art facility will allow an ongoing partnership between PSCA and Oregon State Parks, where we can hold annual or anniversary gatherings that can accommodate more than the 25-person occupancy level OPRD currently has on site. The partnership could also allow visiting artisans to have exhibit space for their work related to Chinese heritage and culture.

We are excited about this partnership because it allows us to reach Oregon, national and international residents, that might not have visited Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site, and helps us in fulfilling one of our departmental goals: *“Preserve Oregon’s rich cultural heritage and broaden public understanding of Oregon’s historic places and events.”* Programs at the new arts facility in John Day, Oregon will allow us to help broaden public understanding of the rich cultural heritage Oregon has to offer.

We are committed to and looking forward to working with the Painted Sky Center for the Arts on their project to enhance the communities of Grant County, Oregon.

Sincerely

Don Merritt  
Museum Curator  
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department



August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

**RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts**

Dear Sue Hildick,

Grant County Economic Development is in full support of Painted Sky Center for the Arts' (PSCA) application for Cultural Resource Economic Funds (CREF) to purchase a building for an arts and cultural center in John Day, at 116 NW Bridge Street. Each year PSCA continues to grow programming with a D.E.I lens so that children and adults in Grant County are able to have the opportunity to participate in the various impactful artisan classes. PSCA is the only organization of its kind in Grant County. With the rate of their successful growth, a larger facility is needed.

Being an isolated frontier community with limited artisan opportunities for our youth, it is essential for their programming to continue to grow and thrive. With over one third of our population being seniors, it is crucial to our local economy to enhance opportunities for children and their parents to want to move and work in our area. The after-school programming is also impactful for the parents in our area. In a county that is greatly lacking in accessible childcare, PSCA can deliver enriching, creative opportunities for our youth while also doubling as childcare for our working parents.

Revitalizing an older building and repurposing it to serve as the artisan hub for our County directly aligns with our Grant County Economic Development Strategic Plan, Initiative 5: Culture and Recreation. This opportunity to expand the amenities and programing delivered by PSCA is not only expanding opportunities for our artisan community. This is also a direct impact for our local economy that struggles to retain our youth and working families.

Grant County Economic Development is in full support of Painted Sky Center for the Arts application to enrich the lives of the residents in our great County.

Sincerely,



Tory Stinnett, Director  
Grant County Economic Development

August 23, 2022

Sue Hildick  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

**RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts**

Dear Ms. Hildick,

My name is Alicia Griffin. I am a local active volunteer in our community. I am currently the Board Chair for Painted Sky Center For The Arts, Board Vice chair for Grant School District No.3, Board Vice Chair for Humbolt Elementary PTA, and a local small business owner. I have been involved with Painted Sky since it was just an idea. I have been an integral part of developing our very successful youth programs and continue to volunteer as the Director of Operations.

Painted Sky Center for the Arts has been a game changer in our community for so many families and individuals. I have worked closely with hundreds of our local youth through Painted Sky, from theater directing to teaching after school programs. It has been such an honor to be involved in all we have to offer our community.

Our youth programs offer our students with everything from art history, culture, fiber and dimensional arts, technique, music and performing arts, and so much more. Recently due to grant funding we were able to open up registration to an additional 70+ children. Thanks to our local school district we were able to be accommodated by the elementary school. Our current facility can only accommodate 30 children at Max capacity due to the limited rooms and room sizes. It was very difficult to have to turn away those additional children once we had to return to our facility due to the school preparing for the new school year. Many families were impacted as we live in a Child Care Desert, meaning we do not have enough child care locally to accommodate the need. We have been able to impact children on every developmental level from autism, to Spina bifida, to behavioral and social emotionally inhibited children. A new facility would greatly improve not only the number of children we serve but also aid in accommodating their special needs.

Over the summer we have been able to involve many local teens in classes such as ceramics, cake decorating, and painting. We also gave many of them work experience through our youth programs and our community outreach activities such as outdoor movies in the High School Football Field, Saturday Markets, and Street Fairs. They helped set up theater equipment and concessions, then were able to gain some customer service skills by offering popcorn, cotton candy, and shaved ice. We also have been able to work with the juvenile services, and mental health services to help meet the needs of teens at risk and need to be involved. Not only in

classes to learn skills but also for community service opportunities which are also limited in our small rural area.

During these summer activities we have been able to engage in many community partnerships with entities such as the Grant County Library, John Day Canyon City Parks and Recreation, Community Counseling Solutions, Community Health Improvement Plan and their Go Outside Campaign, Advantage Dental Group, Grant School District No.3, SNAP ed services, and the City of Mt. Vernon.

Our Leather and Ceramics Departments are running very well and classes fill up regularly, along with Visual Arts and the acrylic paint nights. The Literary Department is busy gearing up for November's NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) and reading and writing nights. The performing arts department has been very successful in years past with engaging the community youth in wonderful holiday performances. The community looks forward to Painted Sky's performances around the holidays and fill up our limited performance venues every time. The new proposed facility will help enable us to do more performances annually and will accommodate a much larger audience. It's been very difficult to find performance venues as our current facility does not have one and we have to rely on the couple limited spaces in the area. COVID closed our community center that we were using without notice, luckily the Elks Lodge was able to host us the last couple of years. Their performance space has no lighting and audio for our shows, no backstage, and can only house 60 or so viewers per show. We have graciously pushed forward in less than optimal circumstances as our kids and community love what we do. It's very exciting to think about the possibilities with our very own performance space with the necessary equipment and stage to allow us to engage in more performers and viewers.

Every time I'm out in the community I get stopped and receive such high praises for what we've accomplished and the positive changes people have seen in the community thanks to Painted Sky Center for the Arts. I am very much in support of this application for the CREF funding for the new building for Painted Sky, and am excited to help in that growth and transition. I know the community is too. Thank you for this opportunity and consideration.

Respectfully,



Alicia Griffin

801-623-1132

August 19, 2022

Sue Hildick  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Ms. Hildick,

My name is Ryan McKnab and I am the Youth Programs Director of Painted Sky Center for the Arts in Grant County. I am also a parent of two of our students. During my time here at Painted Sky I have implemented and experienced many things the art center does to help bring support to families within Grant County.

