



Office of the City Manager

INFORMATION CALENDAR

October 10, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Eleanor Hollander, Office of Economic Development

Subject: Fiscal Year 2024 Civic Arts Grant Awards

INTRODUCTION

This report is to inform the City Council of the Civic Arts Grant awards for individual artists, festivals, and arts organizations for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24).

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The FY24 Civic Arts Grant award amounts (Attachment 1) as approved by the Civic Arts Commission include \$44,000 for eleven (11) Individual Artist Projects, \$199,983 for thirty-one (31) Community Festivals, and \$454,799 for fifty-five (55) arts and cultural organizations' General Operating Support. The Civic Arts program received a total of 161 grant applications in the FY24 cycle. Similar to the previous grant cycle, there was high demand for Individual Artist Projects grants, with a total of 52 applications. The Community Festivals and General Operating Support categories received 37 and 72 applications respectively; these numbers are in alignment with the volume of applications that have been submitted in previous years. Across the three grant categories, over 30% of applicants were first-time Civic Arts applicants, demonstrating that the program's additional outreach about grant opportunities to additional local organizations was successful.

BACKGROUND

The Civic Arts FY24 grant application period started January 9, 2023 and had staggered application deadlines for each grant category:

- Individual Artist Projects March 1, 2023
- Community Festivals March 8, 2023
- General Operating Support March 15, 2023

At the beginning of the application period Civic Arts staff held three grant webinars (one workshop for each grant category) on January 11, 13, and 18th 2023, to inform applicants about eligibility, application requirements, and to provide instruction on using the online grants management system. All webinars were held virtually using Zoom Webinar. Recordings of the webinars were also made available on the Civic Arts website for applicants' reference.

To evaluate the grant applications, Civic Arts staff selected panelists from a Civic Arts Commission-approved pool of potential panelists. The pool consists of individuals from the Greater Bay Area who have substantial backgrounds in arts and culture and a demonstrated commitment to cultural equity. Between May 10, 2023 and May 26, 2023, staff conducted four grant review panel meetings via Zoom webinar format. Panelists independently evaluated and scored applications relative to the review criteria prior to the panel meetings, and discussed their evaluations with fellow panelists during the panel review meetings.

At the conclusion of the grant review process, the compiled panel scores were presented to the Civic Arts Commission's Grants Subcommittee at a public meeting on June 5, 2023. The Subcommittee determined award recommendations based on application scores, the grant program guidelines, funding criteria, and available funding. The Grants Subcommittee acted at their June 5th meeting to recommend the grant award amounts to the full Civic Arts Commission. On June 9, 2023, Civic Arts staff communicated the grant award amount recommendations to all applicants via email.

On June 21, 2023, the Civic Arts Commission approved the final FY24 Civic Arts Grant award amounts as follows:

Action Item: M/S/C (Anno/Bullwinkel) to approve FY24 Individual Artist Projects Grant Awards. Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ibarra, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Dhesi, Ozol.

Action Item: M/S/C (Anno/Ibarra) to approve FY24 Community Festivals Grant Awards. Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ibarra, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Dhesi, Ozol.

Action Item: M/S/C (Passmore/Covarrubias) to approve FY24 General Operating Support Grant Awards. Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ibarra, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Dhesi, Ozol.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACT

The Civic Arts Grants program is administered online. Applicants used a web-based grants management system to apply, and grant review panelists evaluated and scored the applications using the same system. This eliminates the use of paper applications.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The Civic Arts General Operating Support grant is awarded on a two-year basis to arts organizations and includes an annual amount granted in both fiscal years; Individual Artist Projects and Community Festival grants are awarded on an annual basis and include funding for one year. The Civic Arts Grants Program plans to implement the annual grant application and review process for Fiscal Year 2025 beginning in fall 2023.

The grant cycle for FY25 will be substantially similar to this year's cycle and will culminate with the Civic Arts Commission's approval of the FY25 grant award amounts.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The City's annual budget typically includes a baseline amount of \$500,000 for Civic Arts Grants to Arts Organizations and Individual Artists and approximately \$156,000 for Festivals. Council voted to increase Festival funding from \$158,315 to \$200,000 in FY24 using \$41,685 from the Mayor's Supplemental Budget. This allowed the Civic Arts grants to fund 31 Community Festivals (an increase from the anticipated 26).

CONTACT PERSON

Hilary Annah, Civic Arts, Office of Economic Development, 510-981-7539

Attachments:

1. FY24 Civic Arts Grant Awards



FY24 Individual Artist Projects

Artists **Award**

Chani Bockwinkel	\$4,000
Courtney Desiree Morris	\$4,000
Doran DaDa	\$4,000
Ellie Ganelin	\$4,000
Erika Oba	\$4,000
Faye Carol	\$4,000
Gabrielle Lochard	\$4,000
Heather Hardison	\$4,000
Helia Pouyanfar	\$4,000
Jon Wai-keung Lowe	\$4,000
Molly Rose-Williams	\$4,000

