

Application: Futel - Spring 2023

Karl Anderson - oscule@protonmail.com
Arts3C - Creation, Cultivation & Community

Arts3C Applicant Information

Completed - Mar 19 2023

Applicant Information Form

Be sure to review the [Arts3C Grant Guidelines](#) and the [FAQ](#).

If you have additional questions or need assistance as you complete your application, please email grants@racc.org for assistance.

Organization/Business Contact Information:

The following information is from your [Application Eligibility Profile](#) and informs how RACC would award and pay your grant. If this information is not correct, **please review your Applicant Eligibility Profile to update** before you continue with and submit your application.

Applicant Type: **Arts Organization/Arts Business**

Organization or Business Name: **Futel**

Legal Name for payment, if different:

Address:

County: Multnomah County

Account User Contact:

Public Website and Social Media links (optional):

Website	http://futel.net
Additional Social Media	https://futelco.tumblr.com/ https://soundcloud.com/user-450753077

How do you plan to receive grant Income? This should not change between submission and the receipt of any grant funding. It should be in alignment with your **Applicant Information** above. If you would prefer a different option, be sure to update your Applicant Eligibility Profile or contact grants@racc.org now.

As an Organization or Business with an Employer Identification Number, how are you organized to receive grant income?

Fiscally Sponsored for this proposal (upload an MOU)

Upload a Memorandum of Understanding between you and your Fiscal Sponsor organization that would cover this grant request.

[01-Fiscal_Sponsorship_Acknowledgement_Letter_\(SIGNED\).pdf](#)

Filename: 01-Fiscal_Sponsorship_Acknowledgement_Letter_(SIGNED).pdf **Size:** 145.8 kB

Before you proceed with your application, it is strongly encouraged that you read the [RACC Arts3C Grant Guidelines](#). In addition, there are Info Session videos and an FAQ to answer your questions and support your process. Have you reviewed the Arts3C Grant Guidelines?

Yes

Primary Artistic Discipline

Choose your primary discipline for aiding panel assignments.

Social Practice

Primary Request Category

Choose one or maximum two categories, for aiding panel assignments.

Responses Selected:

Career Development

Operating Expenses

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RACC Arts3C Grant Application

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If you have additional questions or need assistance as you complete your application, please email grants@racc.org for assistance.

Futel - Spring 2023

Working Title of your proposed Project or Activity (optional):

Futel Operations 2023-2024

Grant Request Amount:

What funding level are you applying for? Choose one:

\$4,000

Remember: A smaller grant request will have a more streamlined and simple application. A larger request amount requires more information and supplemental materials.

Grant Request Timeframe:

What is the Start Date?

When did or does planning begin for the proposed work or activity?

Jan 1 2023

What is the End Date?

When do you anticipate all related work to be complete?

Jun 30 2024

Remember: *To be eligible, your proposal end date should be after the grant award announcements are scheduled to be public and the grant cycle begins - **currently June 23, 2023.***

Grant Application Questions:

1. Tell us about your project or activity.

Provide as much detail and information as you can, including the content/story/themes, the technique/approach, and the intended outcomes. Up to 1,200 characters including spaces.

This grant will support Futel, a network of public installations built in payphones. This grant-funded project has been active since 2014 and combines free public telecommunication services with interactive audio art. In 2021, it provided over 27,000 interactions and over 10,900 outgoing calls.

The grant will fully fund the operation of eight existing public installations in Portland for one year, including maintenance, repair, and services, enabling all existing artistic and service features. All installations will be publicly accessible at all hours for the duration of the grant project.

The grant will also let me devote time to practical and creative skill development. The grant will fund 80 hours devoted to learning skills which will expand the programs that the Futel project can implement, including real time multi-user interaction through Futel installations and the telephone system, and computer assisted audio manipulation. The grant will fund 80 hours devoted to designing and prototyping creative projects involving interactive audio and communication between Futel users and operators, which will expand the creative depth of the Futel project.

Does your request involve other artists, admin support, staff or board, community groups, vendors, service providers, etc?

Yes

2. Who is involved, what are they doing as part of this activity, and why did you select them?

Up to 1,000 characters including spaces.

Creative and staff support:

Karl Anderson: Director, software engineering, maintenance labor, program and creative development

Jason Plumb: Software engineering, maintenance labor, program and creative development

Elijah St Clair: Software engineering, maintenance labor

Russell Senior: Software engineering

Mathew Lippincott: Graphic design, hardware engineering, program development

These workers all have years of involvement with the Futel project, both as volunteers and in grant-supported paid work. They are motivated by sharing the Futel project's goals of providing radically accessible communication services and by their own practices combining technology and art.

Service providers:

Digital Ocean: Cloud computing services to run the servers behind Futel

Twilio: Telecommunication and computing services to implement Futel features

VOIP.ms, BulkVS: Telecommunication services to implement Futel features

These service providers are all currently used for the Futel project.

3. How does this request impact you and move your artistic work forward?

Up to 1,000 characters including spaces.

The operational funding of the existing Futel phones will allow me to build on the ongoing artistic project, and seek new grants and projects, during and after the grant period.

