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New York State Literary
Technical Assistance Program

2018 LitTAP Advancement Regrant Awards

Award Notice to the Field – June 27, 2018

LitTAP, the Literary Technical Assistance Program, is pleased to announce that seven New York State literary arts organizations have been awarded Advancement Program Re-grants at June's panel meeting. Anne Conable, Manager of Community Engagement, Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, Jeffrey Lependorf, Executive Director, Community of Literary Magazines & Presses, and Veronica Liu, Founder & General Coordinator, Word Up Bookshop, judged this year's competition, awarding a total of \$40,000.

LitTAP's Advancement Program is funded by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Open to current NYSCA/Literature General Support, Re-grants & Partnerships, Public Programs, and Book & Literary Magazine Publication grantees and applicants, LitTAP's Advancement Program supports thoughtful program development and expanded capacity building opportunities to nonprofit literary publishers, presenters and service organizations throughout New York State. LitTAP Advancement projects must cover new activity that reaches beyond the scope of an organization's current NYSCA funding. 2018 Advancement Re-grant awardees are:

Cave Canem Foundation (\$8,750) to implement an organization-wide technology upgrade including: a shift from an in-house email and file server system to a cloud-based system with present-day capabilities; and replacing outdated computing equipment with modern machines.

Poets & Writers (\$8,750) to hire an outside consulting firm to conduct a feasibility study and strategic planning, thereby laying the groundwork for a campaign tied to the organization's 50th anniversary.

BOA Editions (\$5,000) to purchase office hardware, conduct an organizational technology update, and expand BOA's online Visual Arts Library.

The Brooklyn Rail (\$5,000) to support a Website development project: expand portion of its archive available online; upload multi-media content; and make online platform more accessible and searchable.

The Feminist Press (\$5,000) for new software, the development of an anniversary logo and associated digital content, targeted outreach, and videography to support organizational development and capacity building initiatives in preparation for its 50th anniversary.

Theatre Communications Group (\$5,000) to partially underwrite the purchase and implementation of a new, automated, royalty tracking and payment system.

Nightboat Books (\$2,500) to support a redesign of its website, which will enhance the visibility of its books, and increase its presence in the literary community as well as with general readers.

Applicants' annual operating budgets ranged from \$86,000 to over \$10,000,000. Their applications were assessed on a 9-point scale to measure each of (3) criteria – Artistic Quality, Managerial Competence and Demonstrated Need.

Inspired by the National Endowment for the Arts' former Advancement Program, which was instrumental in helping to professionalize literary arts organizations in the 1990s, the Advancement Program was designed and is directed by Debora Ott, LitTAP Founding Director, and administered by Laurie Dean Torrell, Executive Director, Just Buffalo Literary Center, Inc.

LitTAP is committed to strengthening the literary arts in New York State by helping to build the capacity of its nonprofit literary presenters, publishers and service organizations, all working hard to foster, promote, and present literature in a changing cultural environment and shifting economic climate. Each year, LitTAP provides direct, essential support to more than fifty NYS literary organizations through technical assistance, networking, a resource rich website, Peer Mentoring, Advancement Re grants and the *FACING PAGES* Statewide Literary Arts Convening. This year's convening will be held on October 1-2 at the Hotel Henry Urban Resort Conference Center in Buffalo, NY.

For more information about LitTAP and its programs, please contact:

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