

Arizona Theatre Company

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: December 10, 2023

Description: As artistic leaders in Arizona, Arizona Theatre Company strives to connect, nurture, and sustain the communities they serve, celebrating 55 years of providing Arizonans access to world-class professional theatre. For the 2023-24 season, ATC will present Scrooge as their festive showcase. During the opening weekend of the production, ATC will use this grant to host an additional performance for the community members of Tempe at Tempe Center for the Arts. This holiday production allows families to establish new traditions and create cherished memories. ATC will offer discounted and free tickets for those who live and work in Tempe, increasing accessibility to professional theatre performances for all.

Website: <https://atc.org/>

Arizona Wind Symphony

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: October 12 and November 29, 2023, January 25 and March 6, April 24, 2024

Description: The Arizona Wind Symphony strives to improve the cultural enrichment and education of its members, audience, and the greater community with music. Arizona Wind Symphony, a 90-member all-volunteer community-based wind band, rehearses weekly at the TCA (30-40 times during the season). With this grant, they will present five themed concerts with their new conductor, Jon Gomez, at Tempe Center for the Arts (Main Theater). The performances will last approximately 90 minutes with guest soloists featured at most concerts. Throughout this year, AWS will continue to present audience- and member-requested favorites, as well as fresh and exciting productions of new wind band repertoire to inspire the audience and its members.

Website: www.arizonawindsymphony.com

B3 Theater, Inc.

Location: Church of the Epiphany

Date: October 18, 19, 27, and 28, 2023

Description: B3 Theater, Inc. incorporates the three B's of their name: to be BOLD, BRAZEN, and BRILLIANT by producing new and underproduced plays by local and worldwide artists utilizing. Female- and non-binary-led, B3 presents an October play series at Church of the Epiphany with the Wavemaker Grant funds. Tempe residents, along with neighboring audience members, will meet to witness *The Cannibal Diaries* by Paco Jose Madden during the last two weeks of October, as a Halloween tie-in. This provocative, satirical work shines a light on how neighbors tearing apart neighbors— through political infighting— is destroying our country at its roots with *Monty Python*-esque dramatics and gore in an immersive style for all audience members.

Website: www.b3theater.com

Black Theatre Troupe

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: October – November 2023

Description: This year's project, *The Gospel at Colonus*, brings Black Theatre Troupe back to Tempe for the first time since the group's successful *Detroit '67* performance in 2019, continuing their collaboration with the City of Tempe at Tempe Center for the Arts. *The Gospel at Colonus* is an African American musical version of Sophocles' tragedy, *Oedipus at Colonus*, created in 1983 by Lee Breuer and Bob Telson. As the second longest continually operating Black theatre company in the country, Black Theatre Troupe is an integral part of the cultural fabric of the state, and was founded to give expression to young Black people while continuously uplifting all aspects of the community at large.

Website: www.blacktheatretroupe.org

CAFÉ Flutes

Location: Inspirations of Tempe, Contempo Tempe Mobile Home Park Clubhouse, The Meadows Manufactured Home Community

Date: September 2023 – June 2024

Description: Central Arizona Flutes Ensemble (CAFÉ Flutes) enlightens and inspires the community with interactive concerts and programs that showcase the diverse instruments in the flute family. CAFÉ Flutes will perform 10 interactive concerts for seniors living in 3 Tempe communities: Inspirations of Tempe, Contempo Tempe Mobile Home Park, and The Meadows Manufactured Home Community. With 5 concerts hosted at Inspirations of Tempe and the additional 5 hosted at the Contempo Clubhouse, CAFÉ Flutes will facilitate intellectual engagement, emotional connection, and a shared community experience through sessions designed for independent and assisted living residents. Seniors will be actively involved as they listen to and make music, learn about the global culture of flutes, and enjoy customized concerts.

