

For Immediate Release:

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Passim Awards 2018 Iguana Music Fund Grants

24 grants totaling \$40,000 awarded to New England based musicians to enhance their careers and support community outreach projects

(Cambridge, MA - December 20, 2018) Passim announced that it has awarded \$40,000 to 24 musicians through its Iguana Music Fund. The Iguana Music Fund awards gifts annually to musicians for career building projects and for projects that provide community service through music. Established in 2008 after an anonymous donor approached Passim with the idea to start a program to support local artists' career growth, the fund provides grants from \$500 to \$2,000 for musicians with a New England connection.

Grants are allocated in the areas of recording or manufacturing assistance, publicity and marketing support, equipment and instruments, songwriting retreats, tour support; special projects and other specific activities that promote artists work and/or professional growth. Over the past decade, Passim has awarded almost \$400,000 in grants, funding more than 200 projects.

"It's really amazing to look at Passim as we celebrate our 60 years. So many musicians have come through the club over those years. It is core to our mission to help the musicians in our community grow and develop their careers," said Jim Wooster, Executive Director of Passim, "We take immense pride in providing the Passim Iguana Music Fund grants. These grants really make a difference in the careers of local musicians and also help them enrich the lives of so many others."

[Oompa](#) will use their grant to record an album that details the ways in which impoverished children of color learn to belong. [Zachariah Hickman](#) will use his grant to mix and master the recent Songs and Strings live album, recorded at Club Passim this past October. On the night of the 100th Anniversary of the Boston Molasses Flood, [The Great Molasses Flood](#) will record a live album.

[The Late Risers](#) will record their first full length album featuring a mix of traditional Jazz music and original compositions. [Abrielle Scharff](#), [Anadama](#), [Stace Brandt](#) and [Strangers by Accident](#) will also record debut records. [Age](#) is recording a spiritual world music record with Dave Brophy inspired by traditional Jewish/Hebrew texts. [Ceren Turkmenoglu](#) will record works from old Ottoman music manuscripts transcribed to current notation. [Corey Laitman](#) and [Izzy Heltai](#) also received grants for recording projects.

[Jim Henry](#) is writing a book offering practical advice for musicians. [Hawthorn](#) and [Arc Iris](#) will use their grants to support travel and touring expenses. [Forrest Pettengill](#) will purchase a new upright bass.

Catherine Capozzi will present "[Bring Us Your Women](#)," a multimedia concert set for March that will lift up often-overlooked stories of women in several of the world's religious traditions. [Julia Anne Cohen](#) is organizing a concert and lecture series featuring women composers.

Several grants will support music focused community programs across New England. [Sing Explore Create](#) helps students with physical disabilities and communication disorders compose and record original music. [Kate Callahan](#) works with female inmates at York Correctional Institution in Connecticut, helping them find their voice through music and performance. [Tunefoolery](#) is composed of musicians in mental health recovery who perform for individuals who ordinarily wouldn't have access to live music. [Ari Barbanell's Songs for Winter Walk](#) works with local musicians to raise awareness and support for Boston's homeless population.

Passim's Iguana Music Fund continues to support two multi-year "Baby Iguana" grants. The Sub Rosa Songwriting Retreat brings together a group of artists each summer to write and collaborate in a secluded setting on Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire. [Miles of Music Camp](#) is a week-long retreat for students of all ages exploring traditional folk music and modern songwriting.

The work of the 2018 Iguana Music Fund grant recipients will be showcased at Club Passim on April 8, 2019 at 7:00 pm. Free tickets for this evening are available online at www.passim.org, by calling 617-492-7679 (9:30am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday) or at the Club Passim box office sixty minutes before the show begins. Club Passim is located in Harvard Square at 47 Palmer St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

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About Passim

The mission of Passim is to provide truly exceptional and interactive live musical experiences for both performers and audiences, to nurture artists at all stages of their career, and to build a vibrant music community. We do so through our legendary listening venue, music school, artist grants and outreach programs. As a nonprofit since 1994, Passim carries on the heritage of our predecessors-the historic Club 47 (1958—1968) and for-profit Passim (1969—1994). We cultivate a diverse mix of musical traditions, where the emphasis is on the relationship between performers and audience and teachers and students. Located in Harvard Square, Passim serves Cambridge and the broader region by featuring local, national and international artists. Our ultimate goal is to help the performance arts flourish and thereby enrich the lives of members of our community. For a complete schedule, visit www.passim.org

The 2018 Iguana Music Fund grant recipients:

- [Oompa](#)
- [Sing Explore Create](#)
- [Jim Henry](#)
- [Anadama](#)
- [Julia Anne Cohen](#)
- [Stace Brandt](#)
- [Forrest Pettengill](#)
- [Abrielle Scharff](#)
- [Arc Iris](#)
- [Ceren Turkmenoglu](#)
- [Kate Callahan](#)
- [Corey Laitman](#)
- *Renewal of multi-year 'Baby Iguana' grants for [Miles of Music Camp](#) and Sub Rosa Songwriters Retreat*
- [Hawthorn](#)
- [Strangers by Accident](#)
- [Tunefoolery Music](#)
- [Izzy Heltai](#)
- [The Late Risers](#)
- [The Great Molasses Flood](#)
- [Catherine Capozzi/Bring Us Your Women](#)
- [Age](#)
- [Ari Barbanell/The Winter Walk](#)
- [Zachariah Hickman](#)

