Pabst Steinmetz Foundation Announces 2021 Grant Winners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winter Park, FL: The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation is pleased to announce its 2021 class of grant recipient organizations. After reviewing close to 30 applications from across the United States, the Foundation’s Board of Directors has chosen to award grants to five non-profits and one university, helping them produce community-focused programming for 2021. Grants are awarded to:

- Americans For The Arts
- Bethune-Cookman University School of Performing Arts and Communication Department of Music
- Opera Orlando
- Orlando Philharmonic
- Orlando Science Center
- Simply Amazing

“If we learned anything from 2020, it’s how critical local organizations and collaboration are to the health of a community” said Margery Pabst Steinmetz, the Foundation’s co-founder. “The six organizations receiving funding for 2021 are all embarking on new programming that shows potential for not only great impact, but potential for the work to be replicated and expanded within and beyond our community.” Pabst Steinmetz added.

“This year’s grant recipients have such range in the way they will impact the community.” says Chuck Steinmetz, Foundation co-founder. “From the creation of an opera, to providing arts and craft supplies for foster children, and gauging the healing power of the Arts for veterans and minority communities, Margie and I are so excited to see these programs blossom. The Board has done a tremendous job curating this year’s Awards class.”

This year the Pabst Steinmetz Foundation Board placed special emphasis on funding new programming, or supporting ones in their infancy. The six grant-winning programs, described below, possess the promise of sustainability and the development of models which can be replicated across Central Florida, the state and the U.S.

**Americans For The Arts:** The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation grants funding for Americans For The Arts “Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing”, a program in conjunction with the National Endowment for The Arts. This grant will support the development and testing of Creative Forces’ new Community Engagement Logic Model and Metrics Framework (LMMF). The LMMF is designed to support performance measurement and program evaluation that can ultimately improve our understanding of the role community arts engagement plays in advancing the health, wellness, and quality of life for military and veteran populations around the country. The program will be pilot tested using community-based organizations in Gainesville and Tampa. For more information about Americans for The Arts please visit [https://www.americansforthearts.org](https://www.americansforthearts.org) and Creative Forces: [https://www.arts.gov/initiatives/creative-forces](https://www.arts.gov/initiatives/creative-forces)
Bethune-Cookman University: The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation grants funding for “Mind & Body Balance Through a Holistic Arts & Wellness Training Model” via the Department of Music at the School of Performing Arts and Communication. The Department began a music and medicine symposium in 2018-19 focused on unlocking healthy balance of mind and body through music, Tai Chi, and current research on brain neuroplasticity. This grant will expand the existing model into a series of training workshops throughout the year for the benefit of campus and community stakeholders. The primary focus audience is health and education professionals and performing artists. The funding will create a core of training workshops on body mapping, physiology, Tai Chi, music therapy, mental health, and nutrition to improve mind-body wellness. Programming will be led by Dr. Rose Grace, Associate Professor of Music and Dr. Daniel Hollar, Department Chair of Psychology.

For more information please visit: https://www.cookman.edu/index.html

Opera Orlando: The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation grants funding for Opera Orlando’s development of “The Secret River”. This will be Opera Orlando’s first commissioned opera. Based on the book by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, the Secret River follows the story of an African American family during the great depression in the backwoods of Central Florida. This new work is set to premiere at Dr. Phillips Center in December 2021 and will feature musicians from the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra and members of the Opera Orlando Youth Company. In addition to bringing a Central Florida story to life in a new and unique way, funds from the Pabst Steinmetz Foundation will help develop a process which the company intends to replicate for future commissioned works.

For more information, please visit: https://operaorlando.org/

Orlando Philharmonic: The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation grants funding for the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra Virtual Young People’s Concerts. In 2020, The Phil transitioned its Young People’s Concerts online. It was a resounding success, bringing the group’s work to an expanded audience across Central Florida. The PSF grant will help OPO expand Virtual Young People’s Concerts and increase access to music and the arts for children, especially students from economically disadvantaged communities. The goal is to develop this program into a scalable, self-sustaining program and a national model for music education.

For more information, please visit: https://orlandophil.org/young-peoples-concerts/

Orlando Science Center: The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation grants funding for the “4Roots Food Heroes Exhibit” at the Orlando Science Center. This new exhibit will provide visitors an opportunity to connect with the science behind food and to learn what role they play in the food system. Along with a completely new exhibit experience, the space will support an array of programs, including hands-on cooking and farming workshops, reimagined live shows where visitors can step into the role of a soil scientist and conduct experiments, and expanded possibilities for speakers. The Foundation is excited to see the melding of culinary arts with critical instruction on the impact of healthy eating and wellness.

For more information, please visit: https://www.osc.org/4roots-cafe/
**Simply Amazing:** The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation grants funding for Simply Amazing’s Summer Fun Packs. Simply Amazing’s focus is enriching the lives of children living in crisis with the gift of personal art and creative supplies. The cornerstone program is Simply Amazing Creative Boxes. Recipients include children in Central Florida’s foster care programs, as well as children living in shelter environments. Providing these artistic outlets to children coping with stress and trauma is a valuable mental health tool. This grant will enable Simply Amazing to double the outreach of its newly established Summer Fun Packs program, designed to sustain children when they are without the safety net school can provide.

For more information, please visit: [http://www.simplyamazing.org](http://www.simplyamazing.org)

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**About The Pabst Steinmetz Foundation:**
Established in 2018, the Foundation is the merger of philanthropic work of husband and wife Chuck Steinmetz and Margery Pabst Steinmetz. The Foundation’s mission “Inspiring and building community through innovation in arts and education” seeks to support organizations and individuals working to create collaboration around projects which inspire innovation in the realms of arts and wellness.