

Dear Friends,

We are writing to announce our mid-year fundraiser which begins with a Poetry Walk in Manzanita in July. We have a lot to share with you. Please read on.

We ask for your financial support—Why Now? How Much?

We are turning a crucial corner toward creating a more sustainable organization.

Last year we told you our plan to hire our first Executive Director (ED) putting us on professional footing, establishing more realistic volunteer roles, and building institutional knowledge within the organization.

Big News! We received official notice of a three-year Murdock Trust grant to fund this position. This competitive award underwrites three years of ED payroll in decreasing amounts 100%, 66% and 33%. Simultaneously, we conducted a six-month search resulting in an exciting final candidate we hope to soon announce.

Help us retire the last \$99.8k debt on the current building! <u>Donors have pledged \$40k in order to double every dollar up to \$40k you give</u>

Thank you for enabling us to get to this point. Now, help us reach our goal to pay off the debt by sending a check in the enclosed envelope or by donating on-line at hoffmanarts.org/donate/.

We thank Amy Bell and Mike Woodin, Bonnie Laing-Malcolmson, Candace Kramer and Drew Prell, Dave Holt, David and Nancy Stanchfield, Sharon and Steven Gibson, Janice Slonecker Berman and Brad Berman, Kathryn Stock and Deb Tinnin, Steve Brier and Barbara Scott-Brier, Terri Desaro and Craig Nern, Toni and Chip Greening, and Mark and Mary Roberts for kicking off this important effort.

With donations to this fundraiser and the balance from savings, we eliminate the mortgage debt freeing almost \$2k monthly. Removing the debt helps ensure that, as the Murdock Trust support diminishes, we have the wherewithal for on-going payroll costs and programs support.

Non-profit Organizations like ours depend on donations for half of operating expenses.

All donations, above that required for the mortgage debt, are applied to our operating budget. We depend on people like you to fuel our mission of providing affordable, quality, creative opportunities to our community. Over the past year alone, volunteers continued a very successful pivot to online classes to augment those in person, redeveloped our website to replace obsolete software, produced another Squid publication featuring coastal artists, further cultivated the Wonder Garden as a coastal horticultural oasis, provided crucial kiln-firing services and expanded studio hours for local potters while hosting a record year of visitors in the gallery. More about our impacts and highlights may be found in our annual reports on our website under About Us, Reports & Documents.

About The Manzanita Poetry Walk 2022

During July, the Hoffman Center for the Arts will delight our community with a Poetry Walk, featuring fifteen poems written by local poets, all HCA Writing Program participants. The selected poems will be displayed at businesses along Laneda Avenue, at the HCA, and in the Wonder Garden.

A walking map will be available to direct locals and visitors to the poems. The framed 18 X 24 poems will be raffled, and winners selected August 1st. In addition, on July 9th featured poets of the Poetry Walk will read their poem, along with a short selection of other work, at locations where their poems have appeared.

We are truly grateful.

Every dollar you give to the Hoffman Center for the Arts makes a difference. We will announce donors and progress on funding weekly on our website. So stay tuned!

Warm Regards,

Mary Roberts and Janice Slonecker Berman

Board President and Vice-President

Board of Directors

Mary Roberts – Pres. | Janice Slonecker Berman – Vice-Pres. | Bonnie Laing-Malcolmson – Second Vice Pres.

Mark Roberts – Treasurer | Terri Desaro – Secretary | Steve Brier – Library Liaison

Sharon Gibson | Candace Kramer