Painted Sky provides support to working families by establishing an after-school arts program so parents don't need to leave work early to provide care for their kids. At the art center, kids are exposed to various art techniques and themes. Last school year each day of the week had a theme of painting, drawing, writing, sculpting, movie making, fiber arts, or movement arts. Having a variety of themes kept the student engaged with the lessons. My kids were always proud of what they created and were more than willing to show it off to anyone.

This summer, Painted Sky provided a free youth art camp to our county. Each week's theme was focused on a different region of the world from Baltic Nations, East Coast America, East Asia, Brazil, France, Egypt, Rural America, Australia, France, and Caribbean Nations. The kids learned about the cultures, history, geography, and arts of these regions. One artist style we focused on more was music. This summer Ms. Rigby each week taught the kids two songs; one song focused on cultural life in the country and one song in the language of the country. I had a blast listening to my kids sing to me in Lithuanian, Portuguese, or Egyptian. Much of the summer we moved into the local elementary school to teach arts and provide care there. This move to Humbolt Elementary allowed us to serve many more families. We served 96 different kids, averaged 40 students a day, at Humbolt, while at the much smaller art center we saw 36 different kids, averaged 20. Throughout the summer the art center has logged 1573 kid visits. That reflects a big, direct relief for parents to focus on work and family necessities..

The move to the elementary school was also to work with the school to help provide Summer School. Humbolt Elementary offered extra reading and math courses over the summer. Since these were not full day instructions, the Summer School times were from 9-12. We reached out to several parents asking if they would be attending Summer School, but several said they would not because that times for drop off and pick up conflicted with their jobs. We coordinated with the school to provide youth art camp from 8am - 5pm, Mondays through Fridays. We had several families then take their kids before Summer School and pick up after it was completed

for the day because their kids were learning art with us. We provided 478 kids days to families specific to kids who attend Summer School this summer.

Another very specific benefit to being at the elementary school is the handicap accessibility. At our current location we are on multiple levels, so moving around the building is difficult for those with difficulty moving. When we were at Humbolt, we were able to serve a young boy who is wheelchair bound with cerebral palsy. He is home bound and does not socialize. We were able to give him his first real time with a bunch of other kids. He is mostly non verbal, but he still expressed great happiness with his time with other kids. His parents reached out to us several times to share their appreciation for the activities and care we provide. If we had our own facility with one level and better accessibility we could much more easily reach a bigger market and provide care to those who are missing it currently.

We are always asked about upcoming events for the youth. We have the next school year already planned with a different fun theme each week. The themes mostly are chosen to contemplate the holidays near that week or current science or cultural themes that are front and center in our world. For instance we have weeks to learn about 'space' with an emphasis on discoveries made by our space telescopes. We also will have a week that will focus on indigeneous peoples, to reflect that week's holiday.

Living in Grant County has its benefits in that the countryside is so open here and we have little delay driving through towns because so few people live here. It is a peaceful life here in Grant County. But, living in a small community also means that we have fewer services. As a parent I have directly benefited by being able to send my kids to the after-school arts. This has allowed me and my wife to work full days.

Another aspect of big city living that I miss now that we have moved to Grant County is being able to watch movies. Last year Painted Sky purchased a very high quality outdoor cinema and we showed free movies at the small park next to our art center. My family loved going to movies with friends. This year the movie system moved to our local high school football field and we were able to provide much more seating and parking. This allowed us to double the movie audience.

We have seen and directly measured that when we have a bigger facility more families will take advantage. Citizens of Grant County very much depend on the services Painted Sky Center for the Arts provide. If we had a bigger campus I am confident we would see an immediate increase in the number of families we serve. I am always told how much difference we are making in the lives of the families we work with now; I would like to expand our reach to more families.

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan McKnab', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ryan McKnab

August 24, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts

Dear Sue Hildick,

I've been an active volunteer with Painted Sky Center for the Arts from day one. I have owned and operated multiple businesses in Grant County in various sectors, including a restaurant, hotel, clothing store, housing developments, and a mechanical repair and towing facility. These businesses have been hugely successful and experienced large year-over-year gains and high-profit margins.

In 2011, my entrepreneurial activities slowed, and I became a professional fine artist showing my work around the northwest. As a life-long resident of Grant County, I began to long for the art scenes and art friends of Montana, Wyoming, and Northern Idaho that I so often visited to show my artwork. Deep roots in Grant County and a desire for a vibrant art scene led to considerable heartache. How does one continue living in a place that does not have all the elements needed for healthy living? If one element is missing, you must seek that element out!

In early 2018, I had an "idea" to rent a small shop building so a few artists could make art together. This would, at least, put a few people with like minds, together, in one place, sharing the activity of making art. I called a few artists I knew and organized a few meetings at a local restaurant. At that time, I had absolutely no idea how great the need was! People came out of the woodwork! Artists, making work and selling out of town, moms who loved living in a small town but desperately wanted arts and cultural activities for their kids, and community members who felt isolated without activities to do with friends. Hundreds of people were feeling the same way I was, deeply rooted in Grant County, and longing for more, but not quite able to pinpoint what was missing until we started talking about "the arts." But the need was great, and the need was immediate! Work needed to be done, and done quickly.

Fortuitously, very early, I met two people with the same passion for the arts, professional backgrounds, and desire for community development, Alicia Griffin, and Allision Field. At the first meeting I held, I met Alicia Griffin. Alicia has a business, music, theater, and childcare background, is an advocate for children, and is Vice Chair of the Grant Union School Board. Alicia has been the main driver behind the hugely successful children's programs, developing the county's first-ever after-school program, summer camps, toddler classes, kindergarten readiness classes, and outdoor movies. Alicia has also been the driver behind successful collaborations with the library, parks and recreation, the school district, and multiple other agencies.

Allision Field was working for Grant County Economic Development the first time we talked about the art center. She called me on a Sunday with an air of great excitement! She listened intently while I told her about making art together and some kid's programs. While this idea was

exciting, it wasn't quite enough for Allison. She envisioned a "regional arts and cultural center." And so, it began just a few short years ago. The three of us had a dream to transform a community through art. Three distinct but related goals. Three people with similar passions, diverse backgrounds, and talents with an extreme passion for making something great. And something great it is!

