

# Innovation + Job News

## People's Liberty announces first 8 Project Grants, final grant program to launch

John Fox | Tuesday, April 28, 2015



Project Grant winners are announced April 24 by Eric Avner (left) & Amy Goodwin (second from right)

People's Liberty continues to [redefine the mission and tools of philanthropy](#), announcing its first Project Grants April 24 at its new [Globe Building headquarters](#) in Over-the-Rhine. Like all of its grant programs, the Project Grants were awarded to individual area residents with innovative ideas to positively impact their communities and, in the organization's hopes, disrupt the status quo.

Eight winners were presented by People's Liberty co-founders Eric Avner (Haile Foundation) and Amy Goodwin (Johnson Foundation) and asked to sign their contracts, which stipulate that each would receive up to \$10,000 to complete their projects within the next 10 months. A second round of Project Grants will be awarded in the fall.

The winning projects represent a wide array of community engagement, from site-specific events to arts and culture to online community building to public transportation. They were selected by an external panel made up of local civic, creative and business leaders.

[People's Liberty](#) has now launched all three of its intended grant programs: \$100,000 [Haile Fellowships](#), awarded in December to Brad Cooper and [Brad Schnittger](#); \$15,000 Globe Grants to activate the Globe Building's ground-floor gallery space, with the first exhibition, [Good Eggs](#), on display through June 12; and these \$10,000 Project Grants.

The Project Grant recipients are:

**Giacomo Ciminello: Space Invaders**

An interactive outdoor installation with a projection-mapped video game designed to activate Cincinnati's abandoned spaces.

**Anne Delano-Steinert: Look Here!**

A site-specific public history exhibition to take place on the streets of Over-the-Rhine.

**Quiera Levy-Smith: Black Dance Is Beautiful**

A cultural event designed to showcase diversity in Cincinnati dance and encourage youth to pursue their passions and break down barriers.

**Alyssa McClanahan w/ John Blatchford: Kunst: Built Art**

A quarterly printed magazine featuring redevelopment projects of historic Cincinnati buildings.

**Mark Mussman: Creative App Project (CAP)**

A project to certify up to 20 local residents from a broad range of backgrounds during a three-month Android App Developers educational series.

**Daniel Schleith w/ Nate Wessel and Brad Thomas: Metro\*Now**

A set of low-cost, real-time arrival signs for the Metro bus system to be installed in storefronts at or near bus stops.

**Nancy Sunnenburg: Welcome to Cincinnati**

A new tool is designed to effectively welcome newcomers to a community by connecting them with local organizations, businesses and civic opportunities.

**Maija Zummo w/ Colleen Sullivan: Made in Cincinnati**

A curated online marketplace to encourage shopping local by showcasing products created by Cincinnati's best makers and artisans.

The eight grantees will have access to workspace, mentoring and design and communications support at People's Liberty starting May 30. Look for Soapbox profiles of each of these eight projects as they ramp up over the next few months.

[Applications](#) for the next round of Project Grants are due by Sept. 14.

<http://www.soapboxmedia.com/innovationnews/042815-peoples-liberty-eight-project-grants.aspx>