



Drexel H. Foundation

“Of your own personal strength you can accomplish anything”

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Winter 2016-2017

The Drexel Foundation kicked off the first of its Free summer art programs with Art in the Park on Flag Day. 15 kids and 18 adults joined Drexel H. Foundations president Sandi Jean Fuson and other volunteers to give Wadleighs playground equipment a new coat of paint. In this events 16th year, not only did the park playground equipment get a brand new coat of paint, the participants got the chance to win a trophy for 1st place in 3 age divisions in a mini-mural painting competition. The participants were very creative when it came to their murals with patriotic, abstract and scenery murals. All enjoyed their community service, games, food, and the event's awards & prizes.



The Annual Art Camp was kicked off on August 8th at 9:00 am. Art Camp was held at the Rex Theater Monday- Wednesday. This was our 20th year holding this fun filled event. On Monday the participants learned about Children's Theater. Sandi Jean Fuson was the leader of this activity covering basic vocal skills and acting with the

children. Each child had a chance to get on stage and participated in performing the three little pigs play. Also on Monday the children made Frame Art, Sidewalk Chalk Art and Collage Art. On Tuesday Kelsey Tolman taught Tie Dye Art. Each child got to create their own tie dye t-shirt to take home. Following was animal puppetry and making your own 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. Followed by zentangle and stop animation. Stop animation was a big hit because all the kids got to see themselves on the big screen at the end of the day. A special Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers.



Following Art Camp we celebrated the 20th 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. 170 people enjoyed this great family fun event to end the summer. There were 25 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 \$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 with over a \$50 value in addition to gift certificates.



Pictured left to right: 1st place winner from the adults Katie Rindlsbacher, 2nd Santana Braniff and 3rd was Nick Shurte & Donna Martin. 1st place from the 15-19 category Libby & Sophie Draper 2nd place Nate Harlan and 3rd place Clayton Smith. Ella Draper winning 1st from the 12-14 category, followed by Sariah Thomas placing 2nd and Elisa Gaston & Darin Smith placing 3rd. The youth category in 1st Giana, Giovani, Jae Rojas, 2nd place was Giana Rojas & 3rd place was Trevin Draper

To conclude the fun filled week of Art Camp and the Talent Show we held Tours of the Historical Vale Hotel and Grand Opera house. These tours were held as a fundraiser to help us keep all of our events Free for the youth. All who joined us on the beautiful summer day enjoyed going on the tours with our tour guides Sandi Jean Fuson and Mike McLaughlin. Some people even remember hearing stories from their parents and grandparents about the buildings.



The Drexel H. Foundation's 11th Film Festival competition had another successful year with entries from Vale, Ontario, and Boise artists. The film competition 1st place winner in the Youth 4-11 category Gold sponsored by Oregon Shakespeare Festival, was *5th Grade Oregon Trail Hike* by Darin Smith, taking 2nd place was *The Story Behind Mikayla* by Mikayla Cooper, third was *Camping Gone Wrong* by Darin Smith. 4th place was *Blue Falcon* by Rayanna & Sydney Hansen and 5th place was *Rayanna's Kitchen* by Rayanna Hansen. In the 15- 19 category the Gold Sponsor was Malheur Federal Credit Union 1st place was *Miracle Ball* by Sam McLaughlin and Clayton Smith. *Addi's Election Video* by Addison Phillips placed 2nd. There was a tie for third place *Turk* by Jake Britton and *Testing the Temp in Vale* by Caleb Voechting, Jake, Connor and Caitlyn Hyde. The Adults 20+ category Gold Sponsor was Wild-Horse Resort and Casino with first place *Vale's Farmers Market* by Angela Smith. Winning 2nd place was *Baby Thoughts* by Sylvia Hansen and taking third place was *Natural Projector* by Nick Voechting. The "Best of Show", winning a \$100 cash was *5th Grade Oregon Trail Hike*. The premier of the Crash Course film *Vanishing Vortex* made just days prior to the Film Festival was also shown.



Restoration Accomplishments Continue

The core of our mission is the restoration of two vacant National Historical Register buildings, the Grand Opera House (1895) and Drexel Vale Hotel (1908) for future use as an art center and community usable spaces. Located in the poorest region of Oregon, their preservation is an investment in rural Oregon which shall forge the path to a viable economy. Important benchmarks of our strategic plan are being accomplished. First, a 2016 Oregon Cultural trust grant propelled Historic Restoration Progress for the hotel with completion of the Architectural Study. Second, a State Historic Preservation Office grant for the planned 2017 brick and mortar repair to the Hotel's northwest exterior will have structural & visual impact. Also through a 2016 partnership with Paden Vargo, a preservationist, a historic buildings study was completed. This study enabled him to write "Preservation or Bust: A Preservation Plan For the Historic Pioneer City of Vale Oregon" book.



