



## Funding Oregon Culture: Grants Made Possible by Donors *Like You*

If you've imagined Gold Rush days at eastern Oregon's Sumpter Dredge or pioneer life at Oregon City's Baker Cabin; experienced cutting-edge theater at Hillsboro's Bag'n'Baggage Productions or Portland's Hand2Mouth Theatre; or engaged a Literary Arts Oregon Book Award author or Oregon Humanities scholar in Conversation, you've participated Oregon culture made possible by donors to the Oregon Cultural Trust.

Cultural Trust donors make possible recently-announced 2010-11 grants totaling \$1.47 million statewide and benefiting 57 cultural nonprofits, 40 county and tribal coalitions and five cultural partners.

### AN INNOVATIVE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO MAKE OREGON PROUD

The Cultural Trust is a powerful public-private partnership that's been ranked with the bottle bill and vote-by-mail as among Oregon's most forward-thinking public policy measures. No other state in the nation has a program like the Cultural Trust, which allows citizens to create cultural funding themselves.

Contributors to the Trust may claim their *entire* donation as an Oregon tax credit – a much greater savings than a deduction – as long as they've made equal or greater donations to any number of 1,300 cultural nonprofits. Since December 2002, Oregonians have contributed \$21 million, enabling the Trust to distribute \$9.65 million in grants and build an endowment to support Oregon's heritage, humanities and arts nonprofits.

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LEFT: Recognized as one of the finest maritime museums in the world, Astoria's Columbia River Maritime Museum will use its \$10,000 grant to catalog the most important traditional boats of the region. Photo © Michael Mathers

CENTER: Lucinda Parker's *Star (In the Winner's Circle)* from the Carl Hall Gallery at Salem's Hallie Ford Museum; photo © Frank Miller. The museum will use its \$7,000 grant to publish guides to its permanent collections. The guides will benefit the more than 30,000 people who visit the museum and its website annually.

RIGHT: Live Wire!, a public radio program taped from live performances of northwest sketch comedy, music and interviews, will use its \$10,000 grant to increase productions and build audiences and national recognition. Photo: Anthony Pidgeon © 2009

Participating in the program is highly beneficial; and once you do, it's gratifying to know you've played a direct part in providing the funding that enables libraries, arts education, heritage sites, historical societies and creative expression to thrive across our state.

YOU GIVE TWICE BUT IT ONLY COSTS YOU ONCE ...  
AND YOU DOUBLE YOUR SUPPORT OF OREGON CULTURE

When you join OPB, the Coos Arts Museum or Oregon Historical Society, why not make a matching gift to the Trust? Or make a matching gift to the Trust when you donate to Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Portland Baroque Orchestra or Sitka Center for Art & Ecology – just a few of 1,300 examples. Complete the process by December 31, then claim the cultural tax credit for your Trust donation on your Oregon return.

Claiming the cultural tax credit means that your matching gift to the Trust *costs you nothing*. You save money on your Oregon state income taxes *and* provide the fuel that keeps Oregon culture diverse, alive and accessible to the community.

WHERE THE TAX CREDIT GOES

Every organization mentioned in this article received a 2010-11 grant from the Cultural Trust. To bring Oregon culture to as many people as possible, grants were awarded to touring projects from Portland's Ethos Music Center, Eugene Ballet Company and Portland Opera, to name just a few, that bring artistry and educational outreach to communities, large and small. Several projects include broadcasting and internet streaming to bring Oregon cultural programming to local, regional, national, and international audiences. Cultural Trust grants often aid cultural nonprofits in offering programs that are entirely free or at very low cost to the community.

All that, and more, made possible by generous Oregon donors, *like you*.

Connect to Oregon culture at [www.culturaltrust.org](http://www.culturaltrust.org)

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