Office for the Arts Announces Spring 2015 Grants

Over 300 students will participate in dance, multidisciplinary, music, theater and other projects at Harvard University this spring sponsored in part through funding from the Office for the Arts at Harvard (OFA) Project Grant Program. The funded projects, selected by the Council on the Arts at Harvard, include five publications featuring original student work; nine theatre productions including three original student works; and other events such as Ghungroo, a showcase of South Asian dance styles, music, and skits, and spring music concerts of several student music ensembles, such as the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College.

OFA grants are intended to seed a rich and varied student arts landscape in the College and to fund student artistic growth and learning through art making. Funded projects involve the undergraduate population and provide visibility for their artistic efforts, encourage collaboration, and feature original work or works that demonstrate creative approaches to existing work.

Council on the Arts members at the time of selection were: Diana Sorensen (Chair), James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages and of Comparative Literature and Dean of Arts and Humanities; Diane Borger, Producer of the American Repertory Theater; Federico Cortese, Senior Lecturer on Music, Conductor of the Harvard Radcliffe Orchestra; S. Allen Counter, Director, Harvard Foundation; Deborah Foster, Senior Lecturer in Folklore and Mythology; Jorie Graham, Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory; Christopher Hasty, Walter W. Naumburg Professor of Music; Jill Johnson, Dance Director, OFA Dance Program, Senior Lecturer on Music; Ruth Stella Lingford, Professor of the Practice of Animation, Film Study Center Fellow; Cathleen McCormick, Director of Programs, Office for the Arts; Jack Megan, Director, Office for the Arts; Diane Paulus, Artistic Director, American Repertory Theater; Matt Saunders, Associate Professor of Visual and Environmental Studies; Elaine Scarry, Walter M. Cabot Professor of Aesthetics and the General Theory of Value and Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows; and Marcus Stern, Associate Director, American Repertory Theater/MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training.

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The OFA, which administers the grants, offers support for projects taking place during fall and spring semesters, as well as ARTS FIRST, Harvard’s annual celebration of the arts. For further information, visit ofa.fas.harvard.edu.

**SPRING 2015 GRANTS**

**DANCE**

*Breakeasy 3*, Stephanie Manivanh ‘16, Harvard Breakers: ESTHER KAHN GRANT to support a breakdance competition featuring over 200 dancers from Harvard and neighboring colleges.

*The Jungle Book*, Catherine Qin ‘17, Harvard Ballet Company: ESTHER KAHN GRANT to support a production featuring works by both student and professional choreographers.

*Harvard Radcliffe Modern Dance Company Spring Show*, Moira McCavana ‘16, HRMDC: ESTHER KAHN GRANT to support a production showcasing original student and alumni choreography.

*Pan African Dance & Music Ensemble Choreography*, Will Moyo ‘17, PADAME: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT to support the teaching and sharing of African culture through artistic expression of song and dance within the Harvard community.

**LITERATURE**

*Advocate Website Hackathon*, Jenny Gao ‘16: OFA GRANT to support a redesign of *The Advocate* website.

*Harvard Book Review Spring Issue*, Jake Wilder-Smith ‘16: OFA GRANT to support a publication featuring critical essays on fiction, nonfiction, poetry, as well as trends in contemporary thought and literature.


*Tuesday Magazine Spring Issue*, Qing Qing Miao ‘16: OFA GRANT to support the publication of a general interest magazine dedicated to a cross-section of student life and amplifying student voices.

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The Crunch Spring Issue, Caroline Juang ’17: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT to support the publication of a magazine dedicated to original comics.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY

Creations for Generations, Jennifer Tu ’16: LIPSON-ECKSTEIN GRANT to support a collaborative effort between Music in Hospitals and Nursing Homes using Entertainment as Therapy (MINUET), the Harvard Global Health Institute, and the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and learning to engage members of nursing home and hospital communities through the arts.

Ghungroo, Nishant Karak ’17, Harvard South Asian Association: HERBERT TODD COBEY GRANT to support a showcase of a variety of South Asian dance styles, music, and skits.

