

MUKTI FUND ANNOUNCES QUEER YOUTH THEATER  
GRANTS TOTALING \$351,152

2015 Queer Youth Theater Fund grants were awarded to:

**About Face Theater**

Chicago, IL

[www.aboutfacetheatre.com](http://www.aboutfacetheatre.com)

\$15,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$40,000) to conduct theater and writing workshops, to generate original material to develop a new play, to perform new work, and to bring programming to schools and community centers in Chicago and across the region

**Art and Soul (Proud Theater)**

Madison, WI

[www.proudtheater.org](http://www.proudtheater.org)

\$12,500 for 2015 and \$7,500 in 2016 to support the operations and expansion of the theater programs in Madison, Wausau, and Milwaukee.

**Buddies in Bad Times Theatre**

Toronto, Canada

[www.buddiesinbadtimes.com](http://www.buddiesinbadtimes.com)

\$10,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$30,000) to support the PrideCab Project, a queer youth arts project on LGBT History culminating in a performance at Buddies' Pride Festival.

**Company Q at GLSO**

Lexington, KY

[www.glso.org](http://www.glso.org)

\$3,500 for year two of a three year grant (\$10,500) to support the development of Company Q. Company Q strives to advocate, educate and create unique theatre experiences to foster understanding of LGBTQQIA+ issues and experiences in Central Kentucky.

**Cooperative Innovation Consultants**

Denver, CO

\$10,000 in 2015 and up to \$5,000 in 2016 to support the ENCORE Youth Theater.

**Coterie**

Kansas City, MO

[www.thecoterie.org](http://www.thecoterie.org)

\$7,500 for year two of a three year grant (\$22,500) to Project Pride where LGBTQ and straight allied teens create theatre that gives voice to their experiences, culminating in a production that challenges the assumptions and celebrates the diversity of the participants and audience.

**Creative Action (Theatre Action Project)**

Austin, TX

[www.creativeaction.org](http://www.creativeaction.org)

\$10,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$30,000) to support *Outside the Lines Youth Theatre Ensemble* which aims to create artists/activists who devise original plays in order to give voice to the myriad challenges and opportunities for queer teens in Austin. Through this process, participants receive training in leadership, community organizing, and theatre as they grow to be a vital and visible ensemble in the community.

**The Door**

New York, NY

[www.door.org](http://www.door.org)

\$10,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$27,500) to support The Door's Queer Youth Theater Group which offers LGBTQ youth and allies the veil of theater to collaboratively explore difficult real-time issues that affect them personally as well as larger social issues that impact their communities.

**Dreams of Hope**

Pittsburgh, PA

[www.dreamsofhope.org](http://www.dreamsofhope.org)

\$15,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$40,000) to expand programs that provide LGBTQ and allied youth with a safe and welcoming environment to grow in confidence, express themselves, and develop as leaders.

**Freedom Center for Social Justice**

Charlotte, NC

<http://fcsj.org/main/>

\$10,000 in 2015 and a \$5,000 match for monies raised in 2016 to support the Carolinas Pride Youth Theater Ensemble.

**Fringe Benefits**

Los Angeles, CA

[www.cootieshots.org](http://www.cootieshots.org)

\$15,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$40,000) to partner with Loyola Marymount University and Occidental College in offering a multipronged theater activism project countering discrimination based on sexuality

**Neutral Zone Teen Center**

Ann Arbor, MI

[www.neutral-zone.org](http://www.neutral-zone.org)

\$7,500 for year two of a three year grant (\$22,500) for Riot Youth and its Gayrilla Theatre which works with GSAs to educate and improve the school climate for LGBT youth.

**New Conservatory Theater Center**

San Francisco, CA

[www.nctcsf.org](http://www.nctcsf.org)

\$15,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$40,000) to support YouthAware Out & United (Y.O.U.), the first theater group for queer and allied young people in San Francisco.

LOUD, New Orleans Queer Youth Theater

New Orleans, LA

<http://www.loudnola.org/>

\$10,000 in 2015 and \$5,000 in 2016 to support LGBTQIA youth and their allies to cultivate tools for self-expression through the process of devising original theater.

**Oakland Center for the Arts/YOUnify Theater Company**

Youngstown, OH

[www.oaklandcenter.com](http://www.oaklandcenter.com)

\$5,000 in 2015 and a \$5,000 match for monies raised in 2016 to support development and programming.

**Orlando Repertory Theatre**

Orlando, FL

[www.orlandorep.com](http://www.orlandorep.com)

\$15,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$40,000) to support interACTionZ, a theater partnership between The Rep, Theatre UCF, and the Zebra Coalition that focuses on using theater for social change techniques in order to build community, creatively explore conflict-resolution, and develop youth leadership skills.

**Playhouse on the Square**

Memphis, TN

<http://playhouseonthesquare.org>

\$10,000 in 2015 and \$5,000 in 2016 to support Q&A, a theatre troupe for LGBTQ and straight allied youth ages 14 -21.

**Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance**

San Bernadino, CA

<https://www.facebook.com/rainbowprideyouthalliance>

\$7,500 in 2015 and \$7,500 in 2016 to support the RPYA theater program, FIERCE Theater Camps, and educational outreach.

**The Rose Performing Arts for Children and Families (Omaha Theater Company)**

Omaha, NE

[www.rosetheater.org](http://www.rosetheater.org)

\$15,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$40,000) to help underwrite the costs of Pride Players: Project 16, 17 and 18, to enable the show to tour for no cost to regional venues, and to support queer youth leadership.

**Theater Askew**

New York, NY

[www.theatreaskew.com](http://www.theatreaskew.com)

\$10,000 grant to work with 6 – 10 LGBTQIA-identified youth to create an original full-length production focused around the theme of “the future.”

**Theater LAB**

Richmond, VA

[www.theatrelabrva.com](http://www.theatrelabrva.com)

\$3,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$10,000) for the creation of a residency program, SPECTRUM, where a group of LGBTQIA-identified youth will create an evening of theater based on their own personal stories, in partnership with Richmond Triangle Players.

**Theater Offensive**

Cambridge, MA

[www.thetheateroffensive.org](http://www.thetheateroffensive.org)

\$15,000 for year two of a three year grant (\$40,000) to help support True Colors OUT Youth Theater program with the creation and performance of original plays that engage LGBT youth and their allies.

**Waterville Inclusive Community Project**

Waterville, ME

[www.wicpme.wordpress.com](http://www.wicpme.wordpress.com)

\$7,500 for year two of a three year grant (\$22,500) to support the Out & Allied Youth Theatre which empowers queer youth and their allies by involving them in writing, directing or acting in performance pieces and supporting them in leadership roles to create change in their schools and communities.

**Pride Youth Theater Alliance**

Boston, MA

[www.prideyouththeateralliance.org](http://www.prideyouththeateralliance.org)

\$114,652 for staff, strategic development, mentorship, and the annual conference of queer youth theater leaders.