



For Immediate Release

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Arts Services Initiative Announces 2018 Give for Greatness Grant Awards

25 cultural organizations in 5 counties funded through program

Arts Services Initiative of Western New York (ASI) announced the recipients of the 2018 Give for Greatness grants. Twenty-five grants providing general operating support in the amount of \$1,000 each will be awarded to cultural organizations across the five counties of Western New York thanks to several fundraising initiatives throughout the year.

Out of 61 total applicants, the following 25 organizations were chosen by a panel of local cultural leaders:

- Art for Rural America
- Brazen-Faced Varlets
- Buffalo Choral Arts Society
- Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus
- Buffalo Girlchoir
- Buffalo International Film Festival Inc.
- The Buffalo Institute for Contemporary Art
- Buffalo Jazz Collective
- Buffalo Opera Unlimited
- Buffalo String Works
- Buffalo Sugar City Inc.
- Carnegie Art Center
- Chautauqua Regional Youth Ballet
- ComedySportz Buffalo, Inc.
- Danceability
- El Museo Francisco Oller y Diego Rivera
- The Fountain Arts Center, Inc.
- Harmonia Chamber Singers
- Holland Community Choir
- Locust Street Neighborhood Art Classes, Inc.
- Second Generation Theatre Co.
- Southern Tier Symphony, Inc.
- Tri-County Arts Council
- Unique Theatre Company
- WNY Book Arts Collaboration

“The 2018 Give for Greatness grant awards grassroots cultural organizations for their important work in Western New York by supporting their general operating efforts,” Arts Services Initiative Executive Director Jen Swan said. “These organizations serve as cultural hubs in urban and rural communities throughout five counties, often times operating on a budget less than \$20,000 with mostly all-volunteer staff.”

Funds for the Give for Greatness grants were raised through several fundraising activities throughout the year including the annual Lawyers for the Arts events. Additional support for Give for Greatness comes from Fund for the Arts and the Rupp Family Foundation. Fundraising

for 2019 will get underway with the 8th Annual Lawyers for the Arts event taking place on Saturday, March 9 at The Tralf. More information can be found at www.asiwny.org.

ASI will host a grant distribution ceremony for Give for Greatness awardees on Friday, December 14, 2018 at 10AM at the Buffalo History Museum located at One Museum Court, Buffalo, NY 14216. This event is open to the press to attend.

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