

David A. Gaines  
PO Box 268  
Telford, PA 18969

July 29, 2020



*“There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.” - Maya Angelou*

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on the behalf of the Montgomery County Poet Laureate (MCPL) program. We are raising money to help support writers who are unable to meet their immediate needs because of COVID-19.

The current coronavirus pandemic has disrupted lives worldwide in ways that haven't been seen in over 100 years. This global state of chaos has added stress to every industry, organization and individual, but not everyone is financially equipped to cope with the impact of the virus.

Where the United States government has failed to protect its most vulnerable citizens, it is left to us to protect our communities in their moment of dire need. This is why we are joining the other Pennsylvania-based COVID-19 relief programs in the collective effort to meet the needs of disadvantaged writers.

The Full Circle Microgrant (FCM) Fund is a provisional writer’s fund sponsored by the MCPL program. The fund consists of individual unrestricted microgrants of \$250 each, subsidized by local benefactors and allocated by the FCM Fund Manager. The fund will be available for any writers who have been impacted by coronavirus in the Montgomery, Bucks, Lehigh, Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia counties.

“Coming full circle” is the essence of equity. The writers in our community have always been, and must continue to be, the interpreters of our times. Writers are tasked to hold all that our society discards; to treasure our most marginalized stories; to remember when the rest of the world strives to forget. We cannot afford to surrender writers when they are our memory.

Please consider donating to the fund via our [online donation portal](#) or by sending a check to: PO Box 268, Telford, PA 18969 (made payable to “Indian Valley Arts Foundation” with “FCM” in memo). Those interested in applying for a grant can find our online application [here](#).

You can reach me at [fullcirclemicrogrants@gmail.com](mailto:fullcirclemicrogrants@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns.

Take care,  
David A. Gaines  
2020 MCPL and Fund Manager