



## URBANA ARTS GRANTS PROGRAM 2022 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The following applicants have been approved for funding in the fourteenth cycle of the Urbana Arts Grants Program. The list below provides preliminary information submitted by the applicants to the Program and is subject to change. Urbana Arts Grants Program is an initiative by the City of Urbana Arts & Culture Program. Questions about the Urbana Arts Grants Program should be directed to the Arts and Culture Coordinator at [rlstorm@urbanaininois.us](mailto:rlstorm@urbanaininois.us).

### TIER I

- 1. *Poems Across Urbana* by The Urbana Free Library, City Sponsorship of \$985**  
*Poems Across Urbana* brings together community members and local poets to write poems and display poetry throughout Urbana on yard signs displayed throughout the community, infusing poems into the Urbana landscape and the lives of residents.
- 2. *Read Across America Community Celebration* by Urbana Park District, City Sponsorship of \$1,000**  
The *Read Across America Community Celebration* is community celebration to promote reading and literacy by providing multilingual hands-on activities, professional storytellers, and storytelling.
- 3. *Welcoming Week 2022* by YMCA of the University of Illinois, City Sponsorship of \$1,065**  
*Welcoming Week* is an annual celebration of the cultural diversity in Urbana-Champaign. From celebrations at the park to game nights; from live music and dancing to arts and crafts, the week highlights contributions of immigrants in our community and helps neighbors to get to know each other.
- 4. *Mayanizando Urbana* by Pixan Konob' Q'anjob'al Interpreters Collective, City Sponsorship of \$1,500**  
*Mayanizando Urbana* aims to amplify Maya Q'anjob'al voices in the Champaign area through the amplification of the radio show B'ei b'al eb jich mam (culture of our ancestors), a space for cultural expression of the distinct Mayan communities of the area by highlighting musicians, artists, and the vitalization of Mayan languages.
- 5. *Central Illinois River Art and Poetry Project* by Will Reger, City Sponsorship of \$1,500**  
The *Central Illinois River Art and Poetry Project* is an exhibition of visual art and poetry celebrating local waterways through a visual representation of key places along the streams. The exhibition will highlight community- public performances, visual art, and writing promoting environmental health and ecology.
- 6. *CUDO PRO SHOW 2022* by CUDO - Champaign Urbana Design Organization, City Sponsorship of \$1,200**  
The *CUDO PRO SHOW* is an exhibition of locally created professional creative work across disciplines - including illustration, typography, photography, print, web, motion, apps, and more. Aimed at offering an insider perspective on an assortment of both familiar and lesser-known works developed locally, the gallery show draws attention to the artistry of pieces that are not normally perceived as fine art.

7. ***See Who at the Show II* by C-U at the Show, City Sponsorship of \$1,250**  
*See Who at the Show II* is an initiative from C-U at the Show amplifying the work of Black writers, actors, directors, and producers through a series of sponsored performances as part of a broader effort to center Black voices in the theater community.
8. ***All Score Urbana: Live and In-Person* by All Score Urbana, City Sponsorship of \$1,400**  
*All Score Urbana: Live and In-Person* will connect and support composers, songwriters, and performers in a series of free, public music composition workshops and concerts of new works.
9. ***Axé is Everywhere* by Lucas Borges dos Santos and Leonardo Ventura, City Sponsorship of \$1,500**  
*Axé is Everywhere* is a documentary centered on the dissemination of AfroBrazilian culture into the US. This initiative will gather and share the stories and life experiences from members of the Brazilian Batucada and Capoeira groups based in Urbana, resulting in a public screening.
10. ***Cross the Ocean at Urbana* by Cross the Ocean Ensemble, City Sponsorship of \$1,500**  
*Cross the Ocean at Urbana* will connect local musicians interculturally, specifically with Chinese instrumentalists, to present different styles of music, ranging from classical to popular music to promote connection within people through music collaboration crossing the borders.
11. ***Jazz Workshop for Adults* by Jenelle Orcherton, City Sponsorship of \$900**  
*The Jazz Workshop for Adults* will provide a place to learn, create and celebrate improvisatory jazz music for adults who are new to their instrument, culminating in a public performance in Downtown Urbana.

## TIER II

1. ***Boneyard Arts Festival 2022*, by 40 North | 88 West Inc., City Sponsorship of \$4,500**  
The Boneyard Arts Festival is a three-day event showcasing the broad range of creative activity flourishing in our community. The festival stimulates cultural, economic, social and educational growth by providing an opportunity for people of every age, background and interest to participate. Its goal is to bring together local artists, businesses and organizations for a unique and inspiring celebration of local art.
2. ***Bridging the Art Divide: Black Music Series* by Urbana Park District, City Sponsorship of \$2,000**  
*Bridging the Art Divide: Black Music Series* will turn one of Crystal Lake Park bridges into an art gallery - this time featuring the history of African-American musicians that have played in the park. The resulting public art will become part of the forthcoming Champaign County African-American Heritage Trail.
3. ***Creativity on Wheels* by Family Service of Champaign County, City Sponsorship of \$4,500**  
*Creativity on Wheels* will design and deliver meaningful art engagement activities specifically for older adults to reduce feelings of isolation, promote self-reflection and resilience, inspire positive thinking, and encourage community engagement.
4. ***Tanguero Workshop 2022* by Tanguero, Inc., City Sponsorship of \$4,500**  
*Tanguero Workshop 2022* is a week-long performance camp for adults and youth focusing on Argentine tango music featuring music and dance workshops, performances, and jam sessions.
5. ***Teen Art School Murals* by Champaign-Urbana Community Fab Lab, City Sponsorship of \$2,370**  
*Teen Art School Murals* is a teen-led mural creation for Urbana Middle School and Urbana High School where teens from the schools will come up with a theme and design for both murals to promote school spirit, student empowerment, and