New & Continued Partnerships

Through many new and past partnerships the Drexel Foundation increased the impact on the community with measurable outcomes. These collaborations help us each year reach our mission which 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". Community building with these partners and other groups allows us to reach new segments of the populations we serve.

- **Spring into Health Fair & Emerging Leaders Youth Conference**— with this exposure we were able to show case our Public Art Project and reach out to more families about our Free summer art programs at both these family events.
- **Evalcuree**— with the partnership of Evalcuree we were able attend their events and reach out to over 200 people in the Latino population.
- **Libraries of Eastern Oregon**— the Drexel Foundation partnered with the Libraries of Eastern Oregon to bring professional filmmakers to our area.
 - **Teresa Drilling**- an award winning stop motion animator and director lead a workshop on the fundamentals of what stop animation is and how to create your own short film. She explained the difference between live action animation and stop action animation. Her animation work has been included in numerous films such as *Elf*, *Chicken Run*, *Coraline*, *Anomalisa* *Curse of the Wereabbit* and more.
 - **Dryland**- is a documentary produced by Sue Arbuthnot and Richard Wilhelm. Sue and Richard joined us for a night showing of there film. "Dryland" focuses on a town in Washington that's a wheat farming community, struggling to stay alive in the face of an always changing agricultural economy. The Q & A afterwards was enlightening for all involved.
- **Building Tours:**
 - **RDI Staff** - this tour allowed us to raise attention to the economic development opportunities for our region which could be available for future local business enterprises in these buildings upon their completed restoration and occupancy.
 - **Class of 1961**- appreciative of our continued restoration efforts, over 55 people shared stories of the rich history of the Hotel, Theater, and Grand Opera House and the 1937 "Vale buy at home" film.
- **Northwest Health Foundation**— A valuable partnership in film programing, photography and community outreach.
- **Century Link and the Vale Middle School**— Chosen by the youth of Vale to receive a \$1,000 award was a vote of confidence and display of their appreciation of family cultural programing, and historic restoration efforts performed by our foundation. Many of these students have toured the buildings & participated in the free cultural & art events. This donation highlights our impact in sustaining community building & inspiring philanthropy in local youth.

Are You Still Looking For That Perfect Dress?

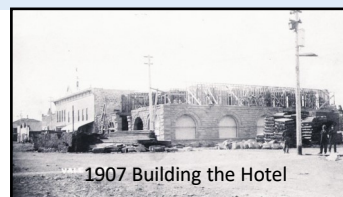
Do you want to save money?

Get involved with the community and get a FREE dress. Donate your time and skills to any of the Drexel Foundation's Events or Programs for that perfect dress. Drexel Foundation has been gathering gently used prom dresses, formal dress 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 prom dress, rent a tux, or formal evening wear for FREE. There shall be a viewing of the many dresses in the closet, by appointment only.



Help Restore The 1908 Bricks On The Drexel Hotel

Purchase a brick for \$50 in your name for exterior wall repair. It will help us attain both qualitative & quantitative measurable benchmarks & helps match our grants. The mortar & Brick repair shall be performed in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the treatment of Historic Properties since the building is on the National Register of Historic Properties. The published government guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic properties requires us to duplicate the old bricks & mortar and the same strength, composition, color and texture. Our Goal is to sell 400 bricks at \$50 each for a grand total to raise equaling \$20,000. A plaque of all donors names will be hung directly next to the wall acknowledging all brick donors who whelped us repair the wall.



1907 Building the Hotel



1908 Opening Day of Drexel Hotel



Drexel Hotel Today

Open House

The Drexel H. Foundation is holding their 22th 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 FREE tours of the buildings led by Sandijean 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 2015 artists.



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 and make a donation using paypal.

GRANT NEWS: Special Acknowledgment and thanks to our grant givers.

Historic Restoration projects are supported in part by a grant from the Oregon Cultural Trust with a 2015-2016 Preservation Grant. This project is also funded in part by a matching 2016-2017 grant from the State Historic Preservation Office. Arts & Cultural projects are made possible through a sponsorship from the Northwest Health Foundation, from a James F. & Marion L. Miller Foundation 2016– 2018 grant, OCT, and a Century Link Youth Philanthropy Program Grant by the 2015-2016 Vale Middle School Students.