



COVID Cultural Commissioning Fund

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CCC FUND AWARDS \$69,000 TO 69 LOCAL CREATORS

Each recipient will be commissioned \$1,000 to create a work that explores the COVID-19 pandemic

BOISE, IDAHO — May 20, 2020 — The **COVID Cultural Commissioning Fund (CCC Fund)**, a collaborative partnership organized by Treefort Music Fest, the Velma V. Morrison Center for the Performing Arts, and the Boise City Department of Arts & History, has announced recipients of the first-ever CCC Fund. Of 188 total applicants, **69 local creators will receive a \$1,000 commission to create a work that explores, documents, and/or reflects on personal and social experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Proposed projects explore themes and occurrences stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, including connection, solitude, nature, community, food production, mask making, mental health, self-expression in isolation, the new awkwardness of human interactions, making amends with loneliness, and more. Media that creators will be working with include printmaking, mixed media, dance, music, poetry, painting, film, theater, textiles, animation, photography, illustration, food, glass, sculpture, and more.

To learn more about all awardees and each project, visit treefortmusicfest.com/ccc-awardees.

The CCC Fund is made possible by 80 generous donors who contributed a combined \$69,000. Funders include the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Family Foundation, the Velma V. Morrison Center for the Performing Arts, ExtraMile Arena, the Rolph Charitable Fund, Carol Swig and dozens of individuals who contributed via the [Treefort Community Fund on Cause](#).

The collaborative effort of the CCC Fund was initiated in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact, socially and economically, to the creative community of the Treasure Valley. The initial call-to-creatives garnered 188 applications over a 10-day duration. After the close of the application period, submissions were collated, organized, and sent out to a twelve-member committee composed of local, regional, and national cultural professionals. Each panelist scored 30 applications based on financial need, artist statement, project proposal, and work samples. Applications scoring in the top 45 percent were brought forth for discussion, with the ability to propose any applicant that a panelist felt should be considered. The panel met for five hours to review 85 applications collectively and discuss application merits, specifically looking at the strength of the proposal, the artistic quality, and the potential community impact of the proposed work. Ultimately, 69 awardees were chosen based on the amount of funds raised.

In addition to the CCC Fund award, eight individual creatives have been chosen to be an artist-in-residence at [Surel's Place](#). This resource was offered by Surel's Place to help individuals fulfill their CCC Fund commission. Residencies will vary in duration from 7-12 days. All eight creatives were recommended to Surel's Place by the CCC Fund review panelists and are listed in order of their residency: Catherine Kyle, writing; Kate Masterson, visual; Eric Mullis & Kelly Cox, craft; Grace Ward, theater; Walter Gerald, graphic design; Rachel Emenaker, visual; Hannah Rodabaugh, writing; Jessie Swimeley, photo.



The [Survey on the Impact of COVID-19/Coronavirus on Boise's Creative Sector](#), designed by the Boise City Department of Arts & History, closes this Friday, May 22 at 11:59 pm MT. The survey helps determine the immediate and long-term impact of the public health crisis upon Boise's cultural and creative sector. Arts and cultural [organizations](#), as well as [individuals](#) (artists, educators, teaching artists, creative workers, etc.), are encouraged to participate.

More information on the CCC Fund, awardees, and project descriptions can be found at treefortmusicfest.com/ccf. Further resources and information for artists are available [here](#).

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About Treefort Music Fest

Conceived as an extension of the current momentum in the Boise music scene and art scene at large, our vision is that Treefort will provide the opportunity for Boise to play host to the national and regional music scenes while showcasing the local up-and-coming talent. Treefort Music Fest was proudly recognized as the Cultural Ambassador for the City of Boise 2015-2017. www.treefortmusicfest.com

About the Velma V. Morrison Center for the Performing Arts

Located on the campus of Boise State University, the 2,037-seat Velma V. Morrison Center for the Performing Arts is Idaho's premier performing arts center. The Center was recognized as a Cultural Ambassador for the City of Boise and a major destination for arts and culture, annually hosting hundreds of live entertainment and arts education offerings that serve to enrich the lives of patrons of all ages. As a Boise State affiliate, the Center is a non-profit organization supported by ticket sales, facility rentals, donations and the generous support of the Morrison Center Endowment Foundation, Inc. www.morrisoncenter.com

About the Boise City Department of Arts & History

The Department of Arts & History's mission is to provide leadership, advocacy, education, services, and support for Arts and History to enhance the community's quality of life. Our vision is to make Boise the most livable city in the country because it ensures that people have access to art and history and the opportunity to experience Boise through a variety of cultural offerings. www.boiseartsandhistory.org

