

Fundraising Committee update
April 17, 2012

People reporting: Danielle (chair), Carol Ammons (staff), Chris Ritzo

We continue to do work at break neck speed. We have not had regular meetings. We would like to recruit additional folks to this committee and establish monthly, open meetings. Please let me know if you want to join efforts: chyn@ucimc.org.

Grants secured:

(not all of these Urbana Arts Grants come through UCIMC, but all happen at the UCIMC)

Summer Sew Fun Club, Janelle Pleasure, City sponsorship of \$1,000. A class designed to expose youth to the art of sewing to be held at the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center. Different topics will be covered through different sewing projects, including learning to operate a sewing machine, create a tote bag, quilt, and a set of pajamas. Finished projects will be shown to the community through a free art display.

Outta the Mouths of Babes Radio Project, Outta the Mouths of Babes Radio Project Group, City sponsorship of \$2,500. A 12-week radio project inviting Urbana-area youth to become “youth correspondents” on a WRFU radio show where kids comment on social, political, and cultural happenings in the Urbana-Champaign area. The project will create a digital archive of reviews of local arts culture, increase youth access to the arts through participatory media, and expose local youth to a diversity of artistic and cultural work while encouraging critical thinking and cultural learning.

CU Film Society PRESENTS, Champaign-Urbana Film Society, City sponsorship of \$3,000. The CU Film Society PRESENTS promotes the art of filmmaking by offering film screenings and discussions, as well as offering filmmaker workshops for local residents. The project includes the 2012 New Art Film Festival, the 2012 Independent Media Center Film Festival, a 2012 Visiting Filmmaker Series, and the 2012 RED Camp for Youth, a summer youth film camp offer training on RED cameras.

Creative Collaborations: Workshops for Performance and Production, School for Designing a Society, City sponsorship of \$400. A series of workshops and performances facilitated between the Urbana-based School for Designing a Society and The Curious Theatre Branch, a Chicago theatre company that curates the annual Rhinoceros Theater Festival. The workshops and performances will occur November 18-20 at the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center and will be open to the public.

CU Folk and Roots Festival 2012, CU Folk and Roots Festival, City sponsorship of \$2,500. An all-ages participatory and multi-disciplinary (story-telling, arts, dance, and music) festival in downtown Urbana featuring

local, regional, and national artists and hands-on events. Festival locations include: The Urbana Free Library, Community Center for the Arts, various downtown Urbana businesses, the Independent Media Center, and several outdoor locations such as the Iron Post patio and street corners.

U-C Mini Maker Faire, Makerspace Urbana, UBA sponsorship of \$500, City sponsorship of \$1,000 for total award of \$1,500. A one day, family-friendly event on April 14, 2012 at the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center that celebrates arts, crafts, engineering, music, science, and technology projects and the Do-It-Yourself spirit in the Urbana-Champaign community. The free event will consist of twenty maker booths, a demonstration stage, deconstruction zone, and “knit in,” with many opportunities for participants to learn and create various take-home projects.

Grants submitted:

- Illinois Arts Council - Danielle
 - submitted in March, report due in Sept, find out Sept-Dec 2012
- City of Urbana Consolidated Social Service Grant - Media In Action youth media workshops – Carol

Projects in progress:

- City of Urbana economic development request for facilities/façade improvement. Chris & Danielle
 - Danielle & Austin met with city last year, Chris had an update with them recently. Chris & Danielle working on a request for City’s next fiscal year budget (2012-2013) to help repair windows - to attract tenants to 2nd floor and prepare 1st floor for retention/recruiting of tenant.
- Ameren on their Act On Energy grant program. - Chris
 - Chris met with Rod Rhodes from GDS Associates, who is a project manager. This was recommended by the city staff as additional potential grant sources. Initial conversations with Rod indicate we will qualify for both HVAC incentives, as well as a custom grant application. Relevant links for these two programs are:
 - <http://www.actonenergy.com/for-my-business/explore-incentives/hvac-water-heater-incentives>
 - <http://www.actonenergy.com/for-my-business/explore-incentives/custom-incentives>