Website: www.cafeflutes.com

Childsplay

Location: Sybil B. Harrington Campus for Imagination and Wonder

Date: August 2023 – June 2024

Description: Childsplay's grant funds will be used to support their Theatre Academy, which operates out of the company's Sybil B. Harrington Campus for Imagination and Wonder in Tempe and will feature final performances at Tempe Center for the Arts. The program provides a diverse range of theatre learning experiences for children ages 4-17, in classes taught by professional teaching artists. The Academy teaches valuable theatre skills, engages children in an active, whole-body learning experience, providing them with tools for collaboration, self-confidence, and creativity. Nearly 1,500 children benefit from the Academy. The program also serves disadvantaged youth who have limited access to organized activities through an active scholarship program.

Website: www.childsplayaz.org

CONDER/dance

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: January 25-27, 2024

Description: Presented by CONDER/dance, Breaking Ground 2024: Contemporary Dance Festival is a multi-faceted arts event set for this January. In its sixteenth year, Breaking Ground will connect national and local choreographers with a diverse array of other art forms presented in the round. The festival strives to integrate diverse and internationally-recognized work into the Tempe community through several entry points: three ticketed events at Tempe Center for the Arts, workshops for the Arizona dance community, and social events designed for the public. By actively developing inclusive performance work inside and outside the theater setting, CONDER/dance seeks to expand the artistic environment vital to the cultural fabric of Arizona.

Website: www.conderdance.com

Cultural Coalition

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: April 21, 2024

Description: Cultural Coalition, with the support of this grant, will present the 12th Annual El Puente Festival on Sunday, April 21, 2024 from 2-6 pm at Tempe Center for the Arts, welcoming a diverse audience of multigenerational families to experience an arts and storytelling showcase of cultural performances by youth performers and local arts groups such as Desert Sounds, Harmony Project, Quetzalli Ballet, and local school music and dance programs. At sunset, festival dancers, drummers, and puppets lead attendees in a masked parade over the Tempe Town Lake pedestrian bridge to symbolize the bridging of cultures and generations connecting through the practice of traditional arts and sharing in Arizona's unique ethnic heritages.

Website: www.culturalcoalition.com

Desert Overture Live Cultural Entertainment

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: September 17, 2023 and June 16, 2024

Description: Desert Overture Live Cultural Entertainment (DOLCE) is an LGBTQIA+ organization whose mission is to entertain, enrich, educate, and support the community and its members through their passion for music. Desert Overture is a 50-piece instrumental ensemble consisting of woodwinds, brass and percussion, and is comprised of two musical ensembles: Desert Overture Wind Symphony and Desert City Jazz. In September 2023 and June 2024, they will jointly perform "Songs of the Deep – Music of the World's Waterways" as well as a project that remains a work in progress, including a guest soloist with a Doctorate of Musical Arts from Arizona State University, with the intent of providing an educational as well as entertaining experience for all audience members.

Website: www.desertoverture.org

Downtown Tempe Foundation

Location: Centerpoint Plaza in Tempe

Date: June 2024

Description: Downtown Tempe Foundation (DTF)'s mission is to curate diverse and impactful experiences that cultivate community engagement. This grant will support the inclusion of both the visual and the performing arts in their second annual Pride event, taking place the first week of June 2024 in Downtown Tempe. The event aims to demonstrate building unity, acceptance, and fellowship, and to ensure that LGBTQIA+ people are embraced as full members of society at home, at work, and throughout our community. This event will be an unforgettable night of celebration and love, including music, food, drinks, entertainment, community art projects, community partners, and LGBTQIA+ owned businesses in the community. Ending discrimination starts with visibility, which DTF intends to etch into the living culture of Tempe.

Website: www.downtowntempe.com

FABRIC Tempe

Location: FABRIC Tempe, Tempe Marketplace

Date: April 20 – 27, 2024

Description: Produced by FABRIC Tempe, Eco Fashion Week is a 7-day event hosted during Earth Week each year. This annual event puts Tempe in the nation's spotlight as a beacon for sustainable, inclusive fashion designers and diverse artists, engaging and educating the community and industry in sustainable fashion practices. Eco Fashion Week includes fashion shows, pop-ups, panel discussions, and mixers held throughout the week at various local indoor & outdoor venues including FABRIC's home on Mill Avenue in Tempe. With this grant's funding, all events are open to the public with affordable and free ticket options. In addition, local artist and designer participation fees are affordable, and many events are free to participate.

