

# The Bradenton Times

## Embracing Our Differences Receives Grant for 2016 Exhibition



Staff Report•

Saturday, Nov 21, 2015

SARASOTA — [Embracing Our Differences](#), a not-for-profit organization that stages annual art exhibits for the purpose of countering prejudice and valuing individuality, was recently given a \$40,000 grant by the Gulf Coast Community Foundation. The grant will go toward supporting EOD's 2016 exhibit.

Michael Shelton, executive director of EOD, said in a statement, "We're honored to be awarded this major grant. This opens up a world of possibilities for thousands of students and educators throughout our area."

Shelton also said that his organization's use of buses to take students and teachers at no charge to EOD's exhibits would be supported by the grant.

In its 12th year, Embracing Our Differences received about 6,500 works of art and statements for its exhibition earlier this year. Those submissions were from people in 42 states and 80 different countries. The upcoming 2016 exhibition season, slated for March 28 through May 31, will feature the work of 39 artists and writers. The organization is accepting submissions for the event until January 4. For more information, go to [www.embracingourdifferences.org](http://www.embracingourdifferences.org).