



Jo Ann Hardesty, *Commissioner*
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SEED Grants Recommended for Funding



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Application #49

Applicant: Portland Playhouse

Project type: Youth Training; Networking

Amount of request: \$75,000

Score: 46.8 /50

Project summary

Portland Playhouse is known locally and nationally for presenting important works from established playwrights from Gust Wilson to emerging voices like Dominique Morisseau. Most of the art are presented by women and people of color from the last decade. Portland Playhouse's educational programs made space for over 8,300 youth to share stories. Their work speaks to some of the most pressing issues that BIPOC communities are encountering.



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Application #10

Applicant: Elevate Oregon

Project type: Education; Economic Development

Amount of Request: \$250,000

Score: 44.6 /50

Project summary

In a community destabilized by gentrification and poverty, Parkrose School District (PRSD) students were faced with critical challenges. Elevate Oregon works with students from 4th grade up to high school graduation by placing trained Teacher Mentors (TMs) in underserved PRSD schools to help students access and develop their character qualities and life-skills needed to achieve academic along with personal goals. **2021 SEED Grant Recipient**



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Application #15

Applicant: Constructing Hope

Project type: Youth Training; Economic Development; Workforce Development

Amount of Request: \$250,000

Score: 44.1

Project Summary:

Constructing Hope (CH) provides no-cost, ten-week foundational training in the skilled construction trades, life skills, blueprint reading, and safety led by professional craftspeople. Classes, tutoring, and testing are followed by actual construction projects. This program will serve Portland residents who are 100% low-income, 80% BIPOC, and 60% coming from the criminal justice system. **2020 & 2021 SEED Grant Recipient**



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Application # 20

Applicant: Growing Gardens

Project type: Education; Youth Training

Amount of Request: \$75,000

Score: 43.8 /50

Project summary

Growing Gardens uses the experience of growing food in schools' backyards and correctional facilities to cultivate health equity and equitable communities. The Lettuce Grow program provides horticultural classes and gardening experiences to incarcerated youth and adults in 14 correctional facilities across the state with job certification classes and a decade worth of proven work in those communities the funding would be used to help enhance our outreach to African American inmates and to add job skills.



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Application # 47

Applicant: Black United Fund of Oregon

Project type: Youth Training; Networking; Education

Amount of request: \$50,000

Score: 43.7 /50

Project summary

The Black United Fund will use funds for social and economic development programs which prioritize underserved communities, focusing on cultural content, one-on-one post-secondary mentorship, culturally specific workshops, and professional development for BIPOC youth and young professionals. Additionally, the Black United Fund focuses on post-secondary scholarship funding for students of color including a CESS scholarship to local Oregon schools.



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Application #61

Applicant: Oregon Expungement Relief Project (OERP)

Project type: Expungement and Criminal Justice

Amount of request: \$75,000

Length of grant: N/A

Score: 43.3 /50

Project summary

Oregon Expungement Relief Project is committed to mitigating the impacts of racial bias and disparities in the criminal justice system impacting BIPOC and low-income communities in Oregon. By facilitating the expungement process, the organization assists in removing barriers to a more just, healthy, safe, and fulfilling life. **2021 SEED Grant Recipient.**



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Application #65

Applicant: Self Enhancement, Inc (SEI)

Project type: Workforce Development; Re-entry Services

Amount of request: \$50,000

Score: 43.0/50

Project summary

Self Enhancement, Inc.(SEI) is dedicated to guiding underserved youth to realize their full potential working with schools', families, and community partners. SEI has provided guidance and opportunities for youth to achieve their personal academic success for over 40 years. It all started in 1981, as a one-week summer program serving 80 African American students in NE Portland with sports and mentoring services. SEI will continue to provide the same services with community education, mentorships, and workforce development within the NE Portland community.



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Application #80

Applicant: Division Midway Alliance

Project type: Entrepreneurship/Incubator; Workforce Development

Amount of request: \$75,000

Score: 42.8 /50

Project summary

Established in 2012, Division Midway Alliance (DMA) is a place-based 501c3 nonprofit creating healthier neighborhoods, social sustainability, and economic prosperity for residents and businesses. The funds for their project will help build youth environmental leadership programs, a Yelp program, and work supporting BIPOC youth. DMA will launch a youth workforce and a capacity building training program based on the final Yelp program evaluations. This program will provide youth with resources to help transition to college or work entry.



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Application #29

Applicant: Insight Alliance

Project type: Workforce Development; Re-entry Services

Amount of request: \$75,000

Score: 42.5/50

Project summary

With a mission to transform the lives of youth and young adults impacted by the correctional system by pointing them in the right direction, The Insight Alliance will use the funds to offer well-being in prison and in the community, expanding re-entry services for individuals being released from prison or jail, develop systems and processes for measuring and evaluating impacts, and ultimately investing in the development of the inside lines as a sustainable anti-racist organization.



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Application #35

Applicant: Oregon Native American Chamber

Project type: Economic Development; Community Education

Amount of request: \$50,000

Score: 41.9 /50

Project summary

The Oregon Native American Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to working with all members of the community to advance education and economic opportunities for Native Americans in Oregon and southwest Washington. The purpose and mission for this grant would be to further develop the Oregon Native Enterprise (ONE) program that would help launch Native American entrepreneurs in their businesses.