

The Saints 2012 Grant Recipients

The General Public probably knows the Saints mostly as ushers at Chicagoland performance venues and are totally unaware that The Saints have been giving Grants to performing Arts Organizations since 1992. The performance arts community, however, is well-aware of this program, inasmuch as 120 applications for grants were received in 2012 - many from organizations who are not Saints venues and many from groups that the Grants Commission members were unaware of.

The funds for the grants come from Saints membership fees - there are presently over 2050 members - plus the net proceeds of a yearly benefit and raffle luncheon, as well as additional donations. This year, the Saints Grants totaled almost \$95,000.00; the total amount the Saints have contributed to performing arts groups in the Chicagoland area from 1995 to the present time exceeds \$300,000.00.

This year, a Commission of 9 Saints members, chaired by Pam Block, selected 31 of the 120 applicants: 17 theatre organizations and 14 music and dance organizations. A few of the grantees had budgets under \$10,000; a few grantees were major players in the Chicago Arts scene with budgets at least 10 times that amount. The Commission determined evaluation criteria in advance to focus on the mission statement, proposal detailing improvement of artistic production, financial viability, legal verification, and the website quality. This year, for the first time, applications were required to be made online, which greatly reduced the time and effort of each Commission member, who formerly had to review a paper copy of each lengthy application.

Congratulation to this year's recipients, listed in alphabetic order.

Recipient	Project
Aguijón Theater Company	To support fees for a translator, set designer, and partially for sets for <i>Adentro</i> , by Cuban playwright Abel Gonzalez Melo.
Ars Viva	To support fees for extra percussionists, music and instrument rental and transportation for soloists for first concert.
Baroque Band	To purchase a pair of 18th century timpani and 3 pairs of timpani mallets. No other baroque timpani are in the Chicago area; they have to be hired at great expense from other locations.
Barrel of Monkeys	To support a properties master/scenic artist as a short-term contractor to create unique and lasting props.
Bella Voce	To support the commission of a new, innovative work by Gabriel Jackson to commemorate their 30th anniversary season.

Black Ensemble Theater	To purchase a two-way communications system to better accommodate the needs of both volunteers and patrons using the different levels of their new building.
Chicago Dance Crash	To support the rental of foggers and hazers for technical rehearsals and the performance runs of <i>Gotham City</i> at the Storefront Theatre.
Chicago Dramatists	To purchase projection equipment and a laptop rather than rent equipment, expanding production parameters and reducing costs.
Chicago Master Singers	To support fees for a quartet of Chicago-area professional soloists for the chorus' November 2012 concert.
City Lit Theater Company	To support the creation of costumes for <i>Comrades Mine</i> , with a cast of nine playing 24 characters, requiring period costumes including military uniforms from two different periods as well as the services of a movement choreographer for stylized battle scenes, and a larger technical crew.
DanceWorks Chicago	To support original music and production elements for <i>Biota</i> .
Emergence Dance Theatre	To replace the badly-worn dance floor at the Athenaeum, for use by our company and others, after a four year absence from that location.
First Folio Theatre	To provide support toward the restoration of their outdoor stage, to maintain safety and integrity, as well as aesthetics; would ensure that the only permanent outdoor Shakespeare venue in the Chicago area would remain for another decade of Shakespeare-under-the-Stars.
Fulcrum Point New Music Project	To support the commissioning of one composer for their new three-year series celebrating music and poetry; four composers with ties to Harvard will be featured including a 2004 Pulitzer prize winner.
Harris Theater for Music and Dance	To purchase new assistive listening devices for patrons' use at both rental performances and the Theater's presenting series.
Innervation Dance Cooperative	To support a tour of two original contemporary ballets based on classic literature with five performances of each show to Chicago area schools.
Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles	To purchase a set of chimes to be used by their Symphonic Band and Orchestra, adding a unique quality to pieces to expand the repertoire available to these ensembles in their approximate 9 concerts per year.
Livewire Chicago Theatre	To support performance rights, artistic, technical, and production fees for its annual new play festival, <i>VisionFest 4: Where the Image Meets the Stage</i> .
Muntu Dance Theatre of Chicago	To support the fees of a guest choreographer, Jeffrey Page, to mount a new premier work for their 40th Anniversary.
Natya Dance Theatre	To commission the original score and support 4-5 musical instruments for the production of <i>Jataka Tales</i> , a new premier dance theater work.
Polarity Ensemble Theatre	To add video to final workshop performances of the 6th annual <i>Dionysus CUP Festival of New Plays</i> , giving playwrights an opportunity to see deeper into their plays by viewing them repeated times on DVD.
Quest Theatre Ensemble	To support theater supplies including folding chairs, trucks, padlocks, and cables to create a more comfortable theatrical atmosphere in shared space for patrons.

Redtwist Theatre	To purchase a flexible lighting board that can be operated manually as well as driven by software that can be edited, viewed, loaded, and save light cues to run a complicated and accurate show.
Rivendell Theatre Ensemble	To purchase a new, state-of-the-art sound system to service its new artistic home in the Edgewater neighborhood.
Sideshow Theatre Company	To purchase needed tools and equipment for a fully-functional scene shop, allowing set construction to be done more efficiently and creation of more ambitious productions.
Signal Ensemble Theatre	To replace 4 increasingly problematic dimmers.
16th Street Theater	To support their sound and lighting equipment to be at the same level as the quality of their playwrights and actors.
Still Point Theatre Collective	To develop and purchase technical equipment for their "Sisters Rising" program featuring incarcerated women.
Strawdog Theatre Company	To upgrade lighting or sound equipment, based on greatest need.
Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre	To support musical development with original and compelling work, most specifically by supporting three music directors, including an original cabaret show based on music by Jules Styne.
Trap Door Theatre	To obtain rights for the production of Max Frisch's <i>The Arsonists</i> directed by Parisian Clowning Master and Founder of Cie Umbral Theatre, Victor Quezada-Perez.

Total: \$94,484.64

Respectfully submitted,
Saints 2012-13 Grants Commission:

Pamela Block
Patty Kelly
Terry Clarbourn

Tom Lembo
Carolyn Arnolds
Gloria Price

Phil Shayne
Carol Veome
Maple Reddick

Alternates: Gwen Moy and Barbara Plona

Board Liaison: Charlotte Ziporyn

The Saints make Chicago Arts HAPPEN!

The Saints grant application for 2013-2014 is expected to be online at the Saints website, www.saintschicago.org, in October, 2012.