

Morgan awarded Upstate California grant

July 14, 2023



Upstate California Creative Corps announced a grant award to Marcia Morgan as part of a new pilot program serving California's most vulnerable communities and environments, its least represented peoples, and some of society's most critical issues.

Marcia Morgan is one of 81 grantees chosen from among close to 300 applicants to this highly competitive grant program. Upstate California Creative Corps received a total ask of \$16 million with only \$3.38 million in grants awarded. Grantees are collectively part of a media, outreach, and engagement campaign designed to increase awareness for issues such as public health, water and energy conservation, climate mitigation, and emergency preparedness, relief and recovery. California Arts Council views the California Creative Corps program as a job creation and human infrastructure development opportunity.

Region by region, the program is increasing the ways in which artists are engaged in public work, so that they can continue to build upon intersectional public interest goals beyond its pilot funding timeline. Funded projects serve Upstate's most vulnerable communities, those identified via the California Healthy Places Index and other valuable local data sources. From place-based urban initiatives to multi-county regional

projects that follow watersheds, tribal lands, forests, and some of California's most remote mountain wilderness areas, projects engage diverse communities around solutions for some of society's most fundamental challenges – through social practice and an array of artforms.

With support from Upstate California Creative Corps, Morgan will create an animation video and illustrated book to focus on nature and the imperiled pollinators, and gather educators and students to participate in an educational Pollinator Fair. The video will incorporate original illustrations and animation, with a storybook nature.

Together, they will create awareness for the vital work of pollinators and their relationship to our own food future well-being, and shed light on steps we can take to help them. Morgan is “thrilled to be given this opportunity to create her art and connect with educators and students in an educational Pollinator Fair for the benefit of all in the community.”

A complete list of grantees can be found at <https://www.upstatecreativecorps.org/grantees>.