

**National Endowment for the Arts Juvenile Justice grant projects**  
(FY18-FY20, as of May 2020, not including grants that went to March 2020 Council)

**Drama Club, Inc.** Long Island City, NY

\$10,000 FY20 Challenge America

To support the development and staged reading of a new theater work. A playwright guest artist will be selected to work with formerly incarcerated youth and adult mentors to write and perform a theater work exploring themes around mass incarceration, with a goal of reducing the rate of youth recidivism among the project participants.

**NOMADstudio (aka NOMAD Art Bus and Justice Studio)** Largo, FL

\$10,000 FY20 Challenge America

To support a visual art program for incarcerated youth. Guest artists Charles Williams, Ben Hamburger, Zulu Painter, and Jennifer Kosharek will work with youth at the Pinellas Regional Juvenile Detention Center to create a mural, as well as provide them with instruction on how to produce art independently during studio time. Artworks will be displayed during culminating arts events at the center and a local art gallery.

**Storycatchers Theatre** Chicago, IL

\$50,000 FY20 Art Works: Arts Education

To support staff salaries and participant wages for a post-release performing arts jobs program for court-involved youth. Professional teaching artists will use writing and performing arts to guide formerly incarcerated young people through a creative process that will help develop skills to successfully navigate reentry. Participants will use writing, storytelling, rehearsals, and performances to develop creativity, build communication and decision-making skills, and gain leadership experience. Teaching artists will form ensembles to develop and tour an original musical to schools, juvenile justice facilities, police district sites, and other venues.

**FY19**

**Artivate Inc.** Silver Spring, MD

\$20,000 FY19 Art Works: Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

To support skills-based arts workshops and performances for incarcerated youth and adults. Professional artists will use visual, literary, and performing arts to teach workshops that incorporate themes of respect, tolerance, conflict resolution, non-violence, and cross-cultural understanding.

**Arts Midwest** Minneapolis, MN

\$1,482,000 FY19 Theater

To support Shakespeare in American Communities during the 2020 - 2021 school year. Professional theater companies will bring performances and educational activities to students in schools across the United States. In addition, theater companies will partner with the juvenile justice system to engage youths within that population with the works of Shakespeare. Participating theater companies will tour productions to middle schools and high schools or bring students to their own theater space for a matinee. Each performance will be accompanied by educational activities ranging from talkbacks to workshops and residencies. For many students, the performances may be their first experience with live, professional theater.

**Austin Classical Guitar Society** Austin, TX

\$72,000 FY19 Art Works: Arts Education

To support a classical guitar education program. Classical guitar instructors will provide lessons in music theory, guitar finger positioning, and performance technique to central Texas elementary, middle, and high school students attending Title I schools, a school for the visually impaired, and a juvenile justice center. In addition, through national teacher training workshops, music educators across the country will learn the Austin Classical Guitar online curriculum for use in their guitar classes.

**Blues City Cultural Center (BCCC)** Memphis, TN

\$10,000 FY19 Challenge America

To support an arts-based conflict resolution project for youth and their families, including staged theater productions and related community programs providing alternatives to violence and high-risk behavior. Guest artist playwright/director Ted Lange will be involved in the presentation of a solo theater production as well as playwriting and acting master classes. The program will also include events such as a poetry slam and community conversations, as well as participation by advisors from the Center for Health in Justice at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, with expertise on efforts to reduce the number of youth in the juvenile justice system.

**Deep Center** Savannah, GA

\$150,000 FY19 Our Town: Design

To support creative writing and storytelling workshops for youth and adults, temporary public art installations, and a community art event in Savannah, Georgia. The project goal is to build community trust and new relationships through the arts to empower youth and facilitate understanding among them and the juvenile justice system.

**Each One Reach One** South San Francisco, CA

\$20,000 FY19 Art Works: Arts Education

To support a playwriting program for youth. Designed to serve incarcerated San Francisco and San Mateo County teenagers, the playwriting and educational tutoring program will pair professional theater artists with youths to create and develop original, one-act plays. Playwriting instructors and theater artist mentors will teach young writers the fundamentals of playwriting through lectures, group discussions, and seminars. The program will culminate in staged readings of the work that will be performed by professional actors for participants, parents, teachers, and peers.

**Express Yourself Milwaukee Inc (EXYOMKE)** Milwaukee, WI

\$10,000 FY19 Challenge America

To support arts programming for youth, including mentorships with professional artists. Programming will be provided at a drop-in arts center intended to serve low-income youth who are involved with delinquency and court services, including youth who are preparing to transition out of incarceration. Guest artists will include visual artist and muralist Ammar Nsoroma; Cammie Griffin, member of the percussion performance "STOMP"; and tap dancer Justin Myles. The guest artists will work with youth in the development of artwork such as dance or music pieces, large scale props, costumes, visual arts, and video, culminating in a public event and performance.

