



Drexel H. Foundation

"Of your own personal strength you can accomplish anything"

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Winter 2022-23



The Yard Art Competition

We kicked off the year with The Yard Art Competition. The theme this year was "kindness" and there were fantastic interpretations of what this means. All the entries were great but our winners are: Winning for Youth 4-11 Dusty Muncey for her outdoor gallery and creative use of recycled items like her colored spokes on hubcap.

Winning 1st in the adult division was Kim Burgess for her use of the theme & kind message, "In a world where you can be anything BE KIND". Best of Show was selected from all the entries. There was a TIE, so each received receive \$100 cash Zettie Rodriguez and Sheryl Harris.



Oregon Bottle Drop

We want to thank Oregon Bottle Drop & local recyclers once again for helping Drexel Foundation raise funds during the year. Our Earth Day fundraiser raised \$375 that is 3,750 bottles, plastic, & cans saved from the land fill. During our 2022 Holiday bottle drive our community recycled 4,183 bottles & cans saved from the land fill. This fundraiser goes all year. So, save your empties. We can pick up your pop cans & bottles or you can drop them off at our office. You can also help by donating online with funds from your green bag account.



Art Builds Community Reunite thru Public Art Project

To wrap up the Art Builds Community Reunite thru Public Art Project from 2021, we held a contest to see who could find the most cows around our community. These colorful cows were painted by people of all ages all over Malheur County to make their mark by creating Public Art. Then they were placed around Malheur county for everyone to see. Ora May was the winner and submitted all her photos of the cows! You can find 2 of her 11 photos on our Facebook page. You can also see some of the cows appear in our movie

"On the MOOO-VE" which was made at our 2021 Crash Course and filmmaking. We have collected them for the winter, but be on the look out for them this spring when they make their appearance again.

Art in The Park on Flag Day

The Vale Park was not its usual quiet on June 14th, youth and adults took part in Drexel H. Foundation's annual "Art in the Park, on Flag Day". Not only did the park playground equipment get a brand-new coat of paint, but the participants also got the chance to win a trophy for 1st place in 3 age divisions in a mini-mural painting competition. This is the 23rd year for this event. It all starts with picking up the litter in the park, then painting the metal playground equipment, followed by snacks & discussions about community service, gratitude to veterans who served our country, and why there is a national holiday called "Flag Day". Participants created two more benches, a brightly painted bike rack, and planters for adding even more flowers around town. You can see this handiwork now on Main Street Vale! Lastly, each person got a board to enter the mini mural competition. It ended with awards, and

everyone got to pick a prize. This year's BEST OF SHOW winner was Holly Rodriguez. Thank you to everyone who came out and participated. Thank you to all the banner sponsors, grant givers, and those who gave their time and positive energy to make our community better at this year's event.

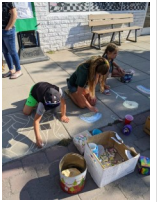


August Annual Art Camp & Talent Show

Drexel H. Foundation's 26th Annual Talent Show and Free multi-day Art Camp was a huge success. Art Camp was 3 days of fun learning all about the different styles of art. We did children's theater, puppetry, danced, made jewelry, learned about animation and so much more. The week was very successful with children returning everyday excited to see what we were going to create. There was about 30-40 youth per day. For those unable to make it to in person Art Camp Kits were delivered to them. Volunteers from Rogue Credit Union helped us create the Art Camp Kits. We delivered about 75 to other underserved rural youth in Malheur & Harney Counties. These packets were full of the crafts that we did at art camp that they were able to do at home.

The Annual Talent Show was on August 11th on the stage at Vale's beautiful 1914 Rex Theater. The show made many laugh and smile, with the first place winner in each age category going home with \$100.00 cash, a huge trophy and lots of cool prizes. Everyone who performed received a big sack of prizes.

For ages 4 to 11, first place went to Ellie Moore and Lilly Kamenicky; Oriah Dentinger won second place; and third place went to Chloe Cunha and Jalisa Tolman. In the 12 to 14 age group, first place went to Giana Rojas; Taven and Cynder Cloud won second place; and third place went to Coral Dentinger. For ages 15 to 19 Jae Rojas won first place; second place went to Cady Tolman; and third place went to T.J. Wilt and Logan Zakit. In the adult category, Dusty Rose won first place; Santana Bayes picked up a second-place trophy and a third-place trophy went to Evelyn and Sylvia Hansen.



Children's Film Festival & Crash Course

Drexel H. Foundation's 17th annual Children's Film Festival and Crash Course in film making wrapped up on Sept. 24 animation, stop action, green screen, trailers and narrative films "For Kids, By Kids and with Kids in Mind" were submitted and presented at Vale's Rex Theater. First place-winners in each age category received \$50 in gift certificates, and all who entered a film received a bag full of prizes. Youth 4-11 category: first, "Growing a Butterfly" by Duke Johnson; second "Bank Robbers" by Boone Johnson; and third, Grit Johnson's "Shark Attack. Other entries competing were "The Game of Life" and "Shark Attack LA," both by Schroeder and Osgood Shelby-Oszyszko. For ages 12-14 Rachel Walsh earned first with "The Adventures of Riddle & Jones," second went to Gracie Wing "Pepperoni Pizza." In the Young Adult category, first went to Hoss Johnson with "The Harper FFA Tractor Competition." The Adult 20+ division winner was "Birdhouse by Phill Stucker and the Idaho family filmmakers. There was a tie for second place between "Bad Apples" by Jordan Gore and "The Short Film" by Sam McLaughlin. Winning third was "Nukemare" by Andrew McLaughlin. Other entries included "Flat Tire Trippy" by Frank Lindberg and a silent film by Isabel Lastri, "What to Do?". "Best of Show" is selected from all ages groups and reflects the most emotionally moving & memorable of all entries. This year Best of Show honors, went to "Birdhouse" taking home the \$100 cash prize and trophy. During the show the Crash Course movie "Trapped in the Trail" was shown for the first time. The film was created in front of a green screen with the story created that night by the entire cast and crew in just two hours. Actors included: Brenda Ramirez, Jaxen Hansen, Abbey Chrisianson, Kira Stills, Willow Fuson, Chole Cunha, Cady Tolman, Rick McLaughlin, Diane McLaughlin, and Eddie Smith. The technical crew consisted of: Sandijejan Fuson, Zeke Fuson, Autumn Jones, Kelsey Toman, Linda