FY24 General Operating Support

Applicant **Award** **Fiscal Sponsor**

AXIS Dance Company	\$10,000	
Berkeley Art Center Association	\$10,000	
Berkeley Community Media	\$10,000	
Berkeley Music Group	\$10,000	
Berkeley Repertory Theatre	\$10,000	
BrasArte the Damasceno Brazilian Cultural Exchange	\$10,000	
California Institute for Community, Art & Nature	\$10,000	Earth Island Institute
Kairos Music Academy	\$10,000	
Left Margin LIT	\$10,000	Poetry Flash
Luna Kids Dance, Inc dba Luna Dance Institute	\$10,000	
TheatreFIRST	\$10,000	
Anatolia Art Institute	\$9,000	
Berkeley Old Time Music Convention	\$9,000	Freight and Salvage
Berkeley Playhouse, Inc.	\$9,000	
Cal Performances	\$9,000	
Danse Lumiere	\$9,000	Poetry Flash
Four Seasons Arts, Inc.	\$9,000	
Girls Garage	\$9,000	
Heyday	\$9,000	
Kala Art Institute	\$9,000	
La Peña Cultural Center	\$9,000	
Makers Paradise	\$9,000	
Poetry Flash	\$9,000	
Sacred and Profane, A Chamber Chorus	\$9,000	
The Capoeira Arts Foundation	\$9,000	
Ashkenaz Music & Dance Community Center	\$8,000	
Aurora Theatre Company	\$8,000	
Berkeley Choro Ensemble	\$8,000	InterMusic SF
Berkeley Community Chorus & Orchestra	\$8,000	
Berkeley Juneteenth Association	\$8,000	
David Brower Center	\$8,000	
Freight & Salvage	\$8,000	
Gamelan Sekar Jaya	\$8,000	

Mahea Uchiyama Center for International Dance	\$8,000	
pateldanceworks	\$8,000	Shawl-Anderson Modern Dance Center
PlayGround	\$8,000	
Shawl-Anderson Modern Dance Center	\$8,000	
Shotgun Players	\$8,000	
Youth Musical Theater Company	\$8,000	
California Jazz Conservatory	\$7,000	
Cazadero Performing Arts Camp	\$7,000	
Central Works	\$7,000	
East Bay Media Center	\$7,000	
Holistic Honu Wellness Center	\$7,000	
Immersive Arts Alliance	\$7,000	
Inferno Theatre	\$7,000	
Mbira	\$7,000	
Play Café	\$7,000	
The Potters' Studio	\$7,000	
Young People's Symphony Orchestra Association	\$7,000	
Habitot Children's Museum	\$6,999	
Actors Ensemble	\$6,400	
UC Alumni Chorus	\$6,400	
Berkeley Chamber Performances	\$5,200	
Berkeley Commonplace	\$4,800	

FY24 Community Festivals

Festival	Award	Host Organization or Fiscal Sponsor
Bay Area Book Festival	\$7,000	Bay Area Book Festival
Berkeley Juneteenth Festival	\$7,000	Berkeley Juneteenth Association Inc
California Native Ways - A California Indian Arts & Culture Festival	\$7,000	Earth Island Institute
Día de los Muertos	\$7,000	Rise-Responsibility Integrity Strength & Empowerment
Freight Fest	\$7,000	Freight and Salvage
Ashkenaz Open House	\$6,650	Ashkenaz Music and Dance Community Center
Asian Cultural Festival	\$6,650	Dharma College
Berkeley Indigenous Peoples Day Powwow and Indian Market	\$6,650	Kala Institute
Berkeley Poetry Festival	\$6,650	Poetry Flash
Black Women's Roots Festival	\$6,650	BlackFemaleProject
Frameline48: International LGBTQ+ Film Festival	\$6,650	Frameline
San Pablo Park Small Business Bash	\$6,650	Alliance for Community Development
Second Sundays	\$6,650	Telegraph Property & Business Management Corporation
SF Bay Brazilian Day & Lavagem Festival	\$6,650	Exchange
Shawl-Anderson Dance Center's Queering Dance Festival	\$6,650	Shawl-Anderson Modern Dance Center
Voice of Roma's Herdeljezi Festival	\$6,650	Voice of Roma
Watershed Environmental Poetry Festival	\$6,650	Poetry Flash
West Berkeley Community Print Festival	\$6,650	Kala Institute
Westside de Berkeley Car Show & Festival	\$6,650	West Side De Berkeley

Berkeley Bird Festival	\$6,300	Golden Gate Audubon Society
Berkeley Festival & Exhibition	\$6,300	San Francisco Early Music Society
Berkeley Festival of Choro	\$6,300	InterMusicSF
Berkeley Hawaiian Cultural Festival - Hawaiian Kapa Arts	\$6,300	Holistic Honu Wellness Center
Berkeley Video and Film Festival	\$6,300	East Bay Media Center
La Peña Culture Festival	\$6,300	La Pena Cultural Center, Inc.
Bringing the Irreechaa Festival to Berkeley	\$6,280	Oromo Renaissance Organization
Annual Contemporary Performance Diasporas Festival	\$5,775	Inferno Theatre
Berkeley High School All Class Reunion Picnic	\$5,775	Berkeley Public Schools Fund
Music in the Elmwood Festival	\$5,775	Elmwood Business Association
The Bizerkeley Food Festival	\$5,775	Herd & Flock Animal Sanctuary
Capoeira: Ayé! Healing the Earth and Ourselves	\$4,703	Fractured Atlas