



FY2018 Maryland Traditions Project Grant recommendations

Maryland Traditions is a program of MSAC with funding from the Folk Arts Infrastructure initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts. Maryland Traditions supports communities by identifying, documenting, and sustaining folk and traditional arts and culture, otherwise known as folklife. Since 2001, Maryland Traditions folklorists have worked directly with individuals and organizations to encourage the vitality of folklife. The program shares information through publication, interpretation, presentation, and outreach.

The Maryland Traditions Project Grant supports research and programming that documents, sustains, or presents folklife for Maryland communities. Eligible applicants are Maryland's nonprofit arts organizations or non-arts organizations that undertake arts programming. Colleges, universities, and units of government also may apply. Maryland Traditions folklorists offer technical assistance on Project Grant applications and work to connect successful applicants with resources that bolster their activities.

The FY2018 Maryland Traditions Project Grant panel consisted of five folklife experts: Tricia Ferdinand of Howard Community College; Gloria Gibson, PhD, of Morgan State University; Cathy Kerst, PhD, retired from the American Folklife Center; Jackson Medel of the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art at Salisbury University; and Melanie Pinkert, PhD, of the University of Maryland, College Park. Together, they reviewed Project Grant applications based on the following criteria:

- Value of the project in sustaining living traditions
- Quality of project design
- Artistic and cultural significance
- Ability of the applicant to carry out the project, including financial feasibility
- Impact of the project on the identified community

Project Grant funding will support activities taking place between July 2017 and June 2018. At the conclusion of the funding period, organizations will submit a final report listing describing completed activities, artists engaged, and audiences served in relation to the project. Brochures and recordings associated with the project must be submitted in conjunction with this report. Maryland Traditions Project Grant funding may compose as much as fifty percent of a proposed project's total budget. Grant amounts vary depending on individual project budgets and available funding, but they may not be less than \$1,000 or more than \$5,000. This funding is given in a single disbursement and must be spent on programming expenses in Maryland. Of the twelve applications received this year, eight were recommended for funding at some level. One of these recommendations is conditional, as noted below.

Organization	County	Project description	Funding recommendation
Baltimore Clayworks	Baltimore City	Three ceramic art exhibitions and workshops focusing on potting traditions and culture	\$3,000
Baltimore Rhythm Festival	Baltimore City	Workshops and community celebration focusing on African-sourced music and culture	\$4,500
Chestertown RiverArts	Kent	Pop-up gallery documenting Chestertown's pre-integration African-American business community	\$2,000—conditional
Creative Alliance	Baltimore City	<i>Dia de los Muertos</i> craft workshops and community tours by the <i>Artesanas Mexicanas</i> Latina American artists' collective	\$5,000
World of Montgomery Festival	Montgomery County	Hands-on folklife demonstrations at eighth annual multicultural festival in Rockville	\$3,000
Griots' Circle of Maryland	Baltimore City	African-American storytelling and drumming at third annual <i>Voices of History Street Fair</i>	\$1,500
International Rescue Committee	Baltimore City	Gardening materials and media documentation for New Roots program aimed at sustaining refugees' agricultural traditions	\$3,000
Kalanidhi Dance	Montgomery County	Production of <i>The Poetry of Love</i> , featuring traditional <i>Kuchipudi</i> dance from India	\$3,000
Total funding recommendation:			\$25,000



FY2018 Maryland Traditions Apprenticeship Award recommendations

Maryland Traditions is a program of MSAC with funding from the Folk Arts Infrastructure initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts. Maryland Traditions supports communities by identifying, documenting, and sustaining folk and traditional arts and culture, otherwise known as folklife. Since 2001, Maryland Traditions folklorists have worked directly with individuals and organizations to encourage the vitality of folklife. The program shares information through publication, interpretation, presentation, and outreach.

The Maryland Traditions Apprenticeship Award supports living traditions by connecting master folklife artists with apprentices to whom they may pass on their skills and knowledge. Many such masters and apprentices call Maryland home, and the Apprenticeship Award is an opportunity to recognize these individuals who contribute so much to our state's diverse cultural communities.

The FY2018 Maryland Traditions Apprenticeship Award panel consisted of five folklife experts: Tricia Ferdinand of Howard Community College; Gloria Gibson, PhD, of Morgan State University; Cathy Kerst, PhD, retired from the American Folklife Center; Jackson Medel of the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art at Salisbury University; and Melanie Pinkert, PhD, of the University of Maryland, College Park. Together, they reviewed Apprenticeship Award applications based on the following criteria:

- Traditional nature of the proposed art or skill
- Expertise of the master artist
- Preparedness of the apprentice and their engagement with the tradition's community
- Relevance and importance of the tradition to the cultural communities of Maryland
- Demonstrated level of commitment by the master and apprentice to the apprenticeship
- Potential impact of the apprenticeship on the continued vitality of the tradition
- Feasibility of work plan and the overall coherence of the apprenticeship

Apprenticeships will begin in July 2017 and continue through June 2018. During the apprenticeship period, a Maryland Traditions folklorist will conduct a site visit with the master and apprentice to document their collaboration. Masters and apprentices will be expected to participate in a culminating public event to present the skills that they have honed together. Apprenticeship awards total \$2,000, with \$1,800 reserved for the master and \$200 for the apprentice. This funding must be spent on apprenticeship-related expenses, which may include compensation for the master's teaching. Each award is given in two installments, with the second installment being disbursed after the site visit. Of the eighteen applications received this year, ten were recommended for funding. One of these recommendations is conditional, as noted below.

Master	Apprentice	County	Tradition
Dominic "Shodekeh" Bouma	Ian Hesford	Baltimore City	Tuvan <i>Xoomei</i> (throat singing) & folk music
Rogelio Ernesto Gatell Coto	Steve Bloom	Prince George's & Montgomery	Cuban <i>arará</i> (ceremonial) song cycle & <i>bata</i> drumming
Linda Goss	David Fakunle	Baltimore City & Anne Arundel	African-American storytelling
Andrea Hoag	Christopher Ousley	Prince George's	Swedish fiddling
Mohammadreza Kazemifar	Ali Analouei	Montgomery	Persian music & vocal repertory
Chum Ngek	Suteera Nagavajara	Montgomery	Cambodian <i>pin peat</i> (classical & ceremonial) music
Anna Pasqualucci	Lisa Marie Penn	Anne Arundel & Worcester	Screen painting
Rich Smoker	Kenny Glasgow	Somerset	Wildfowl decoy carving, weighting, & painting
Sebastian Wang	Sanghyuk Park	Montgomery & Howard	Korean <i>samulnori</i> (percussion) on drum & gong
Menes Yahudah	Earsey Toney, Jr.	Baltimore City	West African <i>djembe</i> & <i>dundun</i> orchestra (percussion)
Total funding recommendation:			\$20,000