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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Arts Council of York County Announces**

**Small Grant Recipients – 3rd Quarter 2019-2020**

ROCK HILL, SC – The Arts Council of York County is pleased to announce the allocation of Small Grant awards for the third quarter of the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Small Grants are available to individual artists, non-profit organizations, teachers and schools throughout York County. These grants are designed to support specific arts activities that promote the individual artist’s professional development or career advancement and/or to support a wide variety of quality arts projects and programs that promote excellence in arts disciplines and make such disciplines accessible for general community-wide audiences.

Organizations and individual artists residing in York County, SC may request up to $1,000 per grant and may receive up to two grants each calendar year. The Arts Council awarded Small Grants to six artists, teachers and organizations for the 3rd Quarter of 2019-2020. Recipients include:

**Carolina Crown | $700**

*HonorBAND Program & Performance*

*York County Middle School HonorBAND*

Carolina Crown, Inc. is a non-profit performing arts organization dedicated to developing lifelong excellence in young people. The Carolina Crown HonorBAND is an affiliate program of the 2013 Drum Corps International (DCI) Champion Carolina Crown drum corps. The HonorBAND program brings together York County’s finest middle school musicians for two days of learning and sharing with peer students from other schools within the county. Carolina Crown selects event clinicians/conductors from some of the most acclaimed middle school, high school, and college educators from across the southeast. Students audition for placement in the HonorBAND. Those accepted earn a spot in the HonorBAND and participate in a two-day clinic that culminates with a performance that is free and open to the public at Northwestern High School on January 30, 2020.

Chris Branam, Lecturer and Assistant Director of Bands at North Carolina State University serves as the guest clinician during the two-day clinic. Mr. Branham will work as a clinician with the 2020 York County Honor Band and will be the guest conductor at the performance in January. This grant will offset the costs associated with the two-day clinic and performance. | http://www.carolinacrown.org/

**Karen Collins | $1,000**

*Film Festival & Workshops*

Serving as Festival Director and Programmer for the Underexposed Film Festival yc, Karen Collins has worked to take the event to the next level each year. In its ninth season, this international short film festival grows again with the addition of a Puppetry category and the possibility of additional screenings. Puppetry is one of the oldest artforms, and it is poised to take center stage in the filmmaking community. This grant allows the UFFyc to continue its commitment to provide an educational component as a part of the 2020 Festival through workshops and masterclasses with professional filmmakers. | http://www.underexposedfilmfestivalyc.org

**Early Learning Partnership of York County | $1,000**

*Rock Hill Reads*

Rock Hill Reads, coordinated by the Early Learning Partnership of York County (ELP), provides a focus on early literacy for the preschool-aged children in the Saluda Street corridor, and aligns with Mayor John Gettys’ focus to provide exposure to culturally diverse and underserved children in the area. Working in partnership with the Rock Hill School District’s ParentSmart early childhood division, the District, the City, and the York County Library all collaborate with Early Learning Partnership.

Rock Hill Reads is throwing a birthday party to celebrate the 25th anniversary of ParentSmart on Friday, January 31 from 10 – 11:30 AM at the Sylvia Circle Family Learning Center. Approximately 200 children/families from the neighborhood, Head Start, and ESL classes will participate in this arts-infused event. The book, *I am the Music Man* will be presented in dramatic fashion with Rock Hill Poet Laureate Angelo T. Geter reading and acting it out as opera singer, NaTasha McNeil sings the song in the book as it is played by the RHSO String Quartet. The children will also be able to participate in arts and craft activities with the ParentSmart staff, enjoy a slice of birthday cake, snacks, and meet Comporium’s Digger the Book Loving Dog. The ELP will use this the Small Grant to hire the Rock Hill Symphony’s String Quartet and Beyond Fit Kids to perform, and to provide an age-appropriate book for each child to take home. | http://www.elpofyorkcounty.org

**Marge Moody | $1,000**

*Visiting Artist/Visiting Scholar Program – Rome, Italy*

The Visiting Artists and Scholars (VAVS) Program provides artists and scholars of all nationalities the opportunity to experience the intellectual and artistic freedom, interdisciplinary exchange, and innovation that characterizes life at the American Academy in Rome. Marge Loudon Moody has been accepted to the VAVS Program for the spring of 2020. While there, she plans to create new work, primarily in collage, much of which, she plans to exhibit in June 2020 in a solo show at the National Association of Women Artists (The NAWA) in New York City. This Small Grant will be used to offset Moody’s room, board, and materials costs while in Rome. | https://margeloudonmoody.weebly.com

