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## Final "Make Work" grant recipients announced

By [Mary Barnett](#)

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"Nudibranch" by Kerrick Johnson. 10"x26"x6" - Blown glass, diamond ground and polished, stone wheel engraved, stainless steel stand. Contributed photo.

Local glass artist Kerrick Johnson is one of fourteen artists selected to receive a competitive Make Work Grant this year and will use his funds to improve and expand his home studio on the Southside.

Johnson's elegant sculptural works are a two part process, which he has been executing partly by renting time in the "hot shop" at the Ignis Glass Studio to blow the glass, and finishing details of each piece in his "cold shop" at home.

The grant will allow Johnson to purchase several pieces of equipment that will enable him to bring the entire operation to his home studio, while increasing the cost efficiency, productivity, quality and creativity of each piece.

"It will cost me a third of the price to blow it out of my own studio than to rent furnace time elsewhere. Plus, I will be able to do more research and develop my ideas as opposed to spending \$300 a day in rent to see if something does or doesn't work," Johnson said.

Johnson will also use a portion of the grant money to purchase new raw material that will push him into another phase of his artistic development.

"I will now be using lead-free crystal. My previous work was made from a good quality glass but no where near the best. I need the optical clarity of crystal," he said.

About 15 percent of his nearly fully-funded grant request will be budgeted for the lead-free crystal, which Johnson said will last about a year and give him a good start on getting his next series of work going.

The Make Work grant program is administered through local nonprofit Create Here, but will discontinue when the organization formally dissolves on December 31.



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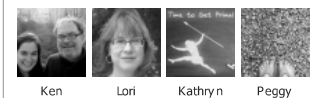
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"Since 2008, Make Work has awarded 85 creative individuals with \$665,000 in monies. These grantees have impacted the Chattanooga community in a variety of ways by documenting local character and engaging the public with performances, discussions and showcases. Because of this, MakeWork stands out as one of America's most successful, and sustainable, arts grants programs to date," it was stated in a press release.

The organization said they received 123 applications requesting over \$1.3 million in funding this year. A total of \$100,000 were awarded in this cycle, which will be the program's last.

2011 Make Work Grant Recipients:

- [Drew Belz](#), Visual Arts (2D) // Howard High: The Documentary
- [Susanne Bowling & Gayle Ligon](#), Visual Arts (2D) // ArtPart: Growing a Creative Generation
- [Christie Burns](#), Performing Arts // O'Connor Violin Method Teacher Training Seminar
- [Rondell Crier](#), Visual Arts (3D) // Reestablishing a Process
- [Stevie Ray Dallimore](#), Performing Arts // The Muse of Fire Project
- [Kate Forbes](#), Performing Arts // Appalachian Voices: An Audio-book of the Jack Tales and other stories
- [Andrew Gage](#), Culinary Arts // Development of a Coffee Roaster's Palate
- [Stephen Humphries](#), Performing Arts // Hammered Dulcimer, Percussion, and Technology
- [Kerrick Johnson](#), Visual Arts (3D) // Completing Glass Blowing Equipment and Materials
- [Phillip Lewis](#), New Media // Invisible Cinema: Mobile Art & Video Projection Lab
- [Shadow May](#), Visual Arts (3D) // Japanese Architecture meets Fred Flintstone Ceramics
- [Margaret Mickles](#), Performing Arts // Tennessthesia: A Compilation Album Featuring Bands From Across the Great State of Tennessee
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