



# Drexel H. Foundation

**“Of your own personal strength you can accomplish anything”**

301 A Street Vale, OR 97918 (541)473-3470 [www.thedrexelfoundation.org](http://www.thedrexelfoundation.org)

Winter 2018 – 2019

## What's Been Accomplished This Year!



A major component of our Strategic Plan was completed in 2018. The Drexel H. Foundation worked with Engineers, Architects and Economic development experts towards our mission to restore the Vale Hotel for a vibrant Main Street building. A Master Plan document was created. Public input was magnificent. Paper and online surveys, and public meetings were held to engage & solicit opinions on what uses in the building people thought “would be economically viable and supported by the community”. Numerous on site tours to interested volunteers, business people and artists solicited a variety of opinions as to locations as feasible redevelopment spaces. This input zeroed in on the specific uses for the building that matched our communities’ vision which had been previously shared with our foundation over the last 20 years and unearthed new uses. The Economic report studied basic requirements for the anticipated uses, market potential, community impact, and rated the supply and demand within our town and region. Based upon this study our architect and engineer began code analysis of each space within the building in light of its anticipated economically feasible use. The final Master Plan document contains our phased plan and next steps to enable our organization to create a capital campaign, attract tenants, and seek funding for preservation of the Vale Hotel.

## Oregon Humanities statewide Conversation Project

The Drexel Foundation partnered with Oregon Humanities statewide Conversation Project to bring two individuals to the community to discuss Creating Inclusive Communities, and Everyday Leaders. Rachel Bernstein joined the community on April 23rd and went over the wide variety of ways to create an environment that gets everyone involved in community events and projects. On April 30th Lois Ruskai Melina joined us for another great conversation. This time it was about everyday leaders. How to become one, what to look for in leaders, etc. Both of these conversations were open to the public and highly encouraged the high school students to attend. They are our future. Many joined us who are becoming more involved in the community and becoming leaders. Both conversation nights we had great community involvement and everyone went home with lots of information. We can't thank the Oregon Humanities enough for helping us bring these individuals to our community to help improve it.

## Art in the Park On Flag Day

The Drexel Foundation kicked off the first of its Free summer art programs with Art in the Park on Flag Day. 35 kids and 15 adults joined Drexel H. Foundations president Sandi Jean Fuson and other volunteers to give Wadleighs playground equipment a new coat of paint. For the past 18 years, the Drexel Foundation has been giving the park playground equipment a brand new coat of paint, and the participants participated in a mini- mural painting competition. This year there were 4 age categories and each 1st place winner took home a trophy and prizes. The first place trophy winners: for the ages 4-7 was Clair Bymers, 8-12 age group Amilia Iracheta, 13-16 age group was Halley Ziegele and 17+ age category was Gigi Koeger. The largest trophy went to Ariel Shaw who won the overall grand prize of BEST OF SHOW. The participants were very creative. All enjoyed their community service, games, food, and the event's awards & prizes.



## Art Beat on Main Street

To tie art & restoration together a fundraising event called “Art Beat on Main Street” was held in June! This year the Drexel Foundation partnered with Spring into Wellness. Tours of the Historical Vale Hotel and Grand Opera House were given to raise money for the 2018 art season and restoration efforts. Health vendors were there to share their knowledge with the community. Some of the vendors gave away gifts, even a bike was given to one lucky individual. The golden sponsor Malheur Federal Credit Union provided the stage which was open for some of Vales local talent. Performing was Rayanna Hansen, Darin Smith, Joe Fuson, & Greg Michell and Jim Stewart. The Opera House patio was a perfect venue for this free outdoor concert and Drexel's public art show.



Vale Elementary K– 6th and Harper School K-12 students received prizes and a **Certificate of Achievement** for their participation in the arts, scholastic ability, and citizenship from the Drexel H. Foundation, as part of our youth and family culture & art programs. Each Teacher chose three recipients for the “Certificate of Achievement Award,” which included a prize of popcorn, soda, and candy at a special free show at the Rex Theater. The special movie day presented many short films from Drexel's Film Festival movies. Two students from each school were award a backpack full of new art & school supplies. The foundation is proud to work hand in hand with our local schools, to provide these awards to students.

The **Annual Art Camp** was kicked off on August 6th at 9:00 am. Art Camp was held at the Rex Theater Monday- Wednesday, with about 30-50 participants each day. This was our 22nd year holding this fun filled FREE event. On Monday the participants learned about Children's Theater, created puppets, sidewalk chalk, and created mini- movies using green screen technology. Tuesday was filled with making Christmas ornaments for the Vale Chamber Tree lighting, Collage & mosaic art and an all time favorite every year making musical instruments. On Wednesday VHS dancers Kayla Flint and TeiLee Hill came and taught the children a dance that they performed later in the week at the Talent Show. This was followed by jewelry making, and watching the mini puppet movies filmed earlier in the week. All the kids got to see their stories on the big screen. A special Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and our art campers.



## Talent Show

Following Art Camp we celebrated the 22nd year of holding the **Talent Show** on the stage at Vale's beautifully restored 1914 Rex Theater. The show was a huge success, and approx. 100 people enjoyed this great FREE family fun event. There were 24 individual contestants, some performing more than once with others in groups or other age categories. The first place winner in each age category went home with over a \$50 value in gift certificates, each with \$100.00 cash, a huge trophy and lots of cool prizes. The Second & Third place winners also received trophies & gift certificates. Everyone who performed received a big sack of prizes.