The personal development funding will let me design and prototype new creative programs, with the practical development increasing my ability to use communication technology for projects, and the artistic development giving me time to design innovative new programs. New programs will include several of:

- A framework for the creation of participatory location-specific oral history exhibits, where the user can hear discussion and contribute to a growing conversation about Dawson Park
- An interactive program where the user is guided through the interpretation of audio sequences, and the production of randomness, without any language being used
- An audio project where users use Futel phones and their personal phones to communicate, with their voices replaced by computer generated speech and other modifications

4. Will you engage with the public in the Portland tri-county area in a presentation or activity as part of this proposal?

Yes

If yes, what is the anticipated venue name and address with zipcode for the public involvement? If digital engagement, what are your platforms for reaching tri-county residents?

Up to 400 characters including spaces.

Sidewalk-accessible locations:

SE Taylor E of 23rd, 97214

NE Ainsworth W of 8th Ave-9th Ave Alley, 97211

NE Killingsworth E of 13th, 92711

NE 8th Ave S of Prescott, 97211

N Central St between Tyler and Allegheny, 97203

N Saratoga St W of Denver, 97217

SE Cesar Chavez Blvd S of Steele, 97202

Microcosm Publishing, N Williams Ave S of NE Graham St, 97227

Is this location ADA-Accessible?

Yes

Remember: All RACC funded grant activities must happen in ADA-Accessible venues in order to be eligible.

\$3,000 Request Level & Above:

5. Who is the audience or participants for the public engagement, and what is your promotion, marketing, outreach, or distribution plan?

Up to 1,000 characters including spaces.

The potential audience of the work is anyone walking down the sidewalk, as well as people who seek out our installations after learning about them from media coverage, our own outreach, or organic word of mouth. Our audience comes from a very diverse population that most creative projects would have difficulty in reaching. The radical accessibility of our project has led to a large proportion of usage and interactions from people experiencing houselessness.

Promotion and outreach will include:

- The Futel website, blog, and social media
- "Party Line", a printed booklet about Futel's activities
- "Wildcard Line", a participatory audio work with contributions from users of Futel phones
- Interviews and articles for media covering public art, the creative use of technology, or innovative social service, including "Oregon Arts Watch", "Think Out Loud", and "2600"
- Presentations at arts and technology meetups and conferences including "Teardown", "Hardware Happy Hour" and "ftp://con"

How many people do you estimate it will reach?

1000

\$4,000 Request Level & Above:

6. Please describe the overall expected timeline for your proposal between your start and end dates, including estimated timeframes for development, execution, promotion, and any final presentations.

Up to 1,000 characters including spaces.

Jan 1 2023 through Jun 30 2024: Project planning and idea generation.

Jul 1 2023 through Jun 30 2024: Eight public Futel phone installations continue to be operational in Portland.

Jul 1 2023 through Jun 30 2024: Work applied to personal development. 80 hours devoted to learning technical skills to enable future Futel projects. 80 hours spent designing and prototyping creative projects using Futel payphones and equipment.

7. What accessibility considerations are you making to support your audience or participants?

This could be physical (such as ASL, closed-captioning, CART, etc.) financial (such as scholarships, subsidized tickets, etc.) or other considerations. Up to 500 characters including spaces.

All locations are accessible for free from public sidewalks and usable by users who require mobility devices.

Closing Statement:

What else would you like the Community Reviewers to know in support of your grant request?

Up to 1,000 characters including spaces.

Increasing technology skills, and developing new demo programs, will be an ability multiplier for future projects. Futel is probably the most creative user of several communication platforms, including the open source Asterisk server. We will see greater potential by working more with Twilio, a cloud platform which we began using after a 2018 Twilio Impact Access grant.

Funding the existing sites and services for the year will make resources available for the ongoing project. Futel has been successful in part because it has kept a platform and audience available for prototyping and experimentation, as well as a practical attraction, free telephone calls, to draw people in. We will leverage this base to enable projects supported by Metro, Oregon Community Foundation, and other organizations.

Storytelling has been a natural direction for our projects, and we are effective when we can take it in a new media direction, combining audio content with public participation in unexpected ways.

After you "Mark as Complete" all the required tasks, you will need to click the green "Submit" button to submit your application for consideration.

Arts3C Grant Budget

Completed - Mar 19 2023

RACC Arts3C Grant Budget

If you have questions or need assistance as you complete your budget, email grants@racc.org for assistance.

Grant Request Amount:

\$4,000

Proposal Costs

List all expenses directly related to the total cost of your proposed activity. Your expenses total may be higher than your RACC grant request. You will detail other contributions or fundraising to make up the difference.

Expenses

Provide detail as estimated calculations in the **Description** with who/what and how much for each item and then the total in the Amount (example: "Three artists at \$18/hr for 50 hours each" Amount: "\$2,700" or "Five 2'x3' canvas at \$27 each, Two 3'x4' canvas at \$65 each" Amount: \$265".

Consider expenses such as artist fees, supplies/materials, space rental, registration fees, travel costs, design or consultant fees, marketing or promotion costs, ASL interpretation and Access services, other purchases, etc.

