



• *Enriching the lives of our community through the arts* •

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRANTS AWARDED TO LOCAL EMERGING ARTISTS IN MONTEREY COUNTY

(Seaside, CA - June 8, 2021) The Arts Council for Monterey County (Arts4MC) is proud to announce that we have awarded \$12,500 in Local Emerging Artists Program (LEAP) grants to five (5) local artists, thanks to the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and The David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

The Local Emerging Artists Program (LEAP) grant program was created to recognize artistic excellence, provide financial support to artists who demonstrate they are ready to take their work to a new level, and cultivate public appreciation of the role of artists in our community. Maximum award size was up to \$2,500 based on the scoring of the application, artistic quality and community impact.

Congratulations to our 2021 LEAP grant recipients: Visual Artists Efrain Jimenez, Jesus Nunez Navarro, Natalia Corazza, Performing Artist Janice Rocke and Digital Artist Samantha Saldana.

All over Monterey County, talented artists in every discipline are discovering new opportunities to take the next step in their career - their first solo exhibition, their chance at a national competition, an invitation to create an original dance or produce their first play. These grantees play a vital role in helping us fulfill our mission to improve the quality of life for everyone in our region through the arts.

“This year, more than ever, we recognize how much the arts play in our social and emotional well-being to ease us through a crisis. We are excited to see these five artists expand their creativity with the support of these grants,” states Jacquie Atchison, Arts4MC Executive Director.

The next cycle of Local Emerging Artists Program (LEAP) will open in the spring 2022. Visit www.arts4mc.org/grants for more information.

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The mission of the Arts Council for Monterey County (Arts4MC) is to improve the quality of life for everyone in our region through the arts. For more information, please email info@arts4mc.org.

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