

## Mini Pocket Grant Program 2020

The Mini Pocket Grant program is the third arm of the City of Lansing's Arts and Culture Grant Program. This is a pot of \$5,000 available on a first apply, first served basis. The 2020 program had a time frame of October 1, 2019- September 30, 2020.

The purpose of these \$500 pocket-sized grants is to encourage all those with creative and innovative ideas to embrace #LoveLansing. Non-profit organizations interested in producing arts-based projects or activities in neighborhoods within the City of Lansing can submit brief proposals for a quick \$500 grant. These are reviewed on a rolling basis with no set deadline, meaning applications can come in at any time during the fiscal year timeframe. Once the money is granted out, the pot is empty and the program closes until the next fiscal year.

Because of the easy and accessible process of this grant program, meant to break down barriers for application, there is no required final report for each "quick grant".

### Funded Projects:

*Bathukamma Festival* led by the Greater Lansing Telangana Community

*Lift-Up Local* Lansing event in downtown Lansing led by Downtown Lansing, Inc.

*The Poetry Room online* event led by Masaki Takahashi and All-of-the-Above Hip Hop Academy

*The Artist's Umbrella September Show* led by the Artist's Umbrella

*Unity and Musical Harvest* led by the Turner Dodge House & Heritage Center

## Mini Pocket Grant Program 2021

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to discourage events and in-person gatherings, the Arts Council saw a reduced number of applicants to the FY2021 Mini Pocket Grant program than would normally apply. Unused funds were rolled into the FY22 granting amount.

### Funded Projects:

*Intro to Laban Movement Analysis for Dancers/Actors by dancer Taiwo Adeleye.* Taiwo taught a free dance class to the Lansing community at the end of March 2021 with a unique type of dance and movement. This workshop would provide a first time experience of Laban Movement Analysis to Dancers/Actors in City of Lansing.

*A Collaborative Arts Showcase with Riverwalk Theatre.* They involved the talents of Habibi Dancers, Lansing Children's Choir, Dwight Rich School for Arts, Happendance, Curtainless Theatre. This inclusive arts showcase event took place at the Adado Riverfront Park in August 2021.

*Joyful Crossings Crosswalk Painting by Jill Dombrowski and Eastside community members.* Jill, an active community member on the east side, led a group of fellow east side neighbors to complete multiple crosswalk painting projects. They worked with the City officials for proper safety coordination of the lane closures.

*Free dance classes to the Lansing community with Great Commission Studios.* This was the first grant Great Commission Studios has ever received and they were so grateful for the opportunity! This is exactly what the grant is intended to do – introduce younger arts organizations to new funding opportunities.

*Artistic Performances as part of the Juneteenth Festival.* Mikeyy Austin received funds to pay for additional performances at the festival in REO Town that took place in June 2021. Their goal was to further promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the City of Lansing, while highlighting local artistic leaders and entrepreneurs.

*Afterglow Market @Artery Alley coordinated by Najeema Thomas.* Najeema created a weekly series through her business, YouShine events. The Afterglow market was a socially responsible nighttime street market where you can drink, dance, and eat under the stars featuring a rotating list of artist and local businesses. This took place June 2021 thru October 2021.