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FIVE ST. AUGUSTINE ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE MORE THAN \$68,000 IN ARTS GRANTS

Grants made from the Dr. JoAnn Crisp-Ellert Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

Jacksonville, FL – August 22, 2014 – Fulfilling Dr. JoAnn Crisp-Ellert’s desire to support the visual arts in St. Augustine, The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida (www.jaxcf.org) today announced five grants for 2014.

The largest grant, \$30,000, is to Compassionate St. Augustine (also known as the St. Augustine Initiative for Compassion) for a large-scale public art project called Obelisk Art 450. The group plans to place 30 8.5-foot replica sculptures with original designs by artists throughout St. Augustine from September through December 2015. The grant from the Dr. JoAnn Crisp-Ellert Fund will help support the salary of the curator during the course of the project, which is a tribute to St. Augustine’s 450th Anniversary celebration. Also as part of the award, The Community Foundation will sponsor the creation of the first obelisk, which will be designed by a St. Johns County artist to be identified at a later date.

Other grants supported by the Dr. JoAnn Crisp-Ellert Fund in 2014 include:

- Very Special Arts Florida, which will receive \$11,500 to expand the Hand ‘N Hand program into St. Augustine. Hand ‘N Hand creates artist residencies, and each semester, 45 St. Augustine students with disabilities will participate in weekly classes with the instructors and artists with disabilities, culminating with a public display of the students’ work.
- Women’s Exchange of St. Augustine, which will receive \$9,875 to restore eight fine art paintings. The group’s goal is to complete the restoration of 29 fine art paintings in advance of St. Augustine’s 450th anniversary, when record numbers of visitors are expected and the project will be available for public viewing at the historic Pena Peck House at 143 St. George Street.
- Flagler College—Crisp-Ellert Art Museum (CEAM), which received \$15,000 to support artist lectures and a symposium (“Re-Riding History”) for the 2014-2015 exhibition year, to include an educational outreach program open to both students and the community-at-large.
- St. Johns Cultural Council, which received \$1,900 to sponsor the printing of 20,000 brochures for the Art Galleries of St. Augustine (AGOSA). They will be used for First Friday Art Walks and distributed at the St. Augustine Visitor Center.

“The mission of the Dr. JoAnn Crisp-Ellert Fund is to increase appreciation of the visual arts in St. Augustine, and all five of the 2014 recipients have fully honored that intent,” noted Amy Crane, program director of The Community Foundation. “The already rich arts environment in St. Augustine will be expanded and enhanced as these projects come to fruition, with additional exposure as visitors arrive for St. Augustine’s 450th anniversary.”

For more information about arts funding at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, go to www.jaxcf.org/the-arts.

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About The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida (www.jaxcf.org) is Florida’s oldest and largest community foundation. The Foundation works to stimulate philanthropy to build a better community – helping donors invest their philanthropic gifts wisely, helping nonprofits serve the region effectively, and helping people come together to make the community a better place. The Foundation has nearly \$297 million in assets and has made grants in excess of \$278 million since 1964.



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