**Found Sound Nation** Brooklyn, NY

\$55,000 FY19 Art Works: Presenting and Multidisciplinary Arts

To support the creation of an original multidisciplinary work through a series of workshops and creative collaborations with incarcerated youth at the Hudson Correctional Facility. An artistic team will work

with youth participants at the facility to create original poems and writings, which will be woven together to create a multidisciplinary performance piece that will premiere at Basilica Hudson, as well as at other arts centers, schools, and community organizations.

**Free Write Arts & Literacy NFP** Chicago, IL

\$30,000 FY19 Art Works: Arts Education

To support multidisciplinary arts workshops for Chicago students who are incarcerated in the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center (CCJTDC). Professional teaching artists will provide instruction in digital audio production, creative writing, and visual arts. Students also will have exhibition and performance opportunities as well as visiting artist master classes inside the CCJTDC. Arts workshops in the CCJTDC support students' social and emotional learning alongside artistic skills development while also expanding their educational and career opportunities and helping them to see their lives beyond incarceration.

**Herstory Writers Workshop. Inc.** Centereach, NY

\$20,000 FY19 Art Works: Literature

To support writing workshops in correctional facilities and for public school students. Herstory will offer weekly literary memoir writing workshops for women and adolescent girls in Long Island jails. In addition, the organization's program for young writers will bring students from Long Island and Queens County school districts to college campuses to develop their craft.

**Spy Hop Productions, Inc.** Chicago, IL

\$25,000 FY19 Art Works: Media Arts

To support Sending Messages, an audio storytelling program and podcast produced by students in Utah's juvenile justice system. Through workshops and personalized instruction with mentor teaching artists, program participants will write, edit, and produce podcasts that incorporate spoken word, audio documentaries, personal narratives, music, and poetry.

**Storycatchers Theatre** Chicago, IL

\$40,000 FY19 Art Works: Arts Education

To support a post-release performing arts jobs program for court-involved youth. Professional teaching artists will use writing and performing arts to guide young people who have been recently released from detention through a creative process that will help them develop the skills to navigate reentry successfully. Participants will use writing, storytelling, rehearsals, and performances to develop creativity, build communication and decision-making skills, and gain leadership experience. Teaching artists will recruit small groups to form each ensemble, serving approximately 45 core participants during a one-year period. Ensembles will develop and tour an original musical to schools, juvenile justice facilities, police district sites, and other venues. Performances will include youth-led post-show discussions.

**Street Poets, Inc.** Los Angeles, CA

\$45,000 FY19 Art Works: Arts Education

To support poetry writing workshops for youth. Youth in juvenile detention centers, continuation schools, public high schools, and community centers will participate in poetry classes and develop their artistic voices. Through year-round, weekly writing workshops, field trips to live poetry performances, and discussion groups, professional artists will introduce youth to a wide range of poetry.

**Theatre of Hearts, Inc. (Theatre of Hearts Youth First)** Los Angeles, CA

**\$10,000 FY19 Art Works: Arts Education**

To support a visual arts and creative writing program for incarcerated youth in Central Juvenile Hall School. Professional teaching artists will mentor students in visual arts and creative writing workshops that will inspire the themes and images to be incorporated in murals in student residential units. Artist mentors and youth will work together to create art, develop students' social skills, and return students to their neighborhoods as productive community members. The project will culminate with a public mural dedication ceremony.

**FY18**

**Arts Midwest Minneapolis, MN**

**\$1,482,000 FY18 Theater**

To support Shakespeare in American Communities during the 2019 - 2020 school year, including activities within the Juvenile Justice system. Subgrants are provided to professional theater companies across the United States to bring productions of Shakespeare's plays and related educational activities to underserved middle and high school students in communities around the nation. Each award will support performances and educational activities for students from at least 10 schools. The program also provides ongoing support to the companies, including an online Constituent Community, where grantees can engage with other theater companies and educators in a social platform, correspond with Arts Midwest staff, and access all information and documents needed to manage their award. Arts Midwest staff also initiate conversations around select topics to encourage companies to interact and share with one another.

