



UNITED ARTS COUNCIL
OF GASTON COUNTY

NEWS RELEASE

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United Arts Council of Gaston County Announces Grant Opportunity for Creative Individuals

(GASTONIA, NC) – Performing and literary artists are eligible to apply for up to \$5,000 through the **Regional Artist Project Grant Program**, managed by the Arts & Science Council (ASC) of Mecklenburg County. The grants provide individuals with project support for the enhancement of their artistic development. Grant awards may be used for a variety of projects, such as attendance at workshops or master classes, development of a performance piece or the purchase of supplies and materials needed to create new work.

ASC will hold a free grant information session which will be held Thursday, July 17, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Arts Council of Rock Hill & York County (121 E. Main Street, Rock Hill, SC).

Application and guidelines are available online at www.artsandscience.org. The grant deadline is Wednesday, August, 29, 2007 at noon.

“My CD, which was funded by a Regional Artist Project Grant, helped jumpstart my career as I transitioned from being a part-time musician to a full-time professional musician. Having a well-produced CD has enabled me to land gigs and concerts I could not have gotten otherwise,” said Eytan Uslan, a local pianist who specializes in ragtime music.

The program alternates disciplines each year. This year performing and literary artists are eligible to apply for funding while visual artists and filmmakers will have the opportunity to apply in 2008.

The grant program is offered by the art councils of Cabarrus, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Rutherford, Stanly, and York (SC) counties. Artists who have lived in these counties for one year are eligible to apply. The North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency, the Blumenthal Endowment and the participating arts councils support the program.

UAC is a non-profit organization that serves and supports Charlotte-Mecklenburg's cultural community through grant-making, planning, programs and services to ensure a vibrant community enriched with arts.