We started from ground zero. The first thing we did was hold an art show and concert. We gathered about 25 volunteers and raised about \$3,500. With that, we rented a building in Canyon City and hired a teacher for an after-school program. We knew we could sustain the operation with the tuition from the after-school program. Next, we started building. Building a volunteer network, building our systems, and building our bank account.

We've grown to two rented spaces, a certified 501(c)3, a board of directors, 6 employees, 9 departments, dozens of contracted teachers, 70 volunteers, about 900 people served, a half-million dollar budget, and we are bursting at the seams. Our kids are packed into too small classrooms, our departments are in small, outdated buildings that are not accessible, and our theater department has been rotating between spaces that are sorely inadequate.

We desperately need more space and more staff. The need is great, and the need is urgent! The timing and details of this acquisition couldn't be more perfect. The facility is the only one in town that suits all of our needs for programming, exhibition, and performance space. The building has existing long-term tenants as a reliable income stream, making us financially independent, and is right across the street from the brand new Kam Wah Chung interpretive center site. It's also close to downtown and low-income housing. The building owners have agreed to excellent terms making our first phase 100% funded with CREF funding.

As an experienced business owner, a life-long resident of Grant County, and one of Painted Sky's founders, I can attest that this organization has tremendous momentum, local bipartisan support, and is financially stable. The acquisition of this facility is not just a desire, it's a necessity. The City of John Day has recently raised millions in federal and state funds to revive the economy of our remote and disadvantaged community. Much-needed infrastructure is being built, and revitalization is underway, but those investments will not be effective without a well-rounded approach that includes arts and culture. Arts and culture is the driver that will help repopulate rural Oregon, and the acquisition of this property places the missing piece in the puzzle of our local economy.

With gratitude,



Kim Randleas

# PAINTED SKY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

118 S. Washington Street

Canyon City, OR 97820

[www.paintedskycenter.com](http://www.paintedskycenter.com)

Phone: (541) 575-1335

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August 25, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon

Cultural Resource Economic Fund

PO Box 9160

Portland, OR 97207

## **Re: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts**

Dear Sue Hildick,

Culture and history play a crucial role in the lives of Eastern Oregonians, in our economy, and in our future.

It is important, if not imperative, that we preserve and share the rich diverse culture and history that survives in historical photographs depicting the natural landscape of our region; petroglyphs etched into the walls of our cliffs, caves and gorges by Native Americans; written narratives of Grant County pioneers depicting the lives of settlers of various nationalities to include African Americans, Asians, South Americans and European Immigrants; Chinese diggings discovered in the Malheur Forest and various other cultural/historical landmarks and records.

We are at a point where we need funding for a building where artists and cultural/historical researchers can work in partnership to host cultural and historical programs and classes.

There are instructors, artists, authors, and cultural non-profit agencies that have expressed an interest in offering classes, workshops and lectures to the public. For example, the Oregon Black Pioneers group is interested in collaborating with us to present the history of Columbus and Louisa Sewell, who are known to be the first and only Black Pioneers to settle in Grant County in the 1860s.

In conclusion, Painted Sky Center for the Arts' passion and mission is to trailblaze a path for a Cultural Arts Center in the heart of Grant County. Our rural community lacks cultural opportunities for people of all ages and unfortunately, it also lacks the financial funding we need to purchase a building that would serve as a venue to enhance cultural education and art.

Sincerely,



Heidi Brooks

Cultural Department Director



Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts

Dear Sue Hildick,

I am writing in support of Painted Sky Center for the Arts. For more than a year my son has attended the summer and afterschool programming that Painted Sky provides. Having a reliable, consistent place for my child to go after school and when there is no school has proven to be very valuable for our family. Prior to having the option of Painted Sky, we had to evaluate each day where the bus would take him and who he would be with for the time between school and when we were done with work. As you can imagine that inconsistency takes a toll not just on our child, but also on our entire family and our careers.

Painted Sky has worked diligently to provide enriching opportunities for students. My son has learned to explore a variety of media while enjoying creating art. Additionally, he has been offered music lessons, foreign language opportunities, and physical exercise. Additionally, he has learned about cultures other than our own, and the teachers at Painted Sky encourage him to branch out and try new things.

It is my belief that in a frontier community, our economy relies on parents being able to work and provide necessary services for the residents. Without a safe and stable place for children to go after school, we lose vital members of the workforce. I encourage you to consider funding Painted Sky Center for the Arts so that they can continue to offer programming for not only my son, but all families in our area.

Thank you for your consideration. Please reach out to me at [katrandleas@gmail.com](mailto:katrandleas@gmail.com) if I can provide further information.

Sincerely,



Katrina Randleas, M.S. IMH-E®

August 17, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Cultural Resource Economic Fund  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

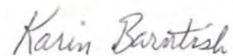
RE: Letter of Support for Painted Sky Center for the Arts

Dear Sue Hildick,

I've been involved with Painted Sky Center for the Arts as their bookkeeper and tax accountant from its inception in 2018. Since their founding, Painted Sky Center for the Arts has been aggressive in their fundraising efforts, conservative in their budgeting, and fiscally responsible. The leadership at Painted Sky works daily to ensure they are financially stable and sustainable long-term. Purchasing the property on Bridge Street in John Day is not only a smart financial move for Painted Sky; the long-term leases will ensure the art center remains financially stable long into the future. The purchase of the new building will also allow Painted Sky to increase programming, hire new staff, and expand its cultural offerings to residents and tourists alike.

I am in strong support of Painted Sky Center for the Arts purchasing the building at 116 NW Bridge Street in John Day and believe this new location will make a significant positive impact economically to our community.

Sincerely,



Karin Bantish, LTC

## PAM Cut

August 22, 2022

Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue,

It is our pleasure to submit this letter of support for the Portland Art Museum's Center for an Untold Tomorrow (PAM CUT)'s application to the Cultural Resource Economic Fund.