## Crash Course in Filmmaking

On September 5th Drexel Foundation held the 12th annual Crash Course in Filmmaking, this year professional film maker Phill Stucker returned to help participants create a film in just 3 short hours. There were about 25 participants ranged in ages from 7-59. All participants got to choose how they were going to be a part of the movie, acting, sound technicians, lighting, grips, production assistants, cameramen, costume and technical crew. The new movie "Para-annoyed", is a spoof about the ghost hunter culture and the annoyed ghosts who have to deal with these intrusions. To watch "Para-annoyed" go to [www.thedrexelfoundation.org](http://www.thedrexelfoundation.org) and click on the videos tab.



## Film Festival

The Drexel H. Foundation's 12<sup>th</sup> Film Festival competition had another successful year with entries from many Western Treasure Valley artists. The film competition 1<sup>st</sup> place winner in the Youth 4-11 category was, *The Chase* by Riggins Delong, Dustie & Roper Muncey, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was *Detective Sydney* a story about 5 year old Sydney Hansen's mission to find a missing cat. In the 12- 14 age category 1<sup>st</sup> place went to *Sharing is Caring*. This video was a fun story giving the message, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." In the 15- 19 category sponsored 1st place winner was *Vote Isabel for Secretary* by: Isabel Lastiri and 2nd place was *Vote Japheth for Treasurer* By Japheth Carlson. The Adults 20+ category 1st place was *2018 Bombing Keeney Pass* by KJ Fuson, Sam & Andrew McLaughlin, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was *VHS Back to School* by all the VHS teachers. 3rd place was *Emotional Test of Money* by David Armstrong. All participants received a trophy and a prize bag full of cool prizes donated by the 2018 sponsors listed in the program. Also, the first place winners in each category won a minimum of \$50.00 gift cards & certificates. The "Best of Show" \$100 cash prize went to the film that was the judges favorite & most memorable of all entries. This years best of show video was *Sharing is Caring*. To watch these films & past Film Festival videos visit our website.



## Drexel Foundation's FREE Formal Closet

Are you still looking for the perfect dress? You can earn a FREE formal dress by getting involved with the community. Donate your time and skills to any of the Drexel Foundation's Events or Programs for that perfect dress or tux. Drexel Foundation has been gathering gently used prom, formal dresses, tuxes and other formal attire over the last several years. In exchange for pledging to volunteer their time and skills to any Drexel events. Local students can earn a homecoming, or prom dress, rent a tux for FREE. In 2018 Drexel Foundation had several individuals pledge their time to get free formal wear. This year we had students from Vale, Fruitland, Payette, Nyssa, Ontario, Parma, Homedale, Adrian, Molalla and Estacada all received formal wear and volunteered at one of the many Drexel Foundation's events. By appointment only you can view the many dresses in the closet. To set up the appointment please call the office and leave a message with the date and time that works best for you.



## Open House

The Drexel H. Foundation is holding their 24th Annual Holiday Open House for the Vale Hotel & Grand Opera House on December 31st from 9:00am - noon at 123 Main Street. Beginning in 1994, this annual event was created because both buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places and the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Office had the Drexel Foundation provide an annual public tour of these special buildings located on the authentic Oregon Trail. There will be tours of the buildings led by Sandijeane Fuson & Mike McLaughlin. Hot drinks, and refreshments will be available. We encourage people to come visit and enjoy viewing the art created for the public art project by the Vale High School 2017-2018 artists.

## Impact to our Community Through Collaboration

Each year our mission is to "enrich the lives of youth and families by providing art, humanities & multi-cultural experiences and to restore historical buildings for an Art Center". This is accomplished through partnerships and collaboration. Some of our partnerships this year are listed:

- Emerging Leaders Youth Conference
- Vale Chamber of Commerce—Easter egg hunt and Halloween Events
- Evalcuree Children's day
- Oregon Cultural Trust
- Oregon Arts Commission
- Oregon Media Production Assn
- Spring Into Wellness
- Oregon Historic Preservation- & National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Malheur Country Historic Society as partner for Art Beat on Main Street
- Vale High School Student Body had first student art show with our staff judging and during the entire year VHS student volunteers continued to increase
- Restore Oregon Selected the Vale Hotel again as one of Oregon's Most Endangered Places to raise awareness throughout Oregon of our preservation work

**THANK YOU!!!**

## GRANT NEWS

Special Acknowledgment and thanks to our grant givers: Wood Family Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee, Oregon Media Production Association (OMPA), Fred W. Fields Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation & Malheur Country Cultural Trust, Funding for our historic preservation project is supported in part by a grant from Restore Oregon, Kinsman Foundation, and funded in part by grant from the Pacific Northwest Fund of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Thanks to our funders & contributors we accomplished many strategic plan goals by increasing our Latino & homeschooled participants, strengthened our organizational infrastructure, and created our master plan for the Vale Hotel restoration.

Please donate & help us continue to mark items off of our strategic plan and help us match our grants. No amount is too small. Please donate for a program or for general operating support.

Drexel H. Foundation receives support from the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the State of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts.

# THANK YOU 2018 GOLD SPONSORS



## How to Donate

If you would like to donate to the Drexel Foundation you can do so by making a check payable to the Drexel H. Foundation and mailing it to 301 A Street Vale, OR 97918. Or visit our website at [www.thedrexelfoundation.org](http://www.thedrexelfoundation.org) and make a donation using paypal.