Website: <http://www.fabricincubator.com/>

Furious Styles Crew

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: November 17, 2023

Description: Furious Styles Crew (FSC) preserves and advances the essence of Hip Hop Culture, embodying the community's creative brilliance while connecting Hip Hop pioneers with aspiring youth in Arizona. November 17, 2023 will be the opening night to a three-day celebration of three decades of Arizona Hip Hop and FSC's dedication and longevity through the arts. The event will embody a film and dance showcase featuring FSC as well as local community collaborators and supporters, including local grassroots groups, studios, and special international guests. FSC empowers individuals, inspires positive change, and contributes to a society valuing diversity, creativity, and the power of artistic expression.

Website: <https://www.furiousstylescrew.com/>

Grey Box Collective Foundation

Location: Childsplay Theatre

Date: November 28 – December 3, 2023

Description: Grey Box Collective (GBC) is a performance group that makes original shows about social and emotional wellbeing rooted in social issues. With this grant, GBC will host a weeklong, hybrid intensive focused on creativity, collaboration, and community at Childsplay Theatre in Tempe. This event, titled “Play in the Grey,” is for working artists and creatives who wish to invest in their personal evolution and development of their practice. The event will be facilitated by seven trauma-informed teaching artists who have been a part of the company for at least three seasons, who are skilled movement educators that fully embody and align with GBC’s core values. This intensive will take place in late November with 90 anticipated participants.

Website: www.greyboxcollective.com

HeARTsy

Location: Pathways to Work in Tempe

Date: October 2023 – June 2024

Description: HeARTsy is dedicated to bringing fine art programming to underserved populations. Tempe’s Pathways to Work (PTW) program and HeARTsy will collaborate to bring 8 months of arts programming in both visual art and art business development to young adults with disabilities in Tempe. Classes will be held at PTW and will include 7 arts classes, 3 arts business development classes, 2 Q&A sessions and 20 hours of private one-on-one arts training to students, plus classes in photography, DIY projects, social media marketing, merchandising, and web design for micro-business implementation and expansion. These classes will prepare students to create art that they will sell either online or through PTW’s Cafe/Makerspace Center.

Website: www.beheartsy.com

International Jazz Day AZ Foundation

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: April 6, 2024

Description: International Jazz Day Foundation’s mission is to make live jazz music available to the next generation. The 3rd Annual Tempe Jazz Day Concert at the Tempe Center for the Arts will kick off Jazz Appreciation Month in April, leading up to International Jazz Day, which takes place annually around the world in 196 countries. The event will feature Doc Jones and Nayo Jones, with special guest Jazz Town USA, as well as local talent from Tempe and all over the state. Additionally, some students will be invited to perform, and local artists will display their work outside of the performance space. The concert will promote togetherness via the power of jazz, reminding the audience that live music has transformative capabilities.

Website: www.jazzdayaz.com

Lights Camera Discover

Location: Lights Camera Discover

Date: January – December 2024

Description: Over the course of four weeks, students will learn about traditional animation basics through Lights Camera Discover (LCD)'s Animation Program, which culminates as individual, student-designed animatics featuring their original characters and work. The Animation Program will have Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring sessions available. Held at LCD's Tempe location, this program provides students with an opportunity to begin or continue building their art portfolio. Priority enrollment is granted to youth residing in low-income areas where household income is below 80% of AMI. Using both digital and traditional media, Lights Camera Discover is driven to break the cycle of multi-generational poverty and inequity by equipping the next generation with an educational foundation and passion to pursue careers in STEAM fields.