PAM CUT's programming needs a new space during the construction of the Rothko Pavilion. When our property, the old Oregon Theater location, came up as a potential location for the future of PAM CUT's programs, we couldn't have been more thrilled to become a partner. The new Tomorrow Theater will not just be another movie theater, it will become a new cultural hub on the East side for Portland's art community. Under Director of PAM CUT Amy Dotson's leadership, the space is certain to provide an entirely new cultural experience for our community.

As owners of the property that will house the Tomorrow Theater, we support the proposed renovation plans, understanding that these changes will increase access and introduce many to media arts, storytelling, and performance. Furthermore, we verify that PAM CUT has leased the property, with options to extend the lease and right of first offer to purchase the Oregon Theater Building. PAM CUT has the authority to implement the proposed renovations.

Thank you for your consideration,

DocuSigned by:  
  
QC4F76F25B044DB...  
Kevin Cavanaugh  
Guerilla Development

July 28, 2022

Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue,

It is our pleasure to submit this letter of support for the Portland Art Museum's Center for an Untold Tomorrow (PAM CUT)'s application to the Cultural Resource Economic Fund.

PAM CUT's programming needs a new space during the construction of the Rothko Pavilion. When our property, the old Oregon Theater location, came up as a potential location for the future of PAM CUT's programs, we couldn't have been more thrilled to become a partner. The new Tomorrow Theater will not just be another movie theater, it will become a new cultural hub on the East side for Portland's art community. Under Director of PAM CUT Amy Dotson's leadership, the space is certain to provide an entirely new cultural experience for our community.

As owners of the property that will house the Tomorrow Theater, we support the proposed renovation plans, understanding that these changes will increase access and introduce many to media arts, storytelling, and performance. Furthermore, we verify that PAM CUT has leased the property and has the authority to implement the proposed renovations.

Thank you for your consideration,

DocuSigned by:  
  
16AC432CD6AF415...  
Lana Finley

DocuSigned by:  
  
4EEFE16E9F86480...  
Christian Finley



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

August 22, 2022

Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

SUBJECT: Support for PAM CUT's (formerly the Portland Art Museum's Northwest Film Center) request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater

Dear Sue Hildick:

Thank you for all you do for the arts and cultural sector in Oregon. As you know, in my district, culture is a vibrant part of our daily lives and community, and it makes for diverse and lively neighborhoods. It is also something I am extremely passionate about, which is why I've prioritized relief funding for arts and cultures throughout the pandemic and will again in the upcoming session.

I am also excited to support PAM CUT's (formerly the Portland Art Museum's Northwest Film Center) request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater and would ask that you support this project as part of your package for the arts and cultural sector. Occupying the former Oregon Theater space in my legislative district, the Tomorrow Theater will be fully refurbished into a newly designed theater and performance space. Programs at The Tomorrow Theater will bring together our community—families, artists, partners across the city, cinephiles, and more—to celebrate and explore diversity in media arts by experiencing stories that reflect different voices and perspectives, challenging for whom, by whom, and how cinematic stories are told.

These programs underscore and affirm PAM CUT's commitment to LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC communities by celebrating their stories and challenging the cannon. The Tomorrow Theater will give the spotlight to artists in these communities, featuring guest curators and Theater staff that reflect the diversity PAM CUT is championing. The Tomorrow Theater will also provide an enticing, contemporary



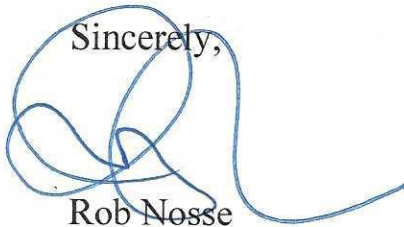
space on the East side of the river for showcasing new and exciting work by both regional and international media artists.

I recently got a tour of the work that is in progress and trust me this is going to be an exciting space and really change the way the Eastside is seen when it comes to the arts. I'm thrilled to see this sector continue to grow and evolve in the wake of the pandemic and find encouragement in new creative ventures that are on the horizon. Again, I'm excited that PAM CUT is creating a brand-new exhibition space – The Tomorrow Theater – on Portland's east side for immersive, cinematic experiences of all kinds.

I would ask that you support this expansion of the arts in my community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rob Nosse  
State Representative  
HD 42 Inner SE and NE Portland

**JANELLE S. BYNUM**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 51

**COMMUNITIES**

East Portland  
Damascus  
Gresham  
Boring  
Clackamas  
Happy Valley

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

August 11, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick,

I would respectfully ask that the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon join me in supporting \$250,000 in capital construction funding for PAM CUT's (formerly the Northwest Film Center) renovation of their new programmatic venue -- The Tomorrow Theater.

Representing the Portland-Metro region, I have experienced the value of the Portland Art Museum to our community and greatly appreciate their commitment to equity and access, which is evident through their community-centered collaboration and partnerships. This project champions cultural equity and embraces storytelling in all its many forms across the globe, as well as support for the artists who want to express themselves.

PAM CUT's immersive and unbound approach to cinema is resonating with audiences and strategic community partnerships with organizations that serve culturally diverse audiences. Significantly, this effort aims to uplift the voices of artists from marginalized communities, an effort that I am passionate about and want to see expanded. Currently, 50 percent of those who participate in the artist residency and Sustainability Labs programs are BIPOC, female-identifying, LGBTQIA+, or Disabled artists. This expansion will not only be a new cultural hub for our region, but it will also be a significant investment with meaningful economic impact. This expansion provides a new space for diverse artist and audiences in the Richmond Neighborhood, in the East side. The theater will activate a residential neighborhood while removing barriers to arts access experienced in Downtown Portland, such as limited and/or expensive parking opportunities and lengthy public transportation commutes.

I ask that you join me in supporting Cultural Resource Economic Funds for this project, and partner in helping the Tomorrow Theater become a new cultural hub on the East side of Portland's art community.

Sincerely,

Representative Janelle Bynum, District 51



August 22, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick,

Thank you for all that you do for the arts and cultural sector in Oregon. Culture is a vibrant part of our daily lives and community, which creates diverse and alive neighborhoods. I'm writing in support PAM CUT's request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater and ask that you support this project as part of your package for the arts and cultural sector.

