

For Immediate Release

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Oakland County Children's Village Foundation has been awarded a grant of \$4000 from the State of Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). The grant was awarded through the MCACA peer review process and was one of 494 applications to compete for MCACA fiscal year 2015 funding.

"The Foundation is grateful to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and to the National Endowment for the Arts for this award. The project provides the children and youth of the Children's Village with the chance to experience arts education, and the local arts community. Project services will occur in the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center professional art studios, in classes created specifically for the children. The professional art studio environment facilitates learning and growing, as well as respect for diversity," said Kelly Lewis, President, Oakland County Children's Village Foundation.

Organizations receiving a MCACA grant award are required to match those funds with other public and private dollars. Local support of the project included in-kind support from the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, the County of Oakland, and the Oakland County Children's Village Foundation. Children's Village receives year-round significant community support, as all foundation members are volunteers. Foundation officers include: Kelly Lewis, Terri Guzzy, Karen Joliat, and Yvette Thrush. Other Foundation members are: Bob Duschinske, Andrea Dean, Fred Vollrath, Julie Day, Jack Smith, Julie Stulberg, Lisa Lewis, Dr. Myra Danish, Nadine Milostan, Stan Moore, Tricia Smith, Tom Perkins, and Barbara Ducharme.
www.cvfoundation.com

The grant project involves a partnership between Children's Village and the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center to provide quality, hands-on art opportunities to the facility's under-served children and youth. By engaging the children in creative arts experiences, the program fosters personal growth, tactile experiences, and creative expression. www.bbartcenter.org/

The MCACA peer review process allows for each grant application to be competitively considered by a panel of in-state and out-of-state arts and culture professionals. This ensures the taxpayers, who support this project through legislative appropriations, and all other visitors or residents in Michigan will have access to the highest quality arts and cultural experiences. This year, the Grant Coordinator was Phil Gilchrist, of the Anton Art Center, Macomb County's hometown gallery, which served as the Region 10A Regranting Agency, www.theartcenter.org.

A complete list of grant awards around the state is available by contacting MCACA at (517) 241-4011, or by visiting the MCACA website, www.michiganbusiness.org/community/council-arts-cultural-affairs/#MCACA-logo.



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