Website: www.lightscameradiscover.org

Methods of Madness Dance Theater

Location: The Graduate Hotel

Date: January 2024

Description: The Arizona Drive-in Dance Film Festival is a free, site-specific pop-up performance for all ages at the Graduate Hotel that occurs annually for the Tempe community, supported by this grant. Dance enthusiasts, film lovers and drive-in movie day dreamers come together for an evening of film choreography and community gathering from the comfort of their own car. This event will feature local choreographers from diverse backgrounds in varying stages of their artistic journey. The festival will increase artists' exposure by presenting their work on a giant outdoor projector to the Tempe public while providing a free, safe, and inclusive evening of immersive art performances. The Arizona Drive-in Dance Film Festival brings people together as the films function as relics and reflections of today.

Website: www.halleywillcox.net

Musician Enrichment Foundation

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: June 10-15, 2024

Description: Musician Enrichment Foundation's 8th annual MEF Band Camp will be held at McClintock High School from June 10-14 and at Tempe Center for the Arts on June 15. Students grades 7-12 will be provided the resources to grow in both music and life skills. Tempe Elementary and High School Districts assist MEF to select 20+ students for discounted enrollment in the camp. This camp provides exceptional musical instruction for 140 youth, offers work and volunteer opportunities for 40+ adults, and presents a free concert to 100 Tempe Elementary School District students over the summer. Musician Enrichment Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the performing arts community and enriching the lives of young musicians through chamber music education, performance experience, and financial assistance.

Website: www.musicianenrichmentfoundation.org

Phoenix Boys Choir

Location: Grace Community Church

Date: September 2023 – May 2024

Description: Together with Phoenix Girls Chorus and with this grant fund, Phoenix Boys Choir presents the Tempe Neighborhood Choir Workshop Series. The workshops will provide up to 20 boys and 20 girls in 2-4th grade with 28 weeks of music skill-learning and character-building, located at Grace Community Church. Students across Tempe will participate in weekly 1.5-hour workshop/rehearsal sessions with an experienced, certified choir teacher to help them develop skills in singing, music literacy, and community building across 2 semesters. Students will also have opportunities for interactions with diverse artists within the City of Tempe, such as the Yellow Bird Native American Dancers and Mariachi Rubor, who will provide culturally relevant, immersive lessons.

Website: www.boyschoir.org

Phoenix Gay Men's Chorus

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: June 22 and 23, 2024

Description: Phoenix Gay Men's Chorus changes the conversation about LGBTQIA+ identity and challenges discriminatory positions through song and dance. This year's production, *Thanks for the Memories*, features the 70+ member volunteer Phoenix Gay Men's Chorus, Omaggio Youth Chorus, and local guest musicians, dancers, and visual artists to share their community's story and the "Best of the Best" of their concerts over the last 34 years. This production is dedicated to PGMC's outgoing Executive/Artistic Director Marc Gaston, celebrating his 24 years of direction. The concerts focus on the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ community, recognizing that this it spans all color, socio-economic, and age demographics.

Website: www.phxgmc.org

Phoenix Screenwriters Association

Location: ASU's Marston Theater, Harkins Tempe Marketplace, Westside Center

Date: September 2023 – April 2024

Description: Phoenix Screenwriters Association Inc. (PSA) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to help screenwriters and filmmakers hone their skills by providing interactive and inspirational training events and supportive networking opportunities with others in the industry. The PSA Screenwriting Conference and multi-week courses will be led by Hollywood insiders and industry professionals to provide artists the tools to flourish as screenwriters, including seminars, workshops, performances, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities. This year's grant will allow PSA to offer these events to a more diverse audience across various socio-economic status.

Website: www.phoenixscreenwriters.org

Rising Youth Theatre

Location: Tempe Transit Center (performances), Don Cassano Room (rehearsals), Livestream

Date: Fall 2023 – Winter 2024

Description: Rising Youth Theatre (RYT)'s mission is to bestow youth-driven, multigenerational collaboration and justice-centered performances that generate reflection, connection, and action. In partnership with Valley Metro and the Tempe Transportation Center, RYT will use these funds to bring The Light Rail Plays to Tempe once again in 2024 for the 10th annual production of this public art piece. This year's performance will include innovative performances, live music, and film. Based at the Tempe Transit Center, the project will bring both intentional and unexpected audiences into a creative space. Youth and adults will work as collaborators to create a dynamic and reimagined Light Rail Play centering youth voices, community, and performing arts.