Occupying the former Oregon Theater space, the Tomorrow Theater will be fully refurbished into a newly designed theater and performance space. Programs at The Tomorrow Theater will bring together our community—families, artists, partners across the city, cinephiles, and more—to celebrate and explore diversity in media arts by experiencing stories that reflect different voices and perspectives, challenging for whom, by whom, and how cinematic stories are told.

These programs underscore and affirm PAM CUT's commitment to LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC communities by celebrating their stories and challenging the canon. The Tomorrow Theater will give the spotlight to artists in these communities, featuring guest curators and Theater staff that reflect the diversity PAM CUT is championing. The Tomorrow Theater will also provide an enticing, contemporary space for showcasing new and exciting work by both regional and international media artists.

As a long time supporter and attendee of Oregon's historic performance and cinema spaces, I'm thrilled to see this sector continue to grow and evolve in the wake of the pandemic, and find encouragement in new creative ventures that are on the horizon. I'm excited that PAM CUT is creating a brand-new exhibition space – The Tomorrow Theater – on Portland's east side for immersive, cinematic experiences of all kinds. I would ask that you support this expansion of the arts in this community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Williams".

TIM WILLIAMS  
Executive Director

# SHADOWMACHINE

August 16, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick,

Thank you for all that you do for the arts and cultural sector in Oregon. Culture is a vibrant part of our daily lives and community, which creates diverse and alive neighborhoods. As a film producer and owner of Shadowmachine, I'm excited to support PAM CUT's request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater and ask that you support this project as part of your package for the arts and cultural sector.

Occupying the former Oregon Theater space, the Tomorrow Theater will be fully refurbished into a newly designed theater and performance space. Programs at The Tomorrow Theater will bring together our community—families, artists, partners across the city, cinephiles, and more—to celebrate and explore diversity in media arts by experiencing stories that reflect different voices and perspectives, challenging for whom, by whom, and how cinematic stories are told.

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I'm thrilled to see this sector continue to grow and evolve in the wake of the pandemic, and find encouragement in new creative ventures that are on the horizon. I'm excited that PAM CUT is creating a brand-new exhibition space – The Tomorrow Theater – on Portland's east side for immersive, cinematic experiences of all kinds. I would ask that you support this expansion of the arts in Portland's community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Alex Bulkley

**2233 NW 22ND Ave Portland, OR 97210**

August 16, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick,

Thank you for all that you do for the arts and cultural sector in Oregon. Culture is a vibrant part of our daily lives and community, which creates diverse and alive neighborhoods. As a director and PAM CUT Cinema Unbound Award recipient, I'm excited to support PAM CUT's request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater and ask that you support this project as part of your package for the arts and cultural sector.

Occupying the former Oregon Theater space, the Tomorrow Theater will be fully refurbished into a newly designed theater and performance space. Programs at The Tomorrow Theater will bring together our community—families, artists, partners across the city, cinephiles, and more— to celebrate and explore diversity in media arts by experiencing stories that reflect different voices and perspectives, challenging for whom, by whom, and how cinematic stories are told.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gus Van Sant



August 26, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick,

Thank you for all that you do for the arts and cultural sector in Oregon. Culture is a vibrant part of our daily lives and community, which creates diverse and alive neighborhoods. As a former participant in PAM CUT's Sustainability Labs I'm excited to support PAM CUT's request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater and ask that you support this project as part of your package for the arts and cultural sector.

Occupying the former Oregon Theater space, the Tomorrow Theater will be fully refurbished into a newly designed theater and performance space. Programs at The Tomorrow Theater will bring together our community—families, artists, partners across the city, cinephiles, and more— to celebrate and explore diversity in media arts by experiencing stories that reflect different voices and perspectives, challenging for whom, by whom, and how cinematic stories are told.

These programs underscore and affirm PAM CUT's commitment to LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC communities by celebrating their stories and challenging the cannon. The Tomorrow Theater will give the spotlight to artists in these communities, featuring guest curators and Theater staff that reflect the diversity PAM CUT is championing. The Tomorrow Theater will also provide an enticing, contemporary space for showcasing new and exciting work by both regional and international media artists.

I'm thrilled to see this sector continue to grow and evolve in the wake of the pandemic, and find encouragement in new creative ventures that are on the horizon. I'm excited that PAM CUT is creating a brand-new exhibition space – The Tomorrow Theater – on Portland's east side for immersive, cinematic experiences of all kinds. I would ask that you support this expansion of the arts in Portland's community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jesse Blanchard  
Writer/Director  
Goat & Yeti

August 16, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick,

Thank you for all that you do for the arts and cultural sector in Oregon. Culture is such a vibrant part of our daily lives and community – it sustains diverse and alive neighborhoods. As a media artist, former PAM CUT Cinema Unbound Award recipient and long-time Oregonian, I'm excited to support PAM CUT's request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater and ask that you support this innovative and inclusive project as part of your package for the arts and cultural sector.

Occupying the former Oregon Theater space in SE Portland, the Tomorrow Theater will be fully refurbished into a newly designed theater and performance space. Programs at The Tomorrow Theater will bring together our community—families, artists, partners across the city, cinephiles, and more— to celebrate and explore diversity in media arts by experiencing stories that reflect different voices and perspectives, challenging for whom, by whom, and how cinematic stories are told.

These programs underscore and affirm PAM CUT's commitment to LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC communities by celebrating their stories and challenging the cannon. The Tomorrow Theater will give the spotlight to artists in these communities, featuring guest curators and Theater staff that reflect the diversity PAM CUT is championing. The Tomorrow Theater will also provide an enticing, contemporary space for showcasing new and exciting work by both regional and international media artists.

