



NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARTSConnect announces TopArts Grantees for 2017 *Funds made available by the City of Topeka*

Topeka, Kan. – The second year of the TopArts Grants program, funded by the City of Topeka and administered by ARTSConnect, has been an incredible success. Grants were made available in two categories – public arts & arts access. 14 projects that serve diverse populations across the city of Topeka have been awarded grant funding. For more information on each project, please visit the ARTSConnect website at artsconnecttopeka.org/2017grants.

2017 TopArts grantees are:

- Brooksfest: Gwendolyn Brooks Centennial Celebration
- YWCA Survivor Art Group
- Topeka Community Concert Association Youth Outreach
- Artistic Expressions Healing Arts Initiative @ Veterans Administration
- Kansas Ballet Summer Program
- Boys & Girls Club of Topeka
- NOTO ArtReach
- Lutheran Fine Arts Council
- Ballet Folklorico
- Family Service & Guidance Center
- Capital City High School Mural
- Lighting the Historic Topeka Water Tower
- Valeo's Creations of Hope Gallery
- Performing Arts for Children

“The City of Topeka is honored to support agencies serving the art community, a community that transcends race, gender and class to bring all of Topeka’s communities together,” said Topeka Mayor Larry Wolgast. “Making arts accessible to everyone is key to connecting and empowering Topekans, so together, we can make our City a more colorful and expressive community.”

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“We are so pleased to announce support for these projects,” said Sarah Fizell, executive director of ARTSConnect. “Our mayor and city council have a clear understanding of the impact the arts can have on our city, and these projects embody the best that the arts can be: Enriching and saving lives – strengthening our community through increased beauty and economic capacity. These are very important programs that touch the lives of so many Topekans.”

TopArts Access Grants were awarded to projects focused on increasing access to arts education opportunities, cultural events and other efforts that expand the quality and availability of arts experiences. TopArts Public Art Grants were awarded to projects that beautify and enhance our community through the creation of public art.

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ARTSConnect works to promote the arts through building community connections and broadening the understanding of how the arts enhance the quality of life in our community. Our goal is to enable the arts as a driver of Topeka’s community growth, economic development and quality of life.

www.artsconnecttopeka.org