



Office of the City Manager

INFORMATION CALENDAR  
September 15, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
 Submitted by: Jennifer Lovvorn, Chief Cultural Affairs Officer  
 Subject: FY 2021 Civic Arts Grant Awards

INTRODUCTION

This report is to inform the City Council of the Civic Arts Grant awards for Fiscal Year 2021.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Fiscal Year 2021 Civic Arts Grant award amounts (see Attachment 1) as approved by the Civic Arts Commission include funding of \$459,513 for sixty one (61) arts organizations, \$40,011 for thirteen (13) individual artists, and \$79,969 for twenty (20) broadcast or on-line festivals. Most applicants that applied were awarded funding, although five (5) organizations, seven (7) individual artists, and two (2) festivals that applied were not awarded funds this year. There was one (1) festival award that was declined by the applicant due to an inability to pivot content to a broadcast or on-line format as required in response to COVID-19.

BACKGROUND

The Civic Arts Grant application period was from October 30, 2019 to January 16, 2020. This year the Civic Arts Program received 109 applications from nonprofit arts organizations, individual artists, and festival organizers for grant funding for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 cycle.

Civic Arts staff held two grant application workshops: 1. Application instruction workshop on November 18, 2019 at the Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Building, which provided organizations, individual artists and festival organizers with a review of grant application requirements and instruction on using the on-line grant application system; and 2. Cultural equity topic workshop on December 11, 2019 at the South Berkeley Branch Library which provided an overview of cultural equity and the various ways that organizations may initiate or continue their cultural equity work at a variety of levels from mission, programming and audience, to board and staff.

In November 2019, the Civic Arts Program issued an open call for potential grant application review panelists for the FY21 grant cycle and at their January 22, 2020 meeting, the Civic Arts Commission approved a slate of review panelists with

substantial background in arts and culture and a demonstrated commitment to cultural equity to serve on this year's application review panels.

**Action:** M/S/C (Anno/Passmore) to approve the Panelists for FY21 Arts Grants with adjustments by Staff.

**Vote:** Ayes—Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Slattery, Tamano; Nays—None; Abstain—None; Recused—Bullwinkel; Absent—Ross.

Between March 20 and April 20, 2020, the Civic Arts Program conducted five review panel meetings via Zoom where grant applications were reviewed by the panelists and scored relative to the grant application criteria.

After the conclusion of the grant review process, the compiled panel scores were presented to the Civic Arts Commission's Grants Subcommittee at a public Zoom meeting on July 8, 2020 where grant award recommendations were determined based upon panel scores and in accordance with the program guidelines and funding criteria. The grant award amounts as recommended the Grants Subcommittee were made public on July 10, 2020 and communicated to all applicants.

On July 15, 2020, the Civic Arts Commission approved the final FY21 Civic Arts Grant award amounts as follows:

**i. FY21 Arts Organizations**

**Action:** M/S/C (Slattery/Ozol) to approve the FY2021 Arts Organization Grant Awards.

**Vote:** Ayes—Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Slattery, Tamano; Nays—None; Abstain—None; Absent—None; Recused—Ross.

**Public Comment:** None

**ii. FY21 Individual Artists**

**Action:** M/S/C (Slattery/Anno) to approve the FY2021 Individual Artists Grant Awards with expansion of funding to add one additional artist by lowering award percentage per applicant.

**Vote:** Ayes—Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Ross, Slattery, Tamano; Nays—None; Abstain—None; Absent—None.

**Public Comment:** 1 speaker

**iii. FY21 Festivals**

**Action:** M/S/C (Tamano/Slattery) to approve the FY2021 Festival Grant Awards. Commission's Grants Committee to develop criteria for staff to use to evaluate plans for festivals to pivot their event to be on-line or broadcast.

**Vote:** Ayes—Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Ozol, Passmore, Slattery, Tamano; Nays—None; Abstain—None; Absent—None; Recused—Bullwinkel, Ross.

**Public Comment:** None

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

The Civic Arts Grants program is administered completely online. Applicants applied by filling out an online form hosted by Submittable, a web-based grant application management tool. Grant selection panelists reviewed and scored the applications using the same online tool.

**POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION**

The Civic Arts Grants are awarded on an annual basis to Arts Organizations, Individual Artists, and Festivals. The Civic Arts Program plans implement an annual grant application and review process for FY 2022 beginning in fall 2021 with the resulting grant awards pending Civic Arts Commission approval and Council's adoption of the FY 2022 budget.

**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, prior to COVID-19, approximately \$156,000 for Festivals. Due to the impacts of COVID-19, the FY21 budget allocation for Festivals was \$80,000. Council may opt to continue to fund the Festival grants at a reduced level for FY22 should COVID-19 impacts still be a concern.