My association with PAMCUT, formerly the NW Film Center, runs deep. I know the difference supportive institutions can make for underrepresented voices. I applaud PAMCUT's initiative and vision in shaping and evolving film/media arts out of the pandemic and into new creative ventures on the horizon. I'm personally and professionally excited that PAM CUT is creating a brand-new exhibition space – The Tomorrow Theater – on Portland's east side for immersive, cinematic experiences of all kinds. Media plays an ever-increasing role in our social and cultural landscape. We need an inviting and versatile space for a broadening array of voices and media. I would urge you to support this important expansion of the arts in Portland's community. It is one that will give back big returns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rose Bond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Rose Bond  
Media Artist  
PNCA Professor Emeritus

August 26, 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

Dear Sue Hildick,

Thank you for all that you do for the arts and cultural sector in Oregon. Culture is a vibrant part of our daily lives and community, which creates diverse and alive neighborhoods. As Portland Art Museum Trustee and PAM CUT New Media Committee member, I'm excited to support PAM CUT's request for \$250,000 in Cultural Resource Economic Funds for The Tomorrow Theater and ask that you support this project as part of your package for the arts and cultural sector.

Occupying the former Oregon Theater space, the Tomorrow Theater will be fully refurbished into a newly designed theater and performance space. Programs at The Tomorrow Theater will bring together our community—families, artists, partners across the city, cinephiles, and more— to celebrate and explore diversity in media arts by experiencing stories that reflect different voices and perspectives, challenging for whom, by whom, and how cinematic stories are told.

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I'm thrilled to see this sector continue to grow and evolve in the wake of the pandemic, and find encouragement in new creative ventures that are on the horizon. I'm excited that PAM CUT is creating a brand-new exhibition space – The Tomorrow Theater – on Portland's east side for immersive, cinematic experiences of all kinds. I would ask that you support this expansion of the arts in Portland's community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Roger Brue McHayle  
Global Senior Director  
Nike

# Portland Institute for Contemporary Arts



**OREGON STATE SENATE**  
**900 COURT STREET ST NE**  
**SALEM, OREGON 97301**

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Sue Hildick, Senior Advisor  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

August 26, 2020

To the Cultural Advocacy Coalition:

I am writing to you today to express my endorsement of the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art's proposal for necessary repairs and improvements to their facility in the Eliot Neighborhood of N/NE Portland. I am honored to represent their facility as the State Senator for District 22.

PICA is in need of urgent building repairs and electrical infrastructure upgrades that will help maximize the organization's operational efficiency and labor for arts activity. This includes roof repair and re-insulation, sewer line repair, resurfacing areas for exhibition, and distribution of data and electrical cabling for the facility. Making these improvements will not only help PICA in delivering their own programs but also reduce costs and labor for the many community organizations with whom they work to provide space and other resources.

PICA is an integral part of our community as a contemporary art center in the vicinity of an historically African-American, mixed-use neighborhood that has been heavily impacted by gentrification and historic and ongoing displacement. In understanding this history and dynamic, this organization has worked to establish trusted relationships and partnerships with a number of local organizations, artists, and organizers that aim to advance creative opportunities for historically marginalized communities.

Their building is not just their own, and the facility's efficiency and sustainability are also paramount to the success of PICA's diverse roster of partners and collaborators. These include the Black Art Ecology of Portland (BAEP) project led by artist Sharita Towne, which develops networks and spaces that remap historical and contemporary Black creative life in our city, and the First Nations Performance Network – a trans-national, Indigenous-led resource that aims to increase the quantity, impact, and capacity for Indigenous performance locally and internationally. PICA is a lead partner for both of these initiatives, with whom they will be working with to provide artist residencies, a Black artist-run print shop, staffing, and more.

These improvements are a vital first step to ensure that PICA's facility can continue to be a resource for local artists, audiences, arts workers, and community organizers. They will help place PICA in a position to continue fundraising and securing support to make improvements that optimize their building – one that is ready to be more responsive, efficient, and accessible to our community and that offers locals a place to gather, create, celebrate, and organize. I hope you will join me in advocating for this project.

Sincerely,

Lew Frederick  
State Senator  
District 22 – N & NE Portland



29 August 2022

Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon  
Sue Hildick  
Senior Advisor  
PO Box 9160  
Portland, OR 97207

To the Cultural Advocacy Coalition:

My name is Sharita Towne, and I am writing to express my support for the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art's (PICA) proposal for support from the Cultural Advocacy Coalition for the Cultural Resources Economic Fund. I am a transdisciplinary artist and educator based in Portland. I am also the lead artist for a project called the Black Art Ecology of Portland (BAEP), a multi-year, multi-site engagement initiative that develops networks and spaces that remap historical and contemporary Black creative life in our city.

PICA is the primary partner for BAEP. In addition to providing the project with institutional resources, a majority percentage of PICA's SPACE Program will include collaborative program design/delivery and subsidized space for projects, programs, residencies, and events by, with, and of Black artists, creatives, and audiences, with the intention of regularly co-authoring, hosting, and turning over their building and other resources to serve these communities and goals. PICA provides staffing and operational support, fiscal sponsorship, and crucially, it shares space with BAEP. PICA hosted BAEP's launch in March of 2020, and has been incredibly supportive to the organic nature in which BAEP addresses and serves community needs. Within PICA's space, in September of 2021 we directed and produced a comedy special *A Movement for Black Laughs* in addition to support in developing a Black-run community and artist print shop that runs out of PICA's space. PICA has supported podcast recording space, space for artist and independent researcher Intisar Abioto's work that delves into the historic and contemporary richness of Black Oregon artists, a dual mural between myself and artist Natalie Ball that honors the Black/Indigenous stewardship of this place. And... and.. AND. The list truly goes *on and on*.

Ensuring that they can continue the SPACE Program is a vital component to BAEP's success. It is also an important space for other community members and organizations who rely on their building as a resource at a time when other such spaces have closed, are facing closure, or are increasingly difficult to afford.

It is my hope that the Reser Family Foundation will support PICA's SPACE Program, and the many partners and artists who use their facilities. If you would like to follow up on this letter with any questions, I can be reached at [satowne@gmail.com](mailto:satowne@gmail.com).

Sincerely,



Sharita Towne  
Black Art Ecology of Portland Lead Artist

# Portland Playhouse



August 29, 2022

Dear Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the project to purchase the property of 602 NE Prescott Street. The building, growth, and evolution of Portland Playhouse over the last 14 years is the story of true community embedded and community responsive development without displacement, and speaks to the power of community members working together to celebrate creativity, shared values, and the importance of coming together and building relationships.

