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Hudson-Webber Foundation announces three-year, \$2.1 million commitment to Detroit Arts Support Program, and \$1,582,000 in new grants to support equitable workforce development, community policing innovations, and property foreclosure relief for Detroiters

DETROIT – Hudson-Webber Foundation’s Board of Trustees has approved new grants totaling \$1,582,000 for investments that advance equitable workforce development in the metro-Detroit region, explore solutions for Detroiters who have experienced illegal foreclosure based on over-assessed property taxes, cultivate support for community policing initiatives, and build increased capacity for arts and culture organizations across the city.

Additionally, the Foundation is announcing its three-year commitment to the Detroit Arts Support Program (DAS), a joint arts operating collaboration with the Kresge Foundation and the Erb Family Foundation. Representing an expansive set of investments in Detroit’s arts and culture organizations, the 2022-24 cycle of the Detroit Arts Support grants were approved by the Hudson-Webber Foundation Board of Trustees in September 2022, and is one of the largest collective philanthropic investments in Southeast Michigan’s arts and culture sector after the DIA Millage.

The 29 organizations receiving support from the DAS Program will receive a combined total of \$702,500 from Hudson-Webber Foundation for the grant’s first year, with a total of over \$2.1 million committed over the 2022-24 cycle. The grants are awarded as flexible operating support grants, and recipients were selected after a robust vetting process that included community review panels and financial analysis of each organization. Criteria for consideration for Hudson-Webber Foundation funding included each organization’s capacity to support the strength of the nonprofit arts and culture sector, to deliver high-quality programming that reflects Detroit, and to serve as a window through which Detroiters can experience arts and culture from across the nation and around the world. Decisions were further informed by the extent to which organizations displayed high performance or potential toward the following priorities:

- Advancing opportunities for low-income individuals and people of color to engage in the creation or curation of arts and culture activities;
- Exemplifying a commitment to diversity among its board and staff leadership;



- Elevating the local and national profile of Detroit’s arts & culture scene.

The 29 organizations receiving grants from Hudson-Webber Foundation under the DAS Program are:

- [A Host of People](#)
- [Allied Media Projects](#)
- [Arab American National Museum](#)
- [Carr Center \(Arts League of Detroit\)](#)
- [Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History](#)
- [CultureSource](#)
- [Design Core Detroit](#)
- [Detroit Artists Market](#)
- [Detroit Historical Society](#)
- [Detroit Opera](#)
- [Detroit Public Theatre](#)
- [Detroit Sound Conservancy](#)
- [Detroit Symphony Orchestra](#)
- [Detroit Zoological Society](#)
- [Garage Cultural](#)
- [Heidelberg Project](#)
- [Heritage Works](#)
- [Live Coal](#)
- [Matrix Theatre Company](#)
- [Michigan Science Center](#)
- [Mosaic Youth Theater](#)
- [Motown Museum](#)
- [Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit](#)
- [Pewabic Society](#)
- [Plowshares Theatre Company](#)
- [Sidewalk Detroit](#)
- [Signal Return](#)
- [Sphinx Organization](#)
- [We Are Culture Creators](#)

“The arts connect us with each other, deepen our understanding of ourselves, have the power to transform communities, and are a critical economic asset for the city and the region,” said Melanca Clark, president and CEO of Hudson-Webber Foundation. “The Foundation’s commitment to the Detroit Arts Support Program is a natural extension of our long-standing mission to support arts and culture organizations that enrich the quality of life of Detroiters.”

In addition to the DAS Program, the roster of grantees approved to receive new and continuing support in Hudson-Webber’s September and December 2022 grant cycle includes: BasBlue Detroit, the City of Detroit’s Office of Arts, Culture and Entrepreneurship (ACE), Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF), CultureSource, Detroit Area Workforce Funders Collaborative, the Detroit Historical Society, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Global Development Incubator (GDI), Jefferson East, Inc. Metro Solutions, and United Way of Southeastern Michigan.