	Budget Item Description	Amount
1	Internet and telephony service for one year: \$275 internet for Mobile Beacon, approx 80,500 minutes telephony at \$0.009/minute for Voip.ms, Callcentric, Twilio, BulkVS	1000
2	Cloud computing, internet, and computing service for one year: \$31.25/mo for Digitalocean, \$25 for Amazon AWS and Namecheap	400
3	One replacement payphone	330
4	Installation and maintenance hardware: Tools and consumables \$425, payphone and enclosure mounting hardware and supplies \$110, payphone enclosure parts and materials \$100, electrical and connectivity supplies \$120	755
5	IT hardware: Routers, VOIP adapter boxes	120
6	Outreach and publicity: zine printing, postage, signage, flyers	195
7	Fiscal sponsor expense for RACC Arts3C grant	200
8	Hourly labor for Futel maintenance and repair for 1 year, performed by Karl Anderson and other Futel workers, 12 hours at \$20/hr	240

9	Hourly labor for Futel IT operations and project management for 1 year, performed by Karl Anderson, 54 hours at \$20/hr	1080
10	Skill development for Karl Anderson, 80 hours practical skill development, 80 hours creative skill development, at \$20/hr	3200
Total Costs:		7520.0

Proposal Contributions

List all cash or donated (in-kind) contribution sources you will put toward your total cost listed above. Indicate whether the contribution is Confirmed or Projected.

Revenue

The first line should be your RACC Grant Request of **\$4,000** and listed as "Projected".

Provide detail on estimated revenue in the **Description** with who/what and how much for each item and then the total in the Amount (example: "Approx. 150 tickets; \$15 (student tix) to \$25 each, avg. of \$22" Amount: "\$3,300" or "Anticipate 10 enrolled workshop students, \$25 each" Amount: \$250".

Consider **Sources** such as applicant cash, specific grants, fundraiser events, online campaigns (ie. GoFundMe or Patreon), ticket sales, anticipated work or merchandise sold, class or workshop fees, or in-kind donation of goods or services etc. In-kind donations should be clearly indicated with a specific source and what cost line item it covers above.

You may need to scroll to the right to see the "Amount" column, depending on your browser.

	Contribution Source Description	Confirmed or Projected?	Amount
1 - RACC Grant	RACC Arts3C grant	Projected	4000
2	Donations from individuals through website/fiscal sponsor	Projected	1125
3	Donations from Patreon subscribers	Projected	930
4	IT hardware: Routers, VOIP adapter boxes, in-kind donation from Personal Telco Project	Confirmed	120
5	Merchandise sales	Projected	25
6	Hourly labor for Futel maintenance and repair for 1 year, in-kind donation by Karl Anderson and other Futel workers, 12 hours at \$20/hr	Confirmed	240
7	Hourly labor for Futel IT operations and project management for 1 year, in-kind donation by Karl	Confirmed	1080

	Anderson, 54 hours at \$20/hr		
8			
9			
10			
Total Contributions:			7520.0

1. Verify that your request amounts match.

Is your RACC Grant Request in line one of your Proposal Contributions \$4,000 ?

Yes

2. Verify that your budget is balanced.

Your total costs and total contributions should be the same number.

Yes

3. Which budget items listed above will the RACC grant funding primarily support?

Grant funding primarily supports skills development, then operations (service providers).

Upload Resumes or Bios

Completed - Mar 9 2023

In this section, upload the artistic resume, CV, or bio of the applicant (individual artists), resume or bio for any main collaborating artists, and/or the resumes or bios of contractors, consultants, and/or project lead staff members (organizations), if applicable.

Don't forget to click the green "Submit" button when all Tasks are complete to submit your application.

[cv](#)

Filename: cv_tFzAXit.pdf Size: 29.4 kB

[collaborator](#)

Filename: collaborator_Z2lrQ3A.pdf Size: 23.6 kB

Provide Work Samples

Completed - Mar 9 2023

Provide artistic work samples showcasing your previous work/programming, as well as other key artists or contractors involved and supporting the proposal, if applicable.

The size and number of materials is not limited, however keep in mind that Community Reviewers will be spending **no more than about 15 minutes** looking at supplementary materials. You can direct viewers to important sections of longer material

For online work samples other than Vimeo or YouTube, put the website link into a document with a description, save as a PDF, and upload. If your online material has a password, do not forget to provide in the description.

After upload, you can edit the description of your work sample for further clarity.

Don't forget to click the green "Submit" button when all Tasks are complete to submit your application.

[installation1](#)

Filename: installation1_1HpdWUj.jpg Size: 314.5 kB

[installation2](#)

Filename: installation2.jpg Size: 391.9 kB

[installation3](#)

Filename: installation3.jpg Size: 1.3 MB

[installation4](#)

Filename: installation4.jpg Size: 1.5 MB

[servicemap](#)

Filename: servicemap_IPXI0UQ.png Size: 600.8 kB

[flyer](#)

Filename: flyer.jpg Size: 143.7 kB

[%22Hold the Phone%22 Art Installation Now on Display Open Signal](#)

Filename: 22Hold_the_Phone22_Art_Installatio_VRBO4wb.pdf Size: 6.3 MB

[open signal fest](#)

Filename: open_signal_fest_c5j3TJs.pdf Size: 16.5 kB

[links](#)

Filename: links_ZQIZbet.pdf Size: 14.0 kB

Upload Cost Research Documentation [Recommended at \$1,000 or \$2,000; Required at \$3,000 and above]

Completed - Mar 7 2023

In this section, provide price lists, quotes, estimates, or documentation of cost research to support the proposed budget for key expenses or purchases related to your proposal.

