

Meet some MRAC grantees with disabilities



Dave Fallon

The Open Doors Project

Received a **\$5,000 Arts Impact for Individuals grant** for The Open Doors Project, inviting adults with disabilities to experience workshops and tours

Dave says...

“My piece of advice would be don’t be afraid to ask for help. MRAC has more accessibility resources than I ever expected.”

[@opendoors_project](https://www.instagram.com/opendoors_project) on Instagram
([instagram.com/opendoors_project](https://www.instagram.com/opendoors_project))



DisabiliTease Festival

Festival Production Team:

Minda Mae, Lakota Shekhar, & VaVa Vashti

Received a **\$15,000 Flexible Support grant** for the third annual DisabiliTease Festival, a platform for talented people with disabilities to perform in the areas of burlesque, cirque and drag

Minda, Lakota, & VaVa say...

“Your idea is worthy of support! It does not have to be a groundbreaking idea to warrant a grant - you just need to share why it is important.”

[DisabiliTease Festival website](https://www.DisabiliTeaseFestival.com) (DisabiliTeaseFestival.com)

Photo: Andrea Baue Photography

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How did an MRAC grant impact your work?

My MRAC grant made it possible for me to start an arts-accessibility program. It also gave me an opportunity to investigate my relationship with my personal disability.

What encouragement do you have for MRAC applicants with disabilities?

My piece of advice would be don't be afraid to ask for help. MRAC has more accessibility resources than I ever expected.

What's one piece of advice to MRAC applicants with disabilities?

It feels like we've entered a new era in terms of addressing disabilities and access with equity. Take this opportunity!

Where can we find more information about your grant-funded project?

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How did an MRAC grant impact your work?

The funds we received from MRAC not only allowed us to provide a platform to lift up the art of performers with disabilities but also added additional accessibility and community support for both performers and audience members to be able to participate in ways that felt safe.

What encouragement do you have for MRAC applicants with disabilities?

Your idea is worthy of support! It does not have to be a groundbreaking idea to warrant a grant - you just need to share why it is important.

What's one piece of advice to MRAC applicants with disabilities?

Take your time writing out your answers and utilize the resources in your networks. Connect with the MRAC team if you need clarification on what something means and have a friend or colleague review your application and ask *you* questions before you submit it. These things will help you fine-tune your answers and make the best impact with your submission.

Where can we find more information about your grant-funded project?

[DisabiliTease Festival website](http://DisabiliTeaseFestival.com) (DisabiliTeaseFestival.com) and
[DisabiliTease Facebook page](https://facebook.com/DisabiliTeaseFestival) (facebook.com/DisabiliTeaseFestival)