

2015 Micro-Grant Winner Report #3

Project Title: “Wage/Working”

By Laura Hadden

Wage/Working is a community-based art project using oral history to address the issue of income inequality and the concept of wage through a time-based audio installation.

Stories and audio from workers are gathered and edited to a length which corresponds with the amount of time it takes the worker to earn \$1. Those who earn the least are given the most time to speak, drawing attention to the contrast between the workers at the both ends of the range and profiling workers across the spectrum. Once edited, these stories are used to create an album (one for each worker) that is then placed inside of a jukebox. The jukebox is hosted in public spaces throughout the community.

We requested funding for transportation and installation expenses for the jukebox itself. Installations last year were in various locations throughout SE Portland. In 2016, we hope to expand into North and Northeast.