Additionally, Hudson-Webber Foundation is also providing support to the Council of Michigan Foundations to complete their relocation to the organization’s new Detroit headquarters, as well as the build-out of their new offices.



The list of grants approved at the board's September and December 2022 meetings includes:

Community & Economic Development

- The [Detroit Area Workforce Funders Collaborative](#) has been awarded \$150,000 over two years to advance equitable workforce development infrastructure, to develop a robust and coordinated regional strategy to re-engage those outside of the workforce, and to promote pathways for those within the workforce to address the demand for talent, building economic prosperity for Detroiters.
- [Global Development Incubator \(GDI\)](#) has been awarded \$50,000 to design and develop the 'Black Homes Matter' initiative, a program that acknowledges structural injustices in housing opportunity, and explores pathways to implement interventions that address the needs of Detroit residents affected by illegal property foreclosures and overassessments.
- [Jefferson East, Inc.](#) has been awarded \$125,000 to support the realignment of its community development capacity to drive key residential and commercial development projects in the neighborhood.

Arts & Culture

- [CultureSource](#) has been awarded two grants:
 - A \$144,500 grant, payable over three years, to serve as the administrator for the [Detroit Arts Support](#) program. The grant will enable CultureSource to continue to operate the grants management process and portal for DAS, develop a unique brand and collateral for the program, oversee and contract with a financial analysis consultant, and develop sector-wide learning and convenings to enrich the program's impact.
 - A \$112,500 grant, payable over three years, to support [Creators of Culture](#), an annual, competitive small-grants program that historically grants about 30 awards per year to applicants seeking to implement new, neighborhood-based arts and culture projects, and to those maintaining high-value efforts throughout the city.
- [BasBlue](#) has been awarded \$50,000 to support and expand 'The Art of BasBlue' program, providing a designated space and strengthening access to exhibition and economic opportunities for women and nonbinary artists in Detroit, in collaboration with [Wasserman Projects](#).
- [The City of Detroit's Office of Arts, Culture, and Entrepreneurship \(ACE\)](#) has been granted \$200,000 over two years to build its capacity to support and strengthen Detroit's art ecosystem



and community by establishing a Detroit Arts Council, expanding branding and outreach, and exploring the long-term positioning of the office.

- [The Detroit Historical Society](#) has been awarded \$200,000 to provide essential bridge funding needed to sustain operations, including exhibitions, community program and collections care, while the DHS pursues a joint millage campaign for 2024 with the Charles H. Wright Museum, which seeks to secure sustained operating funds that will benefit each institution.
- [The Detroit Symphony Orchestra](#) has been awarded \$200,000 to support the implementation of the Detroit Neighborhood Initiative and the Detroit Harmony program, the two primary components of the DSO's Detroit Strategy. These programs aim to further position the orchestra as an accessible cultural asset to all Detroiters through direct engagement and collaboration with neighborhood and community groups, including programs that provide free musical instruments to students in need, and provide job training in instrument repair, maintenance and storage.

Safe & Just Communities

- The [Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan](#) has been granted \$250,000 over two years to support the next phase of the [Community Policing Innovations Initiative \(CPII\)](#), which will focus on cultivating broader support for community policing practices identified during the project's initial phase, deepening the initiative's work within the ten communities identified in phase one, and considering up to two new sites for expansion each year.

Program Grants

- [The Council of Michigan Foundations \(CMF\)](#) has been awarded \$100,000 to support the relocation and build-out of its new headquarters in Detroit.

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ABOUT Hudson Webber Foundation

The Hudson-Webber Foundation's origins date back to 1939 with major contributions from Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Webber, other members of the Webber family and The J.L. Hudson Company. The foundation is governed by a 14-member board of trustees, with assets of approximately \$180 million, and has contributed over \$200 million to improve the quality of life in Detroit. The mission areas of the foundation include support of community and economic development, built environment, safe and just communities, and arts and culture.

To learn more about the Hudson-Webber Foundation, visit www.hudson-webber.org.