This is recommended for all applicants, but optional at the \$1,000 or \$2,000 and REQUIRED for \$3,000, \$4,000 or \$5,000 requests.

[expenses-2021](#)

Filename: expenses-2021.pdf Size: 17.7 kB

[expenses-2022](#)

Filename: expenses-2022.pdf Size: 17.4 kB

Upload Additional Information to Support Proposal

Incomplete

In this section, upload additional information relevant to the proposed opportunity, such as video introductions, COVID-19 safety protocols for venues, letters of invitation or support, brochures, links to websites, proposals from consultants, or other materials that provide more detail about the opportunity.

For online work samples other than Vimeo or YouTube, put the website link into a document with a description, save as a PDF, and upload. If your online material has a password, do not forget to provide in the description.

Karl Anderson

Curriculum Vitae

Futel

August 2014 to present

Futel is a telephone company and audio art installation, with installations at several publicly available locations. As director, I do everything that needs doing, including creative direction, content creation, project management, development, operations, fundraising, intern mentoring, volunteer coordination, and outreach.

Installations:

Right To Dream Too, NW Third and Burnside, Portland, January 2015 to present.

Sidewalk, NE Ainsworth Street, Portland, February 2016 to present.

Sidewalk, SE Taylor Street, Portland, November 2016 to present.

Alley, Pearl Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan, March 2018 to present.

Sidewalk, NE Killingsworth Street, Portland, December 2018 to present.

Parking lot, Sou'Wester Lodge, Seaview, Washington, March 2019 to present.

Sidewalk, NE 8th Ave, Portland, April 2019 to present.

Bar, Upright Brewing, N Broadway, Portland, July 2019 to present.

Sidewalk, 23rd Street, Detroit, Michigan, November 2019 to present.

Sidewalk, N Central St, Portland, October 2020 to present.

Sidewalk, N Saratoga St, Portland, September 2021 to present.

Sidewalk, SE Cesar Chavez Blvd, Portland, January 2022 to present.

Sidewalk, Microcosm Publishing, N Williams Ave, Portland, September 2022 to present.

Sidewalk, SE Clinton Street, Portland, June 2014 to December 2021.

Sidewalk, PDX Hackerspace, N Interstate Avenue, Portland, February 2016 to July 2016.

Alley, NE Killingsworth Street, Portland, January 2018 to February 2022.

Sidewalk, SE Woodward Street, Portland, November 2018 to January 2021.

Sidewalk, Open Signal, NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Portland, January 2020 to December 2021.

Sidewalk, Hedron Hackerspace, SE Bush St, Portland, May 2022 to September 2022.

Exhibits:

Hold The Phone, Open Signal, April-November 2020.

Futel Remote Testing Facility, Virtual ToorCamp, June 2020.

Futel Interactive Installation, Teardown, May 2018.

Futel Interactive Installation, ToorCamp, Orcas Island, Washington, July 2016.

Futel: Communication From Beyond The Veil, AFRU gallery, February 2016.

Futel Interactive Installation, ToorCamp, Neah Bay, Washington, July 2014.

Exhibit Support:

Felicitific Calculus by Eric Kunsman, April 2021.

The Newberg Department of Friendship by Patricia Vázquez Gómez, Chehalem Cultural Center, December 2019.

HELLO, VOYAGER / Futel Telephone Booth by Jodi Darby, Open Signal Fest, August 2019.

HERE || Humboldt by the Black Life Experiential Research Group, Paragon Gallery at PCC Cascade, April 2019.

Presentations:

Futel: Dial Tone For The People, ftp://con, virtual, August 2023.

Futel: The Payphone, Devolved, HOPE 12, New York City, July 2018.

Futel: A Technology So Advanced We Leave It Out On The Street All Night, Teardown, Portland, May 2018.

Futel: Telecommunications Colossus of the Modern Age, DonutJS, Portland, February

2018.

King Solomon's Mines: The Greatest Salvage Treasure Revealed In The Vault Of The Payphone, Decon + Reuse, Portland, September, 2017.

Futel: The Network We Deserve, Open Source Bridge, Portland, June 2017.

Futel: An Immobile Phone Company, i3Detroit, Detroit, October 2016.

Futel Activity Report, ToorCamp, Orcas Island, June 2016.

Interview, Karaoke Research Council season 1 episode 3, Portland, January 2016.

Futel: Operators Are Sometimes Standing By, Portland Creative Coders, Portland, August 2015.

Futel: The Telephone Of The Future, Curiosity Club, Portland, April 2015.

Futel: The Future Of The Past Of Telephony, Open Source Bridge, Portland, June 2014.

Audio Publications:

Wildcard Line Episode 8, participatory audio, December 2021.

Wildcard Line Episode 7, participatory audio, September 2020.

Wildcard Line Episode 6, participatory audio, June 2019.

Wildcard Line Episode 5, participatory audio, March 2019.

Wildcard Line Episode 4, participatory audio, June 2017.

