

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** December 11, 2024

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Through:** Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager

**Subject:** Resolution No. \_\_\_\_ (For Possible Action): Resolution granting 18 Arts and Culture Project Grants for 2025: \$5,901 to Good Luck Macbeth; \$5,901 to Note-Able Music Therapy Services; \$5,758 to Reno Jazz Orchestra; \$5,735 to Reno Philharmonic Association; \$5,255 to Arts for All Nevada; \$5,040 to Nevada Museum of Art; \$5,040 to Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts; \$5,040 to the Holland Project; \$4,906 to Sierra Nevada Ballet; \$4,906 to Latino Arte and Culture; \$4,906 to Build Our Center, Inc dba Our Center; \$4,774 to Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival; \$4,774 to Sierra Arts Foundation; \$4,643 to Reno Little Theater; \$4,439 to Laika Press via the Holland Project; \$4,439 to High Desert Radio Project dba KWNK Radio; \$4,314 to Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association; \$1,726 to David J. Drakulich Art Foundation. (Room Tax)

**From:** Megan Berner, Arts and Culture Manager

**Department:** City Manager's Office – Arts and Culture

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### Summary:

On November 18, 2024, the Reno Arts and Culture Commission (RACC) reviewed the ranking and scoring by the grants panel of 22 Arts and Culture Project Grant applications for calendar year 2025. The RACC recommended funding of 18 Arts and Culture Project Grants based on scoring in the amount of \$87,497. Staff recommends Council adoption of a Resolution and approval of the agreements to allocate \$87,497 to 18 nonprofit arts and culture organizations for purposed described below.

Consent Review	Yes	No
1. Is this item an annual or standard item that comes before Council for regular approval?	x	
2. Is this item an agreement required based on an item previously approved by Council?		x
3. Is this item included in the current budget approved and adopted by Council?	x	
Other Considerations		

What percent of the total City budget does this item represent?	0.0001%
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**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

**Previous Council Action:**

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

**Background:**

The Arts and Culture Project Grants review panel met on November 7, 2024 to score and rank 22 Arts and Culture Project Grant applications. City of Reno Arts and Culture Grants challenge arts and culture nonprofits to serve Reno's traditionally under-invested populations to seek innovative partnerships. The grant applications ask organizations to demonstrate social impact beyond a traditional audience experience as well as a plan to reach diverse and under-served populations. This category is open to arts and non-arts nonprofit organizations. Awards support projects that engage at least one of Reno's traditionally under-invested populations in unique, creative activities or artmaking. Under-invested populations may include one or more of the following: seniors, ALAANA (African, Latinx, Asian, Arab and Native American), differently abled, new Americans, low-income, veterans and LGBTQAI+. Projects funded in this category will encourage participation in the visual arts, craft, media, music, theater, dance, folk, history or literary arts through events, performances, exhibits, classes/workshops and other arts programs. Expenses that qualify for funding include artist fees, public performance and exhibition costs, project-related promotion and marketing, arts consultants, guest teaching artist fees, materials, supplies, etc. Applicants can receive up to fifty percent of eligible program costs, not to exceed \$7,000. Requires a 1:1 cash match. The following grants are being recommended for funding:

- \$5,901 to Good Luck Macbeth for Murder Mystery at the Mother Regina
- \$5,901 to Note-Able Music Therapy Services for Community-Based Performance Opportunities for People with Disabilities
- \$5,758 to Reno Jazz Orchestra for RJO Mentor Program and Jazz Workshop
- \$5,735 to Reno Philharmonic Association for Reno Philharmonic Association Kids (RPAK)
- \$5,255 to Arts for All Nevada for Artist in Residency
- \$5,040 to Nevada Museum of Art for Art Afternoon: Workshop and Social for Seniors
- \$5,040 to Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts for Pioneer Center Youth Programs
- \$5,040 to the Holland Project for Work in Progress
- \$4,906 to Sierra Nevada Ballet for 2025 Reno Performance Season
- \$4,906 to Latino Arte and Culture for Frida Kahlo Bilingual Play
- \$4,906 to Build Our Center Inc. DbA Our Center for Creating Pride

- \$4,774 to Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival for InterAct
- \$4,774 to Sierra Arts Foundation for Arts Engagement for Seniors Residing in Assisted Living and Memory Care Facilities
- \$4,643 to Reno Little Theater for Education Program 2025
- \$4,439 to Laika Press via the Holland Project for Workshop Series
- \$4,439 to High Desert Radio Project dba KWNK Radio for Community Voices Series
- \$4,314 to Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association for String Band Stories
- \$1,726 to David J. Drakulich Art Foundation for Fun-Damental Arts: 2025 Art Courses

Each organization has signed an individual agreement and an Affirmation of Nonprofit status for the project. Copies of the standard agreements are attached.

### **Discussion:**

This is an annual grants program undertaken by the RACC on behalf of the City. On November 18, 2024, the RACC reviewed the recommendation of the grants panelists who reviewed 22 applications. The 4 grant applications that scored below 70% were not recommended for funding.

These Project Grants provide funding for organizations to produce programming with a focus on arts access and equity. Four years ago, the RACC initiated inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) requirements into the grants in order to reach a larger constituent base by encouraging partnerships, innovative programming, and attracting new groups to apply in an effort to create a more equitable funding model.

### **Financial Implications:**

The Arts and Culture Project Grants in the amount of \$87,497 are included in the FY24/25 budget. The entire amount comes from the Room Tax allocation to Arts and Culture.

### **Legal Implications:**

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council adopt the Resolution.

### **Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation.

### **Attachments:**

2025 Project Grants Scoring  
Affirmation of Nonprofit Organization

2025 A&C Project Grant Agreement Template  
Project Grant Board of Directors List  
Resolution 2025 A&C Project Grants