This journey has had many important milestones. In the beginning, it was a 100% volunteer driven movement to revitalize a vacant church building and bring neighbors together through plays and community gatherings. From this start, a small but professional infrastructure emerged to raise funds and pay artists a living wage, and to build programming that reflects the diverse neighborhood and communities of NE Portland. Led by a King Neighborhood Association appeal, and with vehement community support, the Portland City Council carved out a special use designation allowing the once vacant building to become a Community Arts Center. This designation "set the stage" for a long term and strategic planning process to renovate, restore, and **ultimately purchase this community treasure for the King Neighborhood.**

**Purchasing the building is the final step of a plan that has been 7 years in the making and implementing.** 5 years ago, when the Board realized that it was not feasible to both purchase the building and also afford the price tag of the renovation and restoration, they (with much difficulty) decided to delay the purchase of the property until they could do so without putting the organization into financial stress. It is with great joy and satisfaction that we can now say, THIS IS THE TIME.

We have completely paid off 100% of the cost of the renovation. We have secured and are maintaining a 3-4 month cash on hand operating reserve. We are slowly and thoughtfully expanding staff capacity to manage the increased programming and building rentals that have come through the expansion of our facilities. And we have managed this growth without sacrificing our community-first approach.

It is with deep gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose that we put forth this request to the CACO. Thank you for helping us get this far, and for all you do to advance economic growth and development by investing in arts and culture in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Brian Weaver  
Founding Artistic Director

---

**Brian Weaver**  
Artistic Director

---

**Board of Directors**

**Stephen Robinson**  
Chair

**Greg Hinckley**  
Vice-Chair

**Andrew Clarke**  
Treasurer

**Michelle Mark**  
Secretary

---

**Alex Colas**  
**David Greenberg, PhD**  
**Maude Hines**  
**Shauncey Mashia**  
**Andy Riccetti-Eberly**  
**Pancho Savery**  
**Michael Weaver**

---

**In Memorium**

Bing Sheldon

# Rainier Oregon Historical Museum

August 18, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

It is my pleasure to recommend to you the Rainier Oregon Historical Museum's (ROHM) new museum building project for grant funding. In the spring of 2022, it was my pleasure to visit the proposed site of the new museum and hear about the excellent work the organization has completed.

ROHM currently uses one room in the City Hall of the City of Rainier, but the rapid growth of the organization and their numerous successful community projects have made current accommodations for the organization incredibly limiting.

ROHM has made reasonable and responsible steps throughout their growth, obtaining land free-and-clear, securing community buy-in and the support of other granting organization to continue their good work.

It has been my practice to only recommend funding for organizations who are established, responsible and who have the support of their community, and only for projects that would have a long-lasting, positive impact on as many as possible. The new ROHM building project certainly fits all these categories. I recommend this project to your organization for any grant funding available.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Weber".

Suzanne Weber  
State Representative

# COLUMBIA COUNTY

## Board of Commissioners Office

**Commissioners**  
Margaret Magruder  
Henry Heimuller  
Casey Garrett

**Administration**  
Jacyn Normine  
Kathy Coddington

**Communications**  
Mark Pacheco



ST. HELENS, OR 97051

230 Strand St., Room 338  
Direct (503) 397-4322  
Fax (503) 366-7243  
columbiacountyor.gov

August 17, 2022

RE: Rainier Oregon Historical Museum Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners commends the Rainier Oregon Historical Museum (ROHM) for their ongoing efforts to establish a new facility in Rainier, Oregon. Since their beginning in 2013, their official incorporation in 2015, to their vision of a museum building, the members have worked diligently to grow their collection of historical data and artifacts as well as their membership. They have successfully acquired land to build a facility and now are moving ahead on funding the building.

The museum building will be an asset to the Rainier Community. It will be located near the Rainier River Walk which leads from downtown Rainier along the Columbia River to west of the city with plans for future extension both east and west. This will provide a visible and easily accessible venue for citizens and visitors to broaden their knowledge of local history.

Preserving and sharing the history of the area is important to guiding future development and of understanding the past and how it informs the future needs of the community.

We strongly support their efforts and encourage you to approve their funding request. It will be a worthwhile and welcome investment, not only for Rainier but for our larger community.

By:   
Henry Heimuller, Chair

By:   
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By:   
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

RACHEL ARMITAGE  
STATE SENATOR  
DISTRICT 16



OREGON STATE SENATE

August 25, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to voice my support for the Rainier Oregon Historical Museum's Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon grant application. Earlier this summer, I attended an event in Rainier where I had the opportunity to learn about the museum. I was impressed by the vast collection of photographs documenting the evolution of the city over time.

To many people, Rainier is a city they pass through on their way to Astoria or Longview—but the city's significance to Oregon is so much more important than that. Lewis and Clark camped just outside the now-city limits and the first school was built in 1895. Rainier was also home to a nuclear power plant that has since ceased operations. Many families in Rainier (past and present) contributed in some way to the state's robust timber economy. Rainier is an impressive rural town with a robust history.

The current museum is housed in one room at City Hall, and a new museum is desperately needed to display a growing historical collection and preserve the history of Rainier and surrounding communities. A new space would allow curators to take additional care with valuable historical photos and objects. I've heard that local community members enthusiastically support this project. Such a space would benefit everyone, young and old. Furthermore, as a small rural town, Rainier can't raise the kind of revenue it would take to fund such a project. The state's contribution would be deeply felt.

I hope you will seriously consider this request. Please feel free to reach out to my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rachel Armitage".

Senator Rachel Armitage  
Oregon Senate District 16

106 West "B" Street  
P.O. Box 100  
Rainier, Oregon 97048



Phone (503) 556-7301  
Fax (503) 556-3200  
www.cityofrainier.com

Thursday, August 18, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

The purpose of this letter is to express the City of Rainier's support for the new Rainier Oregon Historical Museum and the efforts to fund its permanent home.

A partnership is currently in place between the City and the Museum that allows its volunteers to utilize a room on the third floor of city hall. The City has worked with the museum volunteers on various community events. Most recently, we joined to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the City Hall building. That event was a success, due largely to the efforts of those dedicated volunteers.