Wildcard Line Episode 3, participatory audio, November 2017.

Wildcard Line Episode 2, participatory audio, May 2017.

Wildcard Line Episode 1, participatory audio, November 2016.

Print Publications:

Party Line #7, pamphlet, March 2022.

Party Line #6, pamphlet, May 2021.

Party Line #5, pamphlet, April 2020.

Party Line #4, pamphlet, February 2019.

Party Line #3, pamphlet, March 2018.

Party Line #2, pamphlet, March 2017.

Party Line #1, pamphlet, March 2016.

Major Grants:

Regional Arts and Culture Council Make|Learn|Build Grant, August 2021.

Awesome Portland Grant, March 2020.

Regional Arts and Culture Council Project Grant, June 2019.

TechSoup Hardware Grant, November 2018.

Twilio.org Impact Access Grant, March 2018.

Personal Telco Project Hardware Grant, May 2017.

Free Geek Hardware Grant, May 2017.

Awesome Ann Arbor Grant, June 2017.

Precipice Fund Grant, December 2016.

Regional Arts and Culture Council Project Grant, December 2015.

Awesome Portland Grant, September 2014.

ToorCamp Art Grant, July 2014.

Church Of Robotron

2012 to 2015

The Church of Robotron is a collaborative series of immersive, interactive multimedia installations which present a cautionary message about machine superiority and human error. Effects include kinetic sculptures, whistles, percussion, vibration, ozone generators, electrical discharges, simulated fires, projected video of the current and previous participants, and live performances, all triggered by audience interaction. Installations are customized for the space and opportunity, and can include unattended public interaction at all hours performed by the audience touching a plate glass window or manipulating a ruggedized control.

Exhibits:

Teardown, June 2019.
XOXO 1010 Art Show, September 2015.
AFRU Gallery, February 2015.
Diode Gallery, September to October 2014.
ToorCamp, Neah Bay, Washington, July 2012.

Publications:

Doctrine And Documentation, pamphlet, 2014.

Presentations:

The Church Of Robotron, Dorkbot PDX, 2013.

Major Grants:

ToorCamp Art Grant, July 2012.

C.H.U.N.K. 666

1992 to 2015

C.H.U.N.K. 666 turns salvaged bicycles into working human powered vehicles and then destroys them in public gladiatorial contests. As cofounder and ongoing participant, I have led creative direction, fabricated custom vehicles, built sets, organized public events and festivals, created content, and led outreach and fundraising.

Events:

Mutant Bike Proving Grounds, Vancouver, BC, 2008.
Chunkathlons, Portland, yearly 1999 through 2005.
Mutant Bike Construction Workshop, Brooklyn, NY, 2003.
Chunkathlon, Brooklyn, NY, 2003.
Mutant Bike Construction Workshop, Portland, 2002.

Presentations:

Aquachoppers of C.H.U.N.K. 666, Curiosity Club, April 2013.
Aquachoppers of C.H.U.N.K. 666, Dorkbot PDX, October 2011.
Aquachoppers of C.H.U.N.K. 666, Research Club, September 2011.

Publications:

Taking The Lane (story in anthology), edited by Elly Blue, 2014.
Nowtopia (interview in anthology), edited by Chris Carlson, 2008.
C.H.U.N.K. 666: To Head The Moronic Dictum, pamphlet, 2001.
C.H.U.N.K. 666: Heat Shield of the Celestial Chariot, pamphlet, 1999.
C.H.U.N.K. 666: Preparing for the Carmageddon, pamphlet, 1997.

Solo and Choral Performances

2014 to 2017

I sang in choral and solo performances.

Performances:

CHOIR, choir accompaniment for a dance performance by Takahiro Yamamoto, March 2015.
CHOIR, choir accompaniment for a dance performance by Takahiro Yamamoto, July 2015.
Like a Sun That Pours Forth Light but Never Warmth, solo aria for a dance performance by Allie Hankins, Conduit Dance, October 2014.

Futel Collaborator Bios

Karl Anderson, director

Karl Anderson is an engineer and artist. For 30 years, he has participated in projects involving salvage, the re-use of discarded or obsolescent technology, exploring concepts of waste, accessibility, practicality, progress, and access to tools. Karl directs Futel and does anything that needs doing for the project.

Jason Plumb, artist, software engineer, developer, installer

Jason Plumb is a hacker, engineer, sound/noise artist, and a developer of the Church of Robotron, an interactive multimedia installation. He has helped organize DorkbotPDX ("People doing strange things with electricity") for nearly a decade. Though experimentation, failure, and iteration, Jason creates generative/algorithmic audio/visuals, subversive user interfaces, and experiences that challenge cybernetic limits. Jason develops the IT and operations backend of Futel and helps with program and creative development.

Elijah St Clair, software engineer, operations, installer

Elijah St Clair is a DevOps engineer and a developer of the Church of Robotron, an interactive multimedia installation, and has fielded hours of calls as a Futel operator. Elijah develops the IT backend of Futel.

Russell Senior, software engineer

Russell Senior has 13 years of experience as President of the Personal Telco Project. Personal Telco builds public access internet networks, bringing communication tools to Portland communities and recently providing services for C3PO villages. Russell develops the technical and human aspects of Futel's communication infrastructure.

