



# Herald-Tribune

## GOOD DEEDS

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The **Our Sarasota Fund** and the **McCauley-Brown Fund** of the **Community Foundation of Sarasota County** awarded **Embracing Our Differences** a \$2,750 grant in recognition of the organization's work promoting diversity and LGBTQ+ issues.

The Our Sarasota Fund is a charitable group focused on assisting local nonprofit organizations that offer programs that improve the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. The funds will be directed to projects that expand LGBTQ+ inclusivity and educator workshops, according to Michael Shelton, EOD's executive director.

Since 2004, EOD's outdoor art exhibit celebrating the theme of "enriching lives through diversity," has showcased the art and words of thousands of artists and writers from around the world, including hundreds of area-based students and educators.

**Gulf Coast Community Foundation** recently awarded **Embracing Our Differences** a \$40,000 grant to help fund its 2018 outdoor exhibition, which will run April 4 to May 31 in Sarasota's Island Park. The grant will also be used for EOD's annual educational outreach programs and initiatives.

The grant will provide vital resources for EOD's Make-A-Day-of-It! program, which funds bus transportation for thousands of students and teachers to visit the outdoor exhibits and other arts and cultural venues.

A portion of the grant will also be directed to Embracing Our Differences' annual teacher workshops and retreats.