- 6. *Unmute: Sound Engineering Training Initiative* by Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center, City Sponsorship of \$4,380**  
*Unmute: Sound Engineering Training Initiative* of the IMC will provide free instruction on beginner to intermediate level sound engineering to those underrepresented in the field: women, trans and nonbinary people, and people of color in our community.
- 7. *She Spins Urbana: A Camp for Girls* by Ja'Naea Modest, City Sponsorship of \$2,500**  
*She Spins Urbana* is a week-long educational camp for girls ages 10 to 17 introducing them to the art of beat-matching, recording, and DJing. The camp includes hands-on training, historical and contemporary perspectives, assistance in artistic development, and culminates in a live public performance led by participating youth.
- 8. *DMT Music Festivals* by Dance Music Therapy, City Sponsorship of \$2,250**  
Dance Music Therapy (DMT) is comprised of DJs who utilize therapeutic properties of music to create safe environments that inspire fun, fellowship, and impact change. We enjoy music as artistry and desire to share our love of music with the community by offering free monthly music festivals from May to October.
- 9. *Fiddle Weekend!* by Community Center for the Arts (C4A), City Sponsorship of \$3,000**  
An immersive weekend of fiddle workshops, jams, and concerts for all ages, focused on cross-cultural collaboration and culminating in a showcase concert featuring fiddle fusion and solo performances in which participants receive feedback from a professional fiddler; and a free public concert by 5-time Illinois state champion fiddler Charlie Walden.
- 10. *BIPOC Birth Arts and Storytelling Project* by BIPOC for Better Birth, City Sponsorship of \$2,000**  
BIPOC for Better Birth will host four BIPOC-led workshops for pregnant and postpartum people on belly casting and mapping, painting, collage making, and storytelling. These themed events will create a safe space in which participants can share birth stories and express themselves through a variety of media on the themes of bonding, perinatal mental health, and pregnancy and infant loss.
- 11. *Urbana Pops Orchestra Concert* by Urbana Pops Orchestra, City Sponsorship of \$1,750**  
Urbana Pops Orchestra will present a full-orchestra concert free of charge to the community; provide an educational opportunity for young musicians as they share a music stand with seasoned professional musicians and music educators. This year's concert will feature an animated "fly-through" Urbana High School as it looked in 1913 when it opened, with an original musical score.
- 12. *Bread and Puppet* by School for Designing a Society, City Sponsorship of \$2,250**  
The circus is coming! The circus is coming! The 59-year-old, Vermont-based Bread and Puppet Theater is coming to Urbana-Champaign for the first time with its iconic puppet circus this Fall 2022. Our Domestic Resurrection Circus is a bright, raucous melee of short acts governed by a brass band, addressing the heart of the current moment with diverse puppetry styles and spanning the slapstick to the sublime.
- 13. *Mai Sugimoto in Residence* by CU Jazz Festival, City Sponsorship of \$1,000**  
CU Jazz Festival will bring Japanese born saxophonist and composer, Mai Sugimoto, for a multi-day residency during the festival to lead community improv sessions, present a feature concert, and curate a composition and performance panel.

## ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS

**1. *Urbana Mixed Arts Student Showcase* by UHS Film & Media Arts Club, City Sponsorship of \$1,200**

The *Urbana Mixed Arts Student Showcase* is a 10-hour multimedia arts exhibition spanning music, film, visual art, and performance for a diversity of teen artists sponsored by the Urbana High School Film and Media Arts Club and held at the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center.

## TIER III

**1. *2022 Champaign-Urbana Folk and Roots Festival* by C-U Folk and Roots, City Sponsorship of \$9,000**

This all-volunteer-run festival will bring together many different organizations to present over 70 free/low-cost, all ages/abilities participatory activities and high-quality folk performances. By using a variety of downtown venues including the library, restaurants, hotels, bars, the mall and arts organizations spaces, the festival continually integrates the arts into the distinctive urban environment.

**2. *PYGMALION* by Fein-Bursoni, Inc., City Sponsorship of \$6,000**

PYGMALION is a multi-faceted event entering its 17th year in 2021, comprised of live music, technology, literature, live comedy, podcasts, and more. This progressive program brings together a diverse array of musicians, authors, innovators, and creators to provide the community with the best the world has to offer in the arenas of arts, culture, and technology.

**3. *Urbana Live!* by Rose Bowl Tavern, City Sponsorship of \$8,500**

Rose Bowl Tavern will present a series of 100 free music events between May and October that will feature local artists, creators, performers and organizations. All programs will take place during daytime hours with a focus on Saturday and Sunday. By featuring multiple events per week this series will create a regular gathering space for community, focused around the performing arts, in downtown Urbana.

**4. *2022 PRIDE Festival* by Uniting Pride of Champaign County, City Sponsorship of \$8,500**

Pride Fest is Uniting Pride's annual celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people in Champaign County. It is the second largest pride fest in the state and has drawn attendance of 10,000 + people. The event features many types of art and performances; in 2022 we intend to host a variety of music, drag performances, local artists, and more in the heart of Downtown Urbana.

**5. *2022 C-U Black and African Arts Festival* by CU Black and African Arts, City Sponsorship of \$3,000**

The C-U Black and African Arts Festival presents a culturally-diverse experience to Central Illinois and Midwest Region by expressing both Black and African heritage through music, fashion, and the arts. Taking place within the heart of Downtown Urbana, the festival presents performances, a vendor fair, and cultural programming for the whole family.