Prescencia Latina, Lorena Aviles Trujillo ’17: HERBERT TODD COBEY GRANT to support a cultural show featuring the poetry, dance, and music of the Latino community.

Spring Lu’au, Shelly Preza ’17, Holoinua o Hawaii (Hawaii Club): ESTHER KAHN GRANT to support an event featuring traditional and contemporary Hawaiian performances.

MUSIC

45th Annual Dean Archie C. Epps Spring Concert, Julius Martin ’17, Kuumba Singers: LIPSON-ECKSTEIN GRANT to support Kuumba’s annual spring concert.

A Return to the Americas, Ellen Shrock ’16, River Charles Ensemble: LIPSON-ECKSTEIN GRANT to support a spring concert featuring works by Gershwin, Ives and Sondheim.

Brattle Street Chamber Players Spring Concert, George Meyer ’15: ESTHER KAHN GRANT to support a spring concert featuring the 15-member string-playing group.

Harvard Pops Fall Concert, Jeff Seidl ’16, Harvard Pops Orchestra: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT to support the Pops’ spring concert featuring famous works of stage and screen along with original student compositions.

Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra Spring Concerts, Anna Sato ’16: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT to support two spring concerts featuring the works of Shubert, Benjamin, Brahms and Mahler.

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The Queen of Spades, Julius Bright Ross ‘17, Lowell House Opera: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT for a production of Tchaikovsky’s opera in Lowell House.

THUD Spring Concert, Nathan Siegelaub ‘18, The Harvard Undergraduate Drummers: LIPSON-ECKSTEIN GRANT to support a spring concert featuring original student pieces.

THEATER

A Quiet Place, Samuel Hagen ‘18: TIMOTHY S. MAYER GRANT to support the production of this play in the intimate space of a dorm room.

Endgame, Brenna McDuffie ‘15: TIMOTHY S. MAYER GRANT to support a production of the Samuel Beckett play.

The Freshman Musical, Emily Zauzmer ‘18: TIMOTHER S. MAYER GRANT to support the annual musical written, directed, and produced by first-year students.

It Might Be a Story About a Band, Annie Schugart ‘18: TIMOTHY S. MAYER GRANT to support an original, student-written play in the Loeb Experimental Theater (Loeb Ex).

Jacques the fatalist and his master, kat baus ‘15: TIMOTHY S. MAYER GRANT to support a production of an adaptation of Denis Diderot’s work in the Carpenter Center.

OSCAR at The Crown and the love that dare not speak its name, Mark Mauriello ‘15: TIMOTHY S. MAYER GRANT to support a student-written, original theater event inspired and loosely based on the life and work of Oscar Wilde.

Stranger, Kathleen O’Beirne ‘15: HERBERT TODD COBEY GRANT to support Loeb Ex production of the Craig Lucas play.

The Maids, Joule Voelz ‘17: HERBERT TODD COBEY GRANT to support a production of Jean Genet’s play in the Loeb Ex.

[title of show], Madison Deming ‘18: TIMOTHY S. MAYER GRANT to support a production of the Tony Award nominated musical in the Adams Pool Theater.

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VISUAL ARTS

Harvard College Film Festival, Henry Johnson ’17: NORMAN LEAR GRANT to support a film festival involving student filmmakers from Harvard and other campuses across the country.

Arts@Adams, Maryam Eskandari ’11, Adams House: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT to support a weekly painting and design lab.

In the Making, Curtis Lahaie ’15: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT to support a photo and shared story project that reveals the progress made by the LGBTQ movement and the future work that needs to be continued.

New Projects with Old Forms, Alex Cohen ’16, Bow and Arrow Press: RICHARD SOLOMON GRANT to support the creation of a hand-crafted literary publication.


The Office for the Arts at Harvard (OFA) supports student engagement in the arts and integrates the arts into University life. Through its programs and services, the OFA teaches and mentors, fosters student art making, connects students to accomplished artists, commissions new work, and partners with local, national, and international constituencies. By supporting the development of students as artists and cultural stewards, the OFA works to enrich society and shape communities in which the arts are a vital part of life. For more information about the OFA, call 617.495.8676, or visit www.ofa.fas.harvard.edu.

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