Mathew Lippincott, designer, hardware engineer

Mathew Lippincott has 15 years of experience in environmental monitoring and 12 years of experience in sanitation policy and design. Mathew performs outreach and designs hardware, programs, and documentation for Futel.

 **Open Signal**

[Watch](#)

"Hold the Phone" Art Installation Now on Display

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January 30, 2020

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Updated, May 5, 2020: Audio from "Hold the Phone" is now available on our newly restored SoundCloud account, which you can access here: soundcloud.com/opensignalpdx 

You may also watch with subtitles on YouTube below:

Hold the Phone: "People's Homes" by Emily Fitzgerald & Mo...



Works from artists Emily Fitzgerald, Molly Sherman, Machado Mijiga and Sailor Winkleman will be featured all year long in an installation titled Hold the Phone, a Futel phone installed outside of Open Signal's side entrance on NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd and NE Graham street. Additionally, the phone offers free telephone calls, voicemail and telephone-mediated services.

Hold the Phone serves as an interactive and experimental sound art and storytelling project exploring topics vital to inner North and Northeast Portland neighborhoods. Projects will also be accessible from several public Futel locations in Portland, including SE Clinton St, SE Taylor St, NE Ainsworth St, NE Killingsworth Alley, NE Killingsworth St, and NE 8th St.

Here are the dates and descriptions of each featured artist:

Emily Fitzgerald & Molly Sherman
People's Homes: Investigating Place with Portland's Longtime Homeowners
January 22 - April 30

People's Homes explores the often-overlooked experiences of Portland's oldest homeowners in N and NE Portland and the local histories they carry. By sharing these stories, listeners are invited to reflect on their neighborhoods and acknowledge the past while recognizing the urban changes

taking place around us.

Machado Mijiga
Projections
May 1 - August 14

Projections of the mind, figments of the imagination. What was here, is now there. What was once before, is now after. What was once yet to be, has now become itself. An auditory step out of the conscious mind, and into the subterfuge. A sonic journaling; a spattering of abstraction. A narrative lost in the fabric of reality; text-woven into the ornate veil of the superego. A voyeuristic monologue, that dialogues the diaspora of roots ... as heard through the speaker of a public telephone.

Sailor Winkleman
Futel Missed Connections
August 15 - November 30

Retrofitting the format popular on Craigslist for a public telephone, Futel Missed Connections will invite passersby to record short, anonymous audio messages and listen and reply to messages recorded on the NE MLK Futel phone. Missed connections are way to archive the way we encounter each other in public space, and to explore unfulfilled potentials. In gathering recordings of what could-have-been, Futel Missed Connections will superimpose a collective re-imagination onto the neighborhood, revealing the dreams and observations of those who co-occupy the space, and creating an opportunity to connect.


About Futel

Futel has been delivering free public telephones to the community since 2014, with a total of 9 phones in the City of Portland, and 2 outside of the city. Futel believes in the preservation of public telephone hardware as a means of providing access to the agora for everybody, and toward that goal they are privileged to provide free domestic


telephone calls, voicemail, and
telephone-mediated services.

Selected projects will be installed at
Open Signal and accessible from several
public Futel locations in Portland,
including SE Clinton St, SE Taylor St,
NE Ainsworth St, NE Killingsworth Alley,
NE Killingsworth St, and NE 8th St.

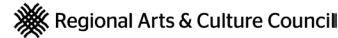
Projects will also be posted to Futel's
online platforms:

Soundcloud, <https://soundcloud.com/user-450753077> 


Futel blog,
<https://futelco.tumblr.com/> 

For more information about Futel visit, <http://futel.net/>  or
call 503-468-1337.

This phone is funded in part by the
Regional Arts & Culture Council.



[← Return to index](#)

Open Signal
2766 NE Martin Luther King,
Jr Blvd
Portland, OR 97212
[Get direction](#) 

Administrative Hours*
Mon - Fri, 10am to 5pm

[Terms of Service](#)
[Press Portal](#)

T (503) 288-1515
info@opensignpdx.org

Thank you to our top supporters of 2019-20



full article at <https://www.opensignalspdx.org/press-portal/press-release-open-signal-fest-on-august-10-is-zenith-of-summer-media-arts-programming/>

Open Signal Fest

Saturday, August 10, noon - 8pm

Open Signal: Portland Community Media Center

2766 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97212

Hello, Voyager / Futel Telephone Booth

Noon - 8pm

Hear audio segments installed in an interactive storytelling telephone booth provided by Futel. Audio work courtesy of a time capsule created by artist Jodi Darby and Open School middle students, inspired by NASA's Voyager Golden Record and the 1876 Century Safe.

Links to Futel sites:

Website: <http://futel.net>

Blog: <http://futelco.tumblr.com>

Links to selected externally created sites:

Wikipedia article

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Futel>

"'Still needed': Free phone service sees continued use amid pandemic", KOIN 6 News article, February 27, 2021

<https://www.koin.com/news/special-reports/still-needed-free-phone-service-sees-continued-use-amid-pandemic/>

"A Portland Software Engineer Is Bringing the Pay Phone Back, Minus the "Pay" Part". Willamette Week article, February 12, 2020

<https://www.wweek.com/culture/2020/02/12/a-portland-software-engineer-is-bringing-the-pay-phone-back-minus-the-pay-part/>

"A Pay Phone Revival, Without The Pay". NPR Morning Edition article, December 27, 2019

<https://www.npr.org/2019/12/27/791660745/a-pay-phone-revival-without-the-pay>

"Old Hardware, New Twist. The No-Pay Phone." OBP article, June 17, 2015.

