



Press Release

The Columbia County Cultural Coalition (CCCC) is pleased to announce that grant applications are now available for projects that address the priorities identified in the Columbia County Cultural Plan first adopted in 2006 and updated in 2009.

The CCCC and its Grants Committee are comprised of volunteers from Clatskanie, Rainier, Scappoose, St. Helens, and Vernonia. CCCC's mission is to encourage projects and activities in the arts, local heritage and the humanities. Priorities in the Cultural Plan are protecting existing cultural assets, helping people experience a variety of cultural venues, and increasing access to and participation in cultural events.

The CCCC has awarded just under \$70,000 with 52 grants awarded to Columbia County cultural organizations since 2005 with funds allocated by the Oregon Cultural Trust (OCT). Established in 2001, the OCT is a public/private partnership that makes annual grants to county and tribal planning groups for cultural activities. The OCT Website, www.culturaltrust.org, contains information about its programs and the matching gift tax credit that is available to donors.

Grant awards will range from \$200 to \$1,500; the amount of Columbia County's 2013-14 allocation from the OCT will be determined in early August. Applicants must provide matching resources (in-kind or cash) and must be 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations or governmental units within the county. The Columbia County Cultural Plan and grant applications are available from the CCCC website, www.columbiacultural.org, or the Columbia County website, www.co.columbia.or.us; use the Links tab to reach the CCCC section. Applications must be postmarked by **July 19, 2013**, for projects that will be completed between September 2013 and August 2014.

Please direct any questions regarding the plan or the grant process to CCCC Grants Chair Ernest Carman, at 503-728-3809, or email: crow@clatskanie.com. Questions for the CCCC Board volunteers may be directed to info@columbiacultural.org.