The museum has acquired a piece of property that is adjacent to City facilities, including the Senior Center, along with residential neighborhoods. Fundraising is underway to construct the museum, which will be a fantastic addition and attraction to the area.

Having the museum at that location will help develop a broader sense of community in Rainier and make its residents and visitors more aware of its unique history and heritage. The City looks forward to continuing this important partnership, and applauds the efforts of the museum's volunteers to see it through to completion.

Feel free to contact me at city hall at [sjorgensen@cityofrainier.com](mailto:sjorgensen@cityofrainier.com) or via telephone at 503-556-7301 if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. Scott Jorgensen", written over a horizontal line.

W. Scott Jorgensen, Executive MPA  
City Administrator



Rainier Senior Center  
"A Great Place....  
For Great People"  
[www.RainierSeniors.com](http://www.RainierSeniors.com)



48 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Rainier, OR, 97048  
Phone: 503-556-3889  
Fax: 503-556-2751

July 5, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing in support of the Rainier Historical Museum and the placement of it in our neighborhood.

The Historical Museum would be a welcome addition as well as enhance our area by bringing people down here whether to go through the museum, visit the park, see our beautiful senior center or just enjoy the river.

We are all looking forward our long overdue Rainier museum.

Sincerely,

Jan Rich  
President  
Rainier Senior Center

**Salem Parks Foundation**

July 20, 2022

**SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Salem Parks Foundation and Eco-Earth Globe Repairs**

To whom it may concern:

The City of Salem fully supports the efforts of the Salem Parks Foundation to provide funding for the repair of the Eco-Earth Globe at Riverfront Park. This project will restore this important community resource in Salem's busiest park. The Eco-Earth Globe is a tile mosaic sculpture that sits at the south end of the park between the Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge and the Gerry Frank Rotary Amphitheatre. Adorned with more than 86,000 tiles, this colorful work of public art represents the geography, peoples, and animals of Earth. This iconic piece of public art was completed in 2003, after five years of work involving an estimated 30,000 volunteer hours.

After years of exposure to the elements, the Eco-Earth Globe began to lose tiles and show signs of disrepair. In 2017, the Salem Public Art Commission reached out to Cascadia Art Conservation Center to examine the artwork and conditions causing disrepair. This initial report noted signs of water infiltration and potential corrections moving forward. In November 2020, the Commission contracted with Architectural Resources Group to complete a comprehensive condition assessment with cost estimates. This assessment outlines a path forward for restoring this prominent piece of public art.

The Salem Parks Foundation has graciously stepped up to coordinate a community fundraising effort. In support of the project, the City Council has approved a cash match of \$112,000 for the restoration work as part of the 2023 fiscal year budget. This funding does not have time limits and will carry forward into future fiscal years as necessary. The funding will pay for engineering and project management services. In addition, the City will also provide in-kind services for the project for public outreach and project planning.

The project will restore the Eco-Earth Globe to its original beauty in tribute to the community artists and volunteers who brought it to fruition 20 years ago. The City looks forward to partnering with the Salem Parks Foundation to make this project a success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Fernandez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Fernandez, PE  
Public Works Director

# Sisters Folk Festival

August 26, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support for Sisters Folk Festival's funding request through the Cultural Resources Economic Fund Grant.

As the city manager of Sisters for the past three and a half years, I have seen firsthand the huge economic and cultural impact the organization's events have on the local businesses and the community. Additionally, their work has put our small city on the map as a music destination, attracting thousands of visitors each year for concerts, music camps and the annual folk festival.

The nonprofit enjoys support from a dedicated board of directors and hundreds of local volunteers. Each event they produce is well organized, safe and professionally managed. The folk festival gives back to the community in so many ways both large and small, including through their robust programming in the Sisters public schools. I know that if they are awarded this grant the money will be used to continue doing good work here in Sisters, Deschutes County, and Central Oregon.

Please let me know if I can answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Cory Misley  
City Manager

# Southern Oregon Historical Society

## Very Little Theatre

**LEE BEYER  
DISTRICT 6**



**OREGON STATE SENATE  
900 COURT ST NE S-411  
SALEM, OR 97301**

As a longtime advocate and volunteer for the arts in Oregon, I have gained a deep appreciation for the role that community theatre has in our society. They serve as a creative outlet for aspiring artists and devoted volunteers and provide quality and affordable productions accessible to all. For this reason, I was excited to learn the Very Little Theatre has developed a thoughtful and detailed plan to remodel their facility and revitalize a 90-year-old institution. With strong support of their membership and local community, they have embarked on a \$3.8 million fundraising campaign to make significant improvements to their home for the past 68 years. The primary construction elements will include:

- Building a new rectangular stage house connected to the back of the theatre to include a new rigging system to increase safety, provide better lighting, and dramatically expand their ability to put on a wider variety of shows.

- Renovating and expand seating in the auditorium to provide greater comfort and add an entire row of disability seating. They will also upgrade their heating, ventilation, electrical, and plumbing work which is outdated and needs to be addressed.

- Expanding their scene shop and storage capabilities to increase the number of performances they can provide the community every year. This will also free up their main stage for use by local artists and groups in the community for productions and presentations.



- Restoring the unique curved wooden arches which have been a key architectural feature for nearly 70 years that defines the interior of the theatre.

Not only will their improved facility serve patrons coming to see great theatre, but more importantly it provides an important investment in the local theatre artists who volunteer their time and talent for the love of the art form. Recently the Very Little Theatre brought Minority Voices Theatre under their wing to reach out to underrepresented populations; giving a voice to minorities and issues surrounding diversity in our community. With an expanded and revitalized space, they can offer even more opportunities for local artists to express themselves.

This historic institution will continue to be a vital part of the Eugene arts scene for another 90 years. They have already raised 25% of the needed funding. The Cultural Advocacy Coalition's assistance in going forward with the securing of \$1.5 million grant would be a great boost to the legacy of the Very Little Theatre. I support their efforts going forward and I hope you will too.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee Beyer". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Lee Beyer  
State Senator  
Senate District 6