<https://www.opb.org/news/article/old-hardware-a-new-twist-the-no-pay-phone/>

"Futel's payphone service; providing phone calls for free." Oregonian Oregonlive article, April 5, 2015

https://www.oregonlive.com/multimedia/2015/04/futels_free_phone_service_give.html

expenses-2021

expenses

payments, reimbursements

Barnaby Casey – handwashing station construction	2021-01-16	100
Mathew Lippincott – sanitation design and impl	2021-01-16	100
Karl Anderson – grantwriting	2021-01-16	250
Karl Anderson – artist	2021-01-16	500
Karl Anderson – developer	2021-01-16	250
Jason Plumb – installation, engineering	2020-01-16	100
Karl Anderson – admin, engineering	2021-04-28	500
Jason Plumb – engineering	2021-04-28	500

service providers

Free Geek – ewaste recycling	2021-02-24	40
david gustafson – landline creative wiring	2021-06-12	377.15
Namecheap – futel.net	2021-09-17	15.16
voip.ms	2021-03-01	50
voip.ms	2021-06-23	50
voip.ms	2021-10-09	15
twilio	2021-01-06	63.93
twilio	2021-02-05	50.47
twilio	2021-03-12	50.74
twilio	2021-04-18	50.1
twilio	2021-05-26	50.01
twilio	2021-07-28	50
twilio	2021-07-01	50
twilio	2021-08-24	50.01
twilio	2021-09-20	50.01
twilio	2021-10-14	50
twilio	2021-11-11	50.21
twilio	2021-10-09	50.02
callcentric	2021-01-01	3.36
callcentric	2021-02-01	2.81
callcentric	2021-03-01	3.35
callcentric	2021-04-01	3.57
callcentric	2021-05-01	5.76
callcentric	2021-06-01	5.72
callcentric	2021-07-01	3.84
callcentric	2021-08-01	3.83
callcentric	2021-09-01	4.4
callcentric	2021-10-01	2.63
digitalocean	2021-01-01	16.28
digitalocean	2021-02-01	15.3
digitalocean	2021-03-01	15.3
digitalocean	2021-04-01	15.3
digitalocean	2021-05-01	17.15
digitalocean	2021-06-01	15.29
digitalocean	2021-07-01	16.72
digitalocean	2021-08-01	16.43

expenses-2021

digitalocean	2021-09-01	19.04	
digitalocean	2021-10-01	21.76	
digitalocean	2021-11-01	19.04	
digitalocean	2021-12-01	19.17	
			1408.86
hardware			
handsets	2021-02-19	98	
locks	2021-02-13	40.3	
locks	2021-02-13	20	
misc hardware	2021-03-24	261.52	
handsets	2021-04-08	130	
payphone and handset	2021-04-12	330	
rj11 cable	2021-05-28	139.99	
payphone upper housing	2021-06-08	165	
at&t pioneer eshoppe – 4 payphones	2021-06-14	1147.58	
Ebay – payphone	2021-06-09	263.55	
installation hardware materials	2021-09-11	58.74	
installation hardware materials	2021-09-23	9.08	
at&t pioneer eshoppe – payphone locks	2021-10-02	229	
router	2021-09-25	30	
installation hardware materials	2021-09-22	7.99	
mobile beacon – 2 hotspots and service	2021-09-13	258	
Ebay – 10 atas	2021-09-13	195	
1 payphone, 2 enclosures, 1 lock	2021-09-28	800	
2 payphone upper housing	2021-09-28	100	
Lead-acid battery	2021-10-15	55	
digital timer	2021-10-18	24	
Lead-acid battery	2021-10-24	90	
Renology – solar panel and controller	2021-10-17	176	
hi viz vests	2021-07-13	18	
cable clips	2021-05-29	3.95	
cable clips	2021-09-22	7.99	
concrete bolts	2021-09-27	36.54	
electrical hardware	2021-10-27	32.25	
electrical hardware	2021-11-04	11.41	
electrical hardware	2021-11-06	6.95	
electrical hardware	2021-11-11	55.4	
electrical hardware	2021-11-26	13.12	
electrical hardware	2021-12-04	36.85	
installation hardware	2021-12-14	22.97	
installation hardware	2021-12-14	32.54	
electrical hardware	2021-12-29	13.27	
			4919.99
media, outreach			
minuteman press – zine printing	2021-05-27	149	
Usps – zine mailing	2021-06-14	41.03	
Usps – zine mailing	2021-09-07	5.44	
			195.47
fiscal sponsor			