**Susan Vinson Sherlock | $500**

*Songwriting Workshop & Concert*

Susan Sherlock, an acclaimed musician in her own right, has secured this Small Grant to bring the award-winning singer/songwriter, and frequent guest on *A Prairie Home Companion*, Joe Newberry to York, SC for a songwriting workshop and concert on Saturday, January 25, 2020. Newberry is a Missouri native and North Carolina transplant who has played music most of his life. His powerful and innovative banjo playing, as well as his songwriting, guitar skills, fiddling, and singing has delighted audiences around the world. Joe has taught banjo, guitar, singing, and songwriting at numerous camps and festivals, including Ashokan, Midwest Banjo Camp, American Banjo Camp, the Puget Sound Guitar Workshop, and more. He was, for many years, the coordinator of the Old-Time Week at the Augusta Heritage Center. On January 25, during the day, Mr. Newberry will conduct a 4-hour songwriting workshop at Etta’s Cre8tive Emporium, 35 N. Congress St., York, SC. This workshop is open to songwriters of all levels, and to those who have an interest in learning more about the process of songwriting.

In the evening on January 25, the public is invited to spend an intimate evening of guitar, banjo, fiddle and song with Joe Newberry at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 108 E. Liberty St., York, SC. Internationally known for his powerful banjo work, he is a prizewinning guitarist and singer, his songs are widely recorded by acclaimed bluegrass artists like The Gibson Brothers, Ricky Scaggs, and Eric Gibson. Newberry was a featured singer on the Transatlantic Sessions 2016 tour of the UK with fiddler Aly Bain and dobro master Jerry Douglas, and at the Transatlantic Sessions’ debut at Merlefest in 2017 with fellow singers James Taylor, Sarah Jarosz, Declan O’Rourke, Karen Matheson, and Maura O’Connell. | http://joenewberry.me/wordpress/

**Strauss Moore Shiple | $500**

*Dawn Anthony & the Lovell Bradford Quartet Concert*

In celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, on January 17, Dawn Anthony and the Lovell Bradford Quartet will perform at the York Senior Center, 14 N. Congress St., York, SC. Dawn Anthony and Lovell Bradford are both teaching artists, lecturers, and performers based in Charlotte, NC.

Dawn Anthony earned her degree in music from Queens University of Charlotte, but still pursues her love for learning, performing and teaching through cultural exchanges and musical collaborations beyond the stage and classroom. Dawn attributes her versatility and skill to sing other genres to her classical training. Singing everything from classical to jazz, and musical theater to gospel--she thrives on challenging herself to grow as a musician and make connections with others beyond the words and notes on the page.

Pianist Lovell Bradford, an adjunct professor at Davidson College, has played on a number of top Gospel and jazz recordings. Originally from Gary, Indiana, Bradford had many of his first musical experiences in church where his grandmother played every Sunday. He studied at Central State University and eventually began playing in the jazz scene in Columbus, Ohio before moving to Charlotte. Bradford has performed with artists such as Pharez Whitted, Slide Hampton, Wynton Marsalis, Branford Marsalis, Wes “Warmdaddy” Anderson, Ronnie Burrage, and many others.

This Small Grant will offset the expenses associated with artist and technical/production fees, and marketing.

**Total Allocations This Quarter: $5,200**

To review guidelines, visit www.yorkcountyarts.org on the Grants page under The Arts heading. The next deadline is Sunday, March 1, 2020 for programs occurring April, May, and/or June 2020. Prospective applicants MUST discuss the proposed project with the Executive Director at least 10 days in advance of the application deadline date. Should the deadline fall on a holiday or weekend, grant applications are due the last business day prior to the deadline.

This Small Grants program is funded in part by the South Carolina Arts Commission (which receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts), and the John and Susan Bennett Memorial Arts Fund of the Coastal Carolina Community Foundation, and Comporium Communications.

The Arts Council is headquartered in downtown Rock Hill, a state-recognized cultural district. For more information on Arts Council events, contact the Arts Council of York County at (803)328-2787, by email at arts@yorkcountyarts.org, or visit our webpage at <http://www.yorkcountyarts.org>.

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