**Austin Classical Guitar Society Austin, TX**

**\$65,000 FY18 Art Works: Arts Education**

To support a classical guitar education program for youth and professional development for music teachers across the nation. Classical guitar instructors will provide lessons to elementary, middle, and high school students in music theory, guitar finger positioning, and performance technique. Central Texas public, private, and charter schools will be served, including a braille-adapted course at Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and special classes for incarcerated youth in Travis County. Additional program components will include guest artist performances in the schools and the opportunity for students to audition for the Classical Guitar Youth Orchestra. Through national teacher training workshops, hundreds of music educators in cities around the country will learn the Austin Classical Guitar online curriculum for use in their own guitar classes.

**Carnegie Hall Corporation New York, NY**

**\$100,000 FY18 Creativity Connects**

To support NeON Arts, a collaboration with the New York City Department of Probation (DOP) to implement diverse arts programming at community-based probation office locations. The program partners will engage local stakeholder groups to ascertain community needs and choose suitable arts projects for their neighborhoods. Artists and arts organizations will receive assistance presenting an array of visual and performing arts programs, and offer youth offenders in neighborhoods of New York City the chance to engage in the arts and develop conduits to education and job opportunities. The NeON locations will function as community centers, inviting clients, residents, and DOP staff to participate together in supportive, creative activities.

**City and County of San Francisco, California**

**\$30,000 FY18 Art Works: Arts Education**

To support San Francisco WritersCorps, a creative writing program focused on youth from underserved communities. Working primarily in language arts classrooms and using creative writing activities thematically linked to literature, writers will work in schools for approximately eight months to supplement the curricula and strengthen students' writing skills. Activities will take place during and after the school day, primarily in underserved public schools, juvenile halls, arts and social service organizations, and public libraries. Support for teaching artists includes monthly cohort meetings and professional development trainings. Students' work will be published in anthologies, chapbooks, and broadsides; recorded for social media; and performed at a variety of poetry events, including the annual literary festival WordStorm.

**County of Los Angeles, California**

\$100,000 FY18 Art Works: Arts Education

To support a series of in-person and online convenings for the Los Angeles County Arts Education Collective, a collective impact project. The Los Angeles County Arts Commission will host and co-host in-person convenings, augmented by online collaboration, to facilitate dialogue and foster coordinated efforts to strengthen arts education among hundreds of partners in the Los Angeles County Arts Education Collective. Participants will include more than 900 leaders and practitioners from school districts and nonprofit organizations as well as teaching artists, parents, and philanthropists who share the common goal that all public school students in Los Angeles County receive quality arts instruction as a core part of a well-rounded education. Convenings will include meetings, forums, and workshops that will focus on an array of topics, such as articulating arts education strategies in schools and using technology to integrate arts into the classroom. Project partners will include the Los Angeles County Office of Education, Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network, Teaching Artist Guild, and Aging and Community Services, among others.

**Cultural Development Authority of King County Seattle, WA**

\$75,000 FY18 Art Works: Local Arts Agencies

To support Creative Justice, multidisciplinary arts programming that provides an alternative to youth incarceration. Designed for youth involved in the juvenile court system, Creative Justice pairs mentor artists with youth and their families. Potential participants will be identified by juvenile court staff associated with the King County Children and Family Justice Center. Participating youth will attend a series of sessions that will include instruction in artistic disciplines such as visual arts, music, theater, dance, media arts, and writing. The instruction will culminate with the presentation of youth-produced, community-based events and activities to be held at Washington Hall in Seattle. The organizers of Creative Justice seek to address the root causes of youth incarceration and empower individual and systematic transformation through art and creativity.

**Fifth House Ensemble Chicago, IL**

\$45,000 FY18 Creativity Connects

To support language arts and music residencies at social service organizations serving at-risk youth and adults, as well as the associated research, documentation, and evaluation of the program in partnership with the Center for Urban Research and Learning at Loyola University Chicago. Residency programs will be developed for social service organizations serving homeless or incarcerated youth and adults in Chicago such as the Chicago Temporary Youth Detention Center, Deborah's Place, and Teen Living Programs. Members of Fifth House Ensemble, a chamber music ensemble, will work as the lead teaching artists and develop residency activities at each site based on the needs of participants. The activities will be designed to incorporate music composition, songwriting, poetry, and language arts, with training in public speaking, performance, and problem solving to help participants develop self-esteem and process

trauma through arts participation. Each residency will close with a final performance of completed work in front of an audience of peers and family members. The project also will include the development of case studies and responsive evaluation and assessment tools, generated in collaboration with CURL, to measure the effectiveness of music programs for at-risk populations in non-arts-based settings, for national dissemination.