Website: www.risingyouththeatre.org

Stray Cat Theatre

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: August 2023 – June 2024

Description: Decidedly off the beaten path, Stray Cat is indie theatre at its best: quirky, edgy, and irreverent. Stray Cat Theatre scratches the Valley's itch for a visceral, provocative theatre experience for culture-savvy cats who crave something beyond the standard kitty chow. Stray Cat proudly looks forward to innovating how they do things and who they're doing them with to show that a new model for theatre making is possible. In it's 22nd season, Stray Cat will use this grant to mentor and showcase four plays, written exclusively by local directors, three female and two BIPOC. These four plays will each have a two-week run at Tempe Center for the Arts, offering opportunities for underrepresented voices to be heard while creating a welcoming space for these communities both in and outside of Tempe.

Website: www.straycattheatre.org

Tempe Winds

Location: Tempe High School

Date: November 2023 – April 2024

Description: Tempe Winds creates meaningful musical experiences for thousands of Tempe residents. With the help of Tempe's funding, this year's project will provide locals the opportunity to engage in 3 different concerts designed to foster community engagement, enrich the local community landscape, and effect multigenerational impact. Centering performances at Tempe High School, professional musicians from Tempe Winds will first play a Veteran's Concert, aimed at assisted-living residents around Tempe, next engaging with Tempe High's student body for their New Music Concert, and wrapping up the season with a free, hands-on concert experience for the Tempe Elementary School District students.

Website: www.tempewinds.org

Tetra String Quartet

Location: Tempe History Museum

Date: October 21 and December 2, 2023, February 24 and April 27, 2024

Description: Tetra String Quartet will use this grant to present 5 Azure Family Concerts at the Tempe History Museum. These chamber music performances are tailored to individuals who are on the autism spectrum or have similar sensory processing challenges. Since many with autism (or related challenges) cannot attend traditional music performances due to uncontrollable vocalizations or physical movements, these concerts are designed to create an inclusive environment where all behaviors are accepted and embraced. Each Azure Family Concert is a multi-sensory experience that invites the audience to listen, sing, and dance. Admission to Azure concerts is free for all audience members.

Website: www.tetraquartet.org

The Bridge Initiative

Location: Tempe Center for the Arts

Date: March 29 and 30, 2024

Description: The Bridge Initiative is a women-led artistic collective that uses theatre and media to build bridges within the community, envisioning an industry where women and others who have historically been denied access are equitably represented and valued. This project is The Bridge Initiative's return to Tempe Center for the Arts in 2024. They will present three performances, March 29 and 30, of the musical revue "A... My Name is Alice," created by Joan Micklin Silver and Julianne Boyd. This musical production will employ Arizona theatre artists, paying competitive stipends for all roles onstage and off. With the help of this grant, The Bridge will additionally be offering ticket discounts to all Tempe residents.

Website: <https://bridgeinit.org/>

The Ladies (Yes And Productions)

Location: City Hall Parking Garage

Date: May 4 and 11, 2024

Description: Yes And Productions is dedicated to creating interactive, site-specific performances in unexpected locations outside of the traditional performance environment. *Room for Two* is a 50-minute pop-up performance designed for the Tempe City Hall parking garage. The Ladies arrive at their favorite spot to find the parking attendant, Stan, has formed a members-only social club in the garage, which The Ladies and audience members all want a spot in! Surprises await on every level as the audience drives through the garage; then they leave their cars and join The Ladies, Stan, and other characters on the rooftop for the grand reveal in this immersive theater experience. From trivial pursuit to a live garage band, audience members can expect a hilariously fun experience.

Website: www.yesandproductions.org