expenses-2021		
paypal donations	2021-05-03	36
paypal donations and patreon	2021-07-11	56.17
Nelson donation	2021-10-07	50
patreon payout	2021-12-02	21.19
misc		
tax half RACC grant 2020	2021-02-16	750
po box	2021-11-05	134
total expenses		9871.68
income		
half RACC grant 2020	2021-02-16	-3000
Eric Kunsman project half	2021-03-9	-900
Eric Kunsman project half	2021-04-28	-900
various paypal donations	2021-05-03	-220
paypal donation	2021-05-03	-500
paypal donation	2021-07-11	-25
patreon payout	2021-07-11	-1099.2
RACC make learn build grant	2021-08-30	-1500
Nelson donation	2021-10-07	-1000
patreon payout	2021-12-02	-423.91
spreadshirt payout	2021-12-19	-13
total income		-9581.11
net		290.57

expenses-2022

expenses

payments, reimbursements

Mathew Lippincott, electrical consulting	2022-06-14	200
Karl Anderson, assembly etc	2022-06-14	100

service providers

voip.ms	2022-02-25	50
voip.ms	2022-10-14	50
digitalocean	2022-01-01	20.06
digitalocean	2022-02-01	18.45
digitalocean	2022-03-01	21
digitalocean	2022-04-01	22.52
digitalocean	2022-05-01	21.85
digitalocean	2022-06-01	25.51
digitalocean	2022-07-01	25.12
digitalocean	2022-08-01	29.07
digitalocean	2022-09-01	25.19
digitalocean	2022-10-01	19.77
digitalocean	2022-11-01	17.39
digitalocean	2022-12-01	18.61
callcentric	2022-02-18	10
twilio	2022-01-08	50.02
twilio	2022-02-09	50.23
twilio	2022-03-31	50
twilio	2022-04-30	50.01
twilio	2022-05-15	50.5
twilio	2022-06-15	50.02
twilio	2022-07-19	50.39
twilio	2022-09-03	50.02
twilio	2022-10-15	50.27
twilio	2022-12-06	50.73
mobile beacon	2022-09-01	120
Namecheap – futel.net	2022-09-22	15.16
amazon aws	2022-11-02	0.54
amazon aws	2022-11-30	0.51
Usps – po box	2022-11-01	166
		1178.94
hardware		
metal	2022-01-25	24
routers	2022-01-24	27.9
battery charger	2022-01-24	18

expenses-2022

pcp sign supply – enclosure parts	2022-02-07	8.45	
tap plastics – enclosure parts	2022-01-29	12.6	
division hardware – enclosure parts	2022-01-27	37.56	
ryobi battery	2022-03-05	51.99	
router	2022-02-26	50	
tools	2022-03-23	14.36	
enclosure parts	2022-03-08	18.52	
battery charger	2022-04-01	15.45	
tools	2022-05-26	17.99	
it hardware	2022-04-16	3.39	
tools	2022-03-27	3.6	
installation parts	2022-05-29	12.98	
concrete tools	2022-08-04	10.99	
payphone keys	2022-08-22	46.5	
Walmart – electrical	2022-09-01	41.97	
Ebay – buttset	2022-09-03	24.1	
Mouser – ceeco electronics	2022-10-23	13.51	
			453.86
media, outreach			
usps- zine mailing	2022-04-04	67.21	
usps- zine mailing	2022-04-20	2.72	
minuteman press – zine printing	2022-03-24	65.5	
usps- zine mailing	2022-04-29	1.36	
			136.79
fiscal sponsor			
patreon payout	2022-07-26	24.5	
nelson donation	2022-09-13	50	
patreon payout	2022-01-01	28.66	
misc			
Usps – router mailing	2022-06-17	16.1	
Usps – phone parts mailing	2022-07-07	16.1	
worker lunch	2022-08-06	28	
total expenses			2232.95
income			
spreadshirt payout	2022-01-19	-16.5	
patreon payout	2022-07-26	-498.27	
spreadshirt payout	2022-06-21	-15.75	
nelson donation	2022-09-13	-1000	
patreon payout	2022-12-01	-573.21	

expenses-2022

total income	-2103.73
net	129.22



Sponsoring Organization: **PDX HACKERSPACE**

Sponsored Group: **FUTEL**

Project Title: **Open Source, Free Public Telephones**

The "Sponsoring Organization" named above, a 501(c)(3) federal non-profit, has agreed to act as "Fiscal Sponsor" for the "Sponsored Group" named above to facilitate that organization's activities for the project referenced above.

We understand that the requirements of a "Fiscal Sponsor," for purposes of applying for a grant include:

1. The sponsored organization's project is compatible or consistent with our organization's mission or purpose.
2. We, as fiscal sponsor, have formally adopted the above referenced project. We have:
 - a. Reviewed the project
 - b. Passed a board resolution of the adoption of the project
 - c. Accepted legal responsibility to document the status and progress of the project
3. We, as fiscal sponsor, are legally responsible for monitoring and controlling the expenditure of grant funds in keeping with the purpose of the grant.
4. We, as fiscal sponsor, are legally responsible for complying with the terms of the grant.

With this letter we are enclosing a copy of our IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter.

Our Board of Directors has formally approved a resolution agreeing to be "Fiscal Sponsor" for the "Sponsored Group," and has authorized the execution of this letter. A copy of that resolution, certified by a Board Officer, is also enclosed.

Jonathan Hannis, Treasurer

09 / 18 / 2019

Date