

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** December 14, 2022

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Thru:** Doug Thornley, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Resolution granting 12 Arts & Culture Event Grants for 2023: \$5,005 to Artown; \$4,186 to Arts for All Nevada; \$5,249 to The Board of Regents, Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno Latino Research Center; \$5,005 to Good Luck Macbeth; \$5,075 to High Desert Harmony Chorus; \$5,600 to the Holland Project; \$1,931 to Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival; \$5,110 to Latino Arte and Culture; \$5,793 to Nevada Humanities; \$4,953 to Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association; \$5,460 to Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts; and \$5,040 to Reno Jazz Orchestra; all to provide arts and cultural programs, events, and services in Reno in the total amount of \$58,407. (General Fund)

**From:** Megan Berner, Senior Management Analyst

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

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**Summary:**

On November 21, 2022, the Reno Arts and Culture Commission (RACC) reviewed the Grant Committee of the Reno Arts and Culture Commission's ranking and scoring of 19 Arts & Culture Event Grant applications for 2023. The RACC recommended funding of 12 Arts and Culture Event Grants based on scoring in the amount of \$58,407. Staff recommends Council adoption of a Resolution and approval of the agreements to allocate \$58,407 to 12 nonprofit Arts & Culture organizations for purposes described below.

**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 Reno Arts and Culture Commission met on November 15, 2022 to score and rank 19 Arts and Culture Event Grant application. 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 the City of 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 10% cash match of requested grant funds is required.

**Arts and Culture Event Grants:**

- \$5,005 to Artown for Artown Cultural Connections Present: Nā Lei Hulu
- \$4,186 to Arts for All Nevada for Youth Art Month Family Festival
- \$5,249 to The Board of Regents, Nevada System of Higher Education on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno Latino Research Center for Dia de los Muertos 2023
- \$5,005 to Good Luck Macbeth for The 10-10 Minute Play Festival
- \$5,075 to High Desert Harmony Chorus for Harmony in the Park: A Celebration of Barbershop Music
- \$5,600 to the Holland Project for Block Party
- \$1,931 to Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival for D.G. Menchetti Education Program's Young Shakespeare - As You Like It
- \$5,110 to Latino Arte and Culture for Mariachi and Folklore of the Nation Festival
- \$5,793 to Nevada Humanities for Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl
- \$4,953 to Northern Nevada Bluegrass Association for Traditional Music Faire
- \$5,460 to Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts for Dog Days of Summer Dance Festival
- \$5,040 to Reno Jazz Orchestra for Jazz in the Schools

Each organization will sign an individual agreement and an Affirmation of nonprofit status for the event. 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 21, the RACC reviewed the recommendation of the Grants Committee which had reviewed 19 grant requests. The 7 grants that scored below 70% were not recommended for funding.

These Event Grants provide funding for organizations to produce free events that are open to the public so these events are more accessible by all.

The RACC revamped the program in 2013 to require that all event grants provide a 10 percent cash match (there was no match required in prior years) and they expanded the area these free events can take place from the Truckee River and downtown to anywhere throughout the

City, provided it remains a free event for the public. In 2017, they changed this category from July Event Grants to Event Grants so that organizations could apply for events throughout the year, spreading out some of the concentration of events happening in July to the rest of the year.

Three years ago, the RACC initiated diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) requirements into their grants in order 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 with 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 & Culture Event Grants in the amount of \$58,407 are included in the FY22/23 budget. The entire amount comes from the General Fund as part of the City Manager's Office budget. 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. NRS 268.028(1) states the governing body of a city or its authorized representative may make grants by resolution to non-profit organizations created for religious, charitable or educational purposes, to be used for any purpose which will provide a substantial benefit to the inhabitants of the city.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council adopt the Resolution.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**

2023 Event Grants Staff Report

Affirmation of Nonprofit Organization

2023 UNR A&C Event Grant Template

2023 A&C Event Grant Template

Event Grant Board of Directors List