**Freehold Theatre Lab Studio** Seattle, WA

\$20,000 FY18 Art Works: Theater

To support a production of *As You Like It* by William Shakespeare. As part of the Engaged Theater program, a series of performances designed to make theater accessible to culturally underserved populations, the production will tour to community partner sites, and will be augmented by workshops conducted by teaching artists in drama, movement, creative writing, and spoken-word, as well as extended residencies that will lead participants through thematic explorations of the play. The project will reach underserved communities throughout the Northwest, such as incarcerated populations, juvenile detainees, psychiatric ward patients and staff, residents of low-income housing projects, and returning veterans and their families.

**Mount Saint Mary's University** Los Angeles, CA

\$15,000 FY18 Art Works: Music

To support Da Camera Society's Chamber Music in Historic Sites, a performance presenting project. The concerts and related engagement activities will pair musical programming from various cultures and periods with sites of architectural and historical significance in the Los Angeles area. The project will include community workshops, master classes, and mini-residencies in a range of venues such as schools, community centers, and juvenile detention centers.

**NY Writers Coalition Inc.** Brooklyn, NY

\$10,000 FY18 Art Works: Literature

To support stipends for writing workshop instructors. The organization's free workshops, which take place in locations throughout New York City, will serve groups such as at-risk youth; adults in substance abuse recovery; seniors; individuals with disabilities; individuals who are incarcerated; and others. Workshops provide participants with an opportunity to find and hone their voices, learn the craft of writing, and be a part of a supportive artistic community.

**Public Works Group** Pasadena, CA

\$50,000 FY18 Art Works: Arts Education

To support an arts education program focused on studio arts and media arts. Underserved high school students at Learning Works Charter School campuses in East Pasadena and Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, will receive weekly, year-round sequential visual arts and media arts instruction and workforce skills training. The initiative will incorporate public exhibition opportunities for students, mentorships and paid apprenticeships, a biennial career day, and fieldtrips to various cultural venues. Key project partners include the Armory Center for the Arts and Homeboy Industries, a social services and enterprise organization addressing the needs of formerly gang-involved or incarcerated men and women.

**Shelby County Arts Council** Columbiana, AL

\$10,000 FY18 Challenge America: Arts Engagement in American Communities

To support educational outreach programs for youth. The Shelby County Arts Council will coordinate a series of outreach programs, such as a visual art and music education program for students with

disabilities in Shelby County schools. In addition, through a partnership with the Shelby County Alabama Juvenile Detention Center, professional artists will work with students at the juvenile corrections facility. The arts council also will work with the Alabama Writers Forum and the Alabama Department of Youth Services to conduct a creative writing program for at-risk middle-school students that will culminate in a printed anthology of the students' work. Through its educational programming, the council seeks to provide youth with a positive outlet for expression.

**Shine Global, Inc.** New York, NY

\$20,000 FY18 Art Works: Media Arts

To support post-production costs for *Virtually Free*, a documentary feature film by André Robert Lee. *Virtually Free* follows two youth offenders at the Richmond Juvenile Detention Center as they create a simulated incarceration experience in virtual reality during an eight-week program with a visiting artist, which will be actively used for police in-service training in partnership with the Richmond Police Department (Virginia). The film will document this experience and explore ways that art can build understanding between different communities. Intended for public broadcast, *Virtually Free* will serve as part of a multimedia installation experience that will tour to police departments, schools, museums, public spaces, and community groups.

**Storycatchers Theatre** Chicago, IL

\$40,000 FY18 Art Works: Arts Education

To support a post-release performing arts jobs program for court-involved youth. Professional teaching artists will use creative nonfiction and performing arts to guide young people who have been recently released from detention through a creative process that will help them develop the skills to navigate reentry successfully. Participants will use writing, storytelling, rehearsals, and performances to develop creativity, build communication and decision-making skills, and gain leadership experience. Teaching artists will recruit small groups to form each ensemble, serving approximately 45 core participants during a one-year period. Ensembles will develop and tour an original musical to schools, juvenile justice facilities, police district sites, and other venues. Performances will include youth-led post-show discussions.

**Street Poets, Inc.** Los Angeles, CA

\$30,000 FY18 Art Works: Arts Education

To support poetry writing workshops for youth, including live poetry performances and reading series. Youth in juvenile detention centers, continuation schools, public high schools, and community centers will participate in poetry classes, develop their artistic voices, and use the creative process for personal transformation. Through year-round, weekly writing workshops, field trips to live poetry performances, and discussion groups, professional artists will introduce youth to a wide range of poetry and teach creative writing. Participants will revise, rehearse, and present their original poetry publicly at their schools and other venues in Los Angeles.