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Letter of Opportunity to Participate in The Home Project

A Community-Based Art & Storytelling Initiative by the Heartisan Foundation

Dear Community Member,

This project uplifts the stories, dignity, and creativity of Oregonians from all backgrounds—with a special focus on individuals and families who have been left out of public conversations and policy. By centering community voices around lived experiences, The Home Project will help to build understanding, connection, and cultural pride across divides. We are offering participants a **stipend for their time and contribution** as we work to bring stories of home and belonging to light through photography and artistic interpretation.

What's Involved

Participants will take part in a professional portrait session and have the opportunity to share elements of their life story. These images alongside personal narrative will then be reimagined by local artists in various mediums, culminating in a powerful public exhibition and online showcase of creative works.

Each individual participant or family will receive a stipend of \$200.

Why It Matters

The Home Project uplifts individuals and families across Oregon, highlighting the experiences of Latinx, Indigenous, unhoused, and community members struggling with feeling *at home* in their own skin. Through fine art, this project helps reshape the public narrative around homelessness, resilience, and cultural identity—fostering empathy, breaking stigma, and building connection.

Who Can Participate?

We welcome individuals of all backgrounds and experiences—especially those who have lived through housing insecurity, financial hardship, migration, or cultural marginalization. No previous experience with art or storytelling is needed—just your authentic self.





A Call to Our Partners and Community Organizations

We invite schools, nonprofits, service organizations, farms, and cultural institutions across Oregon to **share this opportunity with your networks** and consider becoming a part of The Home Project. We are actively seeking community partners to help connect us with potential participants, host onsite photography sessions, and spread the word.

Your support is essential in making this a truly inclusive and collaborative statewide effort. Let's come together to celebrate culture, foster understanding, and build something unforgettable.

Project Timeline

- **Spring–Summer 2025**: We begin connecting with local organizations and communities to identify participants and artists.
- **August–October 2025**: Portrait sessions and story collection take place. Artists are then invited to select a portrait to interpret.
- Fall-Winter 2025: Artists create their interpretations. Stories and artwork are gathered, translated if needed, and prepared for exhibition.
- **Spring–Summer 2026**: The final exhibition is presented publicly, with events, media coverage, and opportunities for the community to engage.
- **Summer 2026 onward**: The exhibition will be shared online and considered for installation in additional venues across Oregon.

Participant Process

- Step 1: Our initial intake form: www.heartisan.foundation/participant-form
- Step 2: An email confirming interest
- Step 3: A preliminary recorded phone call to get to know the participant's story
- Step 4: If selected, a professional photoshoot and onsite recording of participant's story

Once all participant photoshoots have taken place, an online gallery will be shared with local artists to select imagery from. They will spend the winter creating original artwork derived from the participant's image and story, and we will all reconvene in the spring regarding next steps for the art opening/1st public exhibit.





To learn more, please contact:

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We believe this project will not only result in beautiful, meaningful artwork—but will also spark dialogue, deepen community ties, and bring long-overdue visibility to the everyday heroes among us.

In community,

The Heartisan Foundation

Education and empowerment for personal and cultural transformation www.heartisan.foundation