

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Berks Arts Council Awards 2017-2018 Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts Project Stream Grants**

READING, PA—Berks Arts Council is awarding \$45,187 in regional grant funds to 48 recipients, thanks to an annual grant received from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency. These grants, provided by state tax dollars, fund a variety of dance, theatre, music, and visual arts projects within Berks, Lancaster, and Schuylkill counties. Berks Arts Council is one of 13 Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA) organizations that annually evaluate grant requests for arts projects, individual artists, and ongoing arts programs within the three-county region. The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts oversees the PPA initiative.

Berks Arts Council will host a public grant award ceremony on Friday, November 3, 2017. Grant recipients are invited to share information about their organizations and funded projects. The ceremony will be held at 4:30 p.m. in room 411 of GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, 201 Washington St. Reading, PA.

The following artists and arts organizations have been awarded grants for the 2017-2018 funding year:

**Berks County grant recipients:** Olivet Boys & Girls Club \$1,290 • Red Knight Music Association \$1,232 • Cub Scout Pack 103 – Fleetwood \$1,203 • Opus One: Berks Chamber Choir \$1,202 • Berks History Center \$1,114.00 • Robeson Elementary Center \$1,106 • Reading Samba School \$1,106 • Kutztown Community Library \$1,103 • ReadingFilm \$1,086 • Maidencreek Old-time Music Festival \$1,086 • Vox Philia Chamber Choir \$1,082 • The Friends of Chamber Music of Reading, Inc. \$1,082 • Ringgold Band, Inc. \$1,057 • Berks BARDS, Inc. \$998 • Wyomissing Public Library \$986 • Cynthia Thomasset, MA. \$962 • Alvernia University \$897 • Shillington Park Concert Series \$881 • Tim Farrell \$868 • YNOT Awards \$868 • Muhlenberg Arts Board \$824 • Reading Civic Theater \$809 • Christ Church of Temple \$759 • WCR Center for the Arts \$737 • RIZE \$735 • Berks Sinfonietta, Inc. \$659 • Humanitarian Social Innovations \$620 • Fall Festival of the Arts \$582 • Kutztown Folk Music Society \$533

**Lancaster County grant recipients:** Creative Works of Lancaster \$1,290 • St. Paul's United Church of Christ \$1,130 • City of Lancaster Office of Public Art \$1,115 • Arvil Meisenhelter \$970 • Lancaster Chamber Singers Association \$941 • Penn Square Music Festival \$897 • Ephrata Performing Arts Center \$868 • Lancaster New Sounds \$684 • Ephrata Public Library \$594 • Rockville Performing Groups \$258

**Schuylkill County grant recipients:** Sweet Arrow Lake Conservation Association \$1,154 • Diakon Community Services \$1,142 • Anthracite Philharmonic \$1,115 • Rori Smith \$1,034 • Gaudenzia Fountain Springs \$1,010 • Kathi Mengle \$986 • Schuylkill Choral Society \$984 • Lorraine Felker and Anne Felker \$890 • Stephanie Premich \$658

For more information about the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts Grant Program and how to submit a project for consideration, visit [www.BerksArts.org](http://www.BerksArts.org).

Berks Arts Council is a local arts agency whose mission is to cultivate, promote, and support the arts in our community through collaboration, education, and presentation. In addition to the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts program, Berks Arts Council presents the Berks Jazz Fest, the Bandshell Concert Series, Fast Lane Art, the Pagoda Awards, Reading Blues Fest and provides art exhibition and marketing opportunities for member artists. Visit them at [www.BerksArts.org](http://www.BerksArts.org).

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts is a state agency under the Governor's Office that works to foster the excellence, diversity, and vitality of the arts in Pennsylvania and to broaden the availability and appreciation of those arts throughout the state. The PCA is governed by a council of 19 members – 15 private citizens appointed by the Governor and four members of the General Assembly.

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