McLaughlin-Volkening, with assistant directors Mike McLaughlin and Griff Hansen. The directing, special effects, camera work and editing was done by professional filmmaker Phill Stucker. "Trapped in the Trail." is the story of how local youth were sucked into the Oregon Trail video game app. Using Vale and its murals as locations for the action it all was put together into a fun action packed film.





THANK YOU 2022

SPONSORS



Thank You!!!

We would like to give a big shoutout to our great staff & board for helping make each event and project successful. Drexel has received funding for the last couple years to be able to hire a few staff members. On the Drexel Foundation staff we have Sam McLaughlin, Eddie Smith, Andrew McLaughlin, Brenda Ramirez, Taylor King, Cady Tolman, & Kelsey Tolman. Our board members are Sandra Tolman, Kathy Singer-King & the President of the Foundation Sandjean Fuson. We would also like to give a big shout out to all of our other wonderful volunteers, sponsors and grant givers.



Open House

The Drexel Foundation is holding their Annual Holiday Open House for the Vale Hotel & Opera House on December 31st from 9:00am-noon at 123 Main Street.

Drexel Foundation's FREE Formal Closet

You can earn a FREE formal dress or tux rental 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 for the prom or homecoming.

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 Foundation. Or visit our website at www.thedrexelfoundation.org.



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Rest, Repair, Recharge and Rejuvenate Downtown Vale

There are new amenities available to tourists and locals in Vale. The Grand Opera House at 147 Main Street in Vale Oregon is a new place to stop on the authentic Oregon Trail. It now has a free bike repair station with tools and pump, an electric vehicle charging station for two vehicles that serves all types of electric vehicles. At the location are also exterior display boards celebrating untold stories of Basque families and women's contributions to our community. The Grand Opera House exterior location is the

starting point of a self guided tour with printed materials in the form of a map with QR scan-codes to connect to online historical photos for 10 of Vale's downtown buildings. This is to highlight some of the Historic buildings Vale has. Also on the map are the locations to agri-businesses, Vales Public Art, and Vale Murals. Why did the Drexel Foundation undertake this project? We need Vale to be on the map for electric vehicle tourism, recreationist that cycle thru Oregon, tourist looking for free family activities, and for weekend bike riders. We asked the community in our prior humanities project their thoughts on how to attract people to spend time in Vale? The need for the bike repair stations were identified by local youth in our "Engaging Young Voices in Shaping our Community" 2019 program. Also in 2018 public meetings were held called Creating Inclusive Communities, and Everyday Leaders to find ways to create an environment that gets everyone involved in community events and projects. The issues raised in these Humanities conversation projects were how to let youth lead and how to put forward "Untold stories". The residents of all ages identified the need to engage the voices of previously marginalized pioneers in local history.



Rest, Repair, Recharge & Rejuvenate in Downtown Vale is aiming to put into action the requests made by those Drexel serves, and their community partners. This project is intended to develop a destination based product, in concert with environmental stewardship with the Electric Vehicle charging stations and bike repair stations. "Drexel's goal is to raise up youth voices and input from Malheur County residents into action. This project enhances and accents the rich history of Vale Oregon with the creation of these free maps, a brochure station, and informational panels about Basque families and women who shaped our community culture. It shall promote electric vehicle owners, families and cyclist to visit, stay longer, and ties into and enhances regional tourism goals.



Several project partners have worked with the Drexel Foundation on this project. The funding & grants would never have happened without the support from Frank Yraguen, the Basque Club, the Mural Society, John Breidenbach, and Todd Fuller who supported the vision with letters of support. We have to also count the VHS students in Mrs. Steele's freshman & junior English classes in 2019 who had the vision. It would still be just a vision but for local contributions and the project partners funders: Eastern Oregon Visitors Association, Travel Oregon, Cycle Oregon, Idaho Power, Oregon Cultural Trust: Malheur County Cultural Trust, and Eastern Oregon Border Board Scott Fairley memorial grant. "Scott saw the vision and had discussions with former Vale Mayor Mike McLaughlin, when Mike coined the phrase of Vale as "the greenest little city in all of Oregon" during 2013. Scott & Mike discussed Vale having this type of project with Electric Vehicle charging stations. Scott walked the grounds several times with Mike McLaughlin discussing the positive community use of the Grand Opera House during their work on the Governors Task Force for Economic Development together all those years. I sure wish Scott was here to see it really happen." lamented Sandjean Fuson. We would also like to give a special thanks to our builders & volunteers who made this possible: SK Construction (Scott Kelso, Russ Metz, Chris Holte) Stepleton Electric (Wayne Stepleton, Shadd Samio, & Jace Justus), Ruban Melendrez & Ricardo Sotelo, Gary McClellan, Lisa Corcostegui and numerous volunteers.

