

**MUKTI FUND ANNOUNCES QUEER YOUTH THEATER
GRANTS TOTALING \$221,000**

2016 Queer Youth Theater Fund grants were awarded to:

About Face Theater

Chicago, IL

www.aboutfacetheatre.com

\$5,000 for year three 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

\$7,500 for years two of a two year grant (\$20,000) 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

\$5,000 for year three 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

\$2,000 for year three 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

\$5,000 for year two of a two year grant (\$15,000) to support the ENCORE Youth Theater.

Coterie

Kansas City, MO

www.thecoterie.org

\$5,000 for year three 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

\$10,000 for year three 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

\$5,000 for year three of a three year grant (\$22,500) 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

\$5,000 for year three 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/>

\$5,000 for year two of a two year grant (\$15,000) to support the Carolinas Pride Youth Theater Ensemble.

Fringe Benefits

Los Angeles, CA

www.cootieshots.org

\$5,000 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

\$5,000 for year three 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

\$5,000 for year three 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/>

\$5,000 for years two of a two year grant (\$15,000) to support LGBTQIA youth and their allies to cultivate tools for self-expression through the process of devising original theater.

Orlando Repertory Theatre

Orlando, FL

www.orlandorep.com

\$5,000 for year three 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>

\$5,000 for year two of a two year grant (\$15,000) 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 for year two of a two year grant (\$15,000) 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

\$5,000 for year three 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 LAB

Richmond, VA

www.theatrelabrva.com

\$2,000 for year three 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

\$5,000 for year three 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

\$5,000 for year three 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

\$112,000 for year one of a four year grant (\$337,000) to support the development of a North American queer youth theater movement. Funds are used for staff, strategic development, mentorship, and the annual conference of queer youth theater leaders.