

STAFF REPORT

Date: December 13, 2023

To: Mayor and City Council

Thru: Doug Thornley, City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Resolution granting 18 Arts and Culture Project Grants for 2024: \$6,251 to Nevada Humanities; \$6,185 to Note-Able Music Therapy Services; \$5,919 to The Board of Regents, Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno Lilley Museum of Art; \$5,852 to Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts; \$5,852 to Latino Arte and Culture; \$5,786 to The Holland Project; \$5,653 to Arts for All Nevada; \$5,520 to Reno Little Theater; \$5,453 to Nevada Gay Men's Chorus; \$5,387 to The Reno Bike Project on behalf of KWNK Reno Community Radio; \$5,320 to Reno Jazz Orchestra; \$5,254 to Sierra Nevada Ballet; \$5,254 to Reno Chamber Orchestra; \$5,187 to Black Wall Street Reno; \$5,054 to A.V.A. Ballet Reno; \$4,988 to The Holland Project on behalf of Laika Press; \$4,788 to Nevada Museum of Art; and \$4,655 to Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, all to provide Arts & Culture programs, events, and services in Reno in the total amount of \$98,358. (Room Tax)

From: Megan Berner, Senior Management Analyst

Department: City Manager's Office – Arts and Culture

Summary:

On November 27, 2023, the Reno Arts and Culture Commission (RACC) reviewed the Grant Committee of the RACC's ranking and scoring of 25 Arts and Culture Project Grant applications for 2024. The RACC recommended funding of 18 Arts and Culture Project Grants based on scoring in the amount of \$98,358. Staff recommends Council adoption of a Resolution and approval of the agreements to allocate \$98,358 to 18 nonprofit arts and culture organizations for purposes 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%	

Alignment with Strategic Plan:
 Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

Previous Council Action:
 There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:
 The Grants Committee of the RACC met on November 2, 2023, to score and rank 25 Arts and Culture Project Grant applications. Projects, community festivals, special performances, exhibitions, and other events may benefit all area residents but must be of definable benefit to Reno residents. A performance, exhibit, or other activity must take place within Reno’s city limits. If a project involves activities in a variety of areas, the portion taking place in Reno, or of primary benefit to Reno residents, will be the portion eligible for consideration. A 1:1 cash match of requested grant funds is required.

Arts and Culture Project Grants:

- \$6,251 to Nevada Humanities, Inc. for A Black Springs Homecoming Film Series
- \$6185 to Note-Able Music Therapy Services for Inclusive Performance Opportunities for People with Disabilities
- \$5,919 to The Board of Regents, Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno Lilley Museum of Art for The Counter/Self Exhibition
- \$5,852 to Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts for Pioneer Center Youth Programs
- \$5,852 to Latino Arte and Culture for LGBTQIA+ Latinx bilingual play
- \$5,756 to The Holland Project for Work in Progress
- \$5,653 to Arts for All Nevada for Artist in Residency Program
- \$5,520 to Reno Little Theater for RLT 2024 Education Program
- \$5,453 to Nevada Gay Men’s Chorus for NGMC’s 14th Season Finale and 15th Season Kick-Off
- \$5,387 to The Reno Bike Project on behalf of KWNK Reno Community Radio for Community Voices Series

- \$5,320 to Reno Jazz Orchestra for RJO Mentor Program and Jazz Workshop
- \$5,254 to Sierra Nevada Ballet for 2024 Reno Ticketed Performance Season
- \$5,254 to Reno Chamber Orchestra for Northern Nevada HOPES partnership
- \$5,187 to Black Wall Street Reno for Sole Embracers
- \$5,054 to A.V.A. Ballet Theatre for 2024 Classical Ballet Productions
- \$4,988 to The Holland Project on behalf of Laika Press for Workshop Series
- \$4,788 to Nevada Museum of Art for Art Afternoon: Workshop and Social for Seniors
- \$4,655 to Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival for D.G. Menchetti Education Programs, InterACT Workshop Series

Each organization will sign an individual agreement and an affirmation of nonprofit status for the project. Copies of the standard agreements are attached. The University of Nevada, Reno's agreement includes slightly different language in a few sections to address their status as a State Agency and to disallow expenses such as staff salaries and facility charges. The City Attorney's Office has approved the agreements and affirmation.

Discussion:

This is an annual grants program undertaken by the RACC on behalf of the City. On November 27, 2023, the RACC reviewed the recommendation of the Grants Committee which had reviewed 25 grant applications. The 7 grants 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 Youth. Three years ago, the RACC initiated diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) requirements into their grants to reach a larger constituent base by encouraging partnerships, innovative programming, and attracting new groups to apply. This initial push for DEI requirements was accompanied by workshops for grantees and applicants led by an outside facilitator to help organizations implement DEI initiatives into their programming. The RACC continued to add DEI requirements over the last few years and, this year, added requirements for accessibility.

Financial Implications:

The Arts and Culture Project Grants in the amount of \$98,358 are included in the FY23/24 budget. The entire amount comes from the Room Tax allocation to the RACC. Grant agreements state they are subject to final Council approval of the agreement and contain a Funding Out paragraph to provide additional financial flexibility to the City.

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:

2024 Project Grants Scoring

Affirmation of Nonprofit Organization

2024 A&C Project Grant Agreement Template

2024 UNR A&C Project Grant Agreement Template

Project Grant Board of Directors List

Resolution 2024 A&C Project Grants