**CONTACT PERSON**

Jennifer Lovvorn, Chief Cultural Affairs Officer, 981-7533

**Attachments:**

1. FY 2021 Civic Arts Grants Awards

<b>Berkeley Civic Arts Grants FY2020-2021: Grant Award Approved by the Civic Arts Commission on July 15, 2020</b>	
<b>Large Arts Organizations</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Aurora Theatre Company	\$9,736
Bay Area Children's Theatre	\$9,208
Berkeley Music Group dba The UC Theatre	\$8,426
Berkeley Repertory Theatre	\$9,501
Berkeley Society for the Preservation of Traditional Music dba Freight & Salvage	\$9,833
Berkeley Symphony Orchestra	\$9,404
California Jazz Conservatory	\$8,290
Cazadero Performing Arts Camp	\$9,052
Crowden Music Center	\$8,407
Heyday	\$9,756
Julia Morgan Center for the Performing Arts dba Berkeley Playhouse	\$8,466
Kala Institute	\$10,029
Regents of the University of California/Cal Performances	\$8,407
Shawl-Anderson Modern Dance Center	\$11,319
Shotgun Players, Inc.	\$10,713
Small Press Distribution	\$10,870
UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA)	\$9,833
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$161,250</b>
<b>Mid-Size Arts Organizations</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Ashkenaz Music & Dance Community Center	\$8,356
Bay Area Creative BAC	\$7,825
Berkeley Art Center	\$8,597
Berkeley Ballet Theater	\$7,390
Berkeley Community Chorus & Orchestra	\$7,487
Berkeley Community Media	\$6,907
Berkeley Film Foundation	\$7,406
Berkeley High School Jazz	\$7,035
Black Repertory Group	\$7,004
BrasArte The Damasceno Brazilian Cultural Exchange	\$8,822
California Institute for Community, Art & Nature	\$7,342
Capoeira Arts Foundation, Inc	\$8,952
Central Works	\$8,581
David Brower Center	\$6,521
East Bay Media Center	\$6,810
Gamelan Sekar Jaya	\$8,871
Jewish Community Center of the East Bay (JCC East Bay) dba JCC East Bay Arts Program	\$7,358
Kairos Music Academy	\$6,923
La Peña Cultural Center	\$8,967
Luna Kids Dance, Inc.	\$9,305

PLAYGROUND INC	\$7,535
Poetry Flash	\$8,243
Young People's Symphony Orchestra Association (DBA YPSO)	\$7,325
Youth Musical Theater Company	\$8,114
Youth Spirit Artworks	\$8,436
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$196,112</b>
<b>Small Arts Organizations</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Actors Ensemble	\$5,163
Antons Well Theater Company	\$5,670
Bella Musica, Inc	\$5,003
Berkeley Chamber Performances	\$5,279
Berkeley Choro Ensemble	\$4,807
Chora Nova	\$4,899
Creative Residencies for Emerging Artists Teaching Empowerment (C.R.E.A.T.E.)	\$5,819
Indra's Net Theater	\$5,566
Inferno Theatre	\$4,749
Left Margin LIT	\$6,210
Milvia Street Art & Literary Journal	\$6,084
Mothership Hackermoms	\$4,876
New Space Studio	\$4,503
Pacific Edge Voices	\$5,819
Play Cafe, Inc.	\$5,463
Sacred & Profane, A Chamber Chorus	\$5,382
Theatre Lunatico	\$5,244
Those Women Productions	\$6,452
Young People's Chamber Orchestra (YPCO)	\$5,163
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$102,151</b>
<b>Individual Artists</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Bruce Bierman	\$2,925
Chingchi Yu	\$3,133
Faye Carol	\$3,016
Irene Sazer	\$3,504
Joseph Warner	\$3,322
Lena Wolff	\$2,899
Lisa Mezzacappa	\$3,016
Michai Freeman	\$2,711
Molly Rose-Williams	\$3,003
Orin Rutchick	\$3,127
Paulina Berczynski	\$2,835
Sonia Gill	\$3,088
Susan (Suzi) Garner	\$3,432

<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$40,011</b>
<b>Large Festivals</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Bay Area Book Festival	\$5,189
Berkeley Kite Festival	\$4,161
California Indian Arts & Culture Festival (2nd Annual)	\$5,105
FREIGHT FEST	\$5,404
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$19,859</b>
<b>Mid-Size Festivals</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
28th Annual Berkeley Indigenous Peoples Day Powwow and Market	\$4,150
Berkeley Festival of Choro 2020: A Celebration of Women in Brazilian Music	\$3,866
BERKELEY JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL	\$4,335
Berkeley Old Time Music Convention	\$4,258
Berkeley Video and Film Festival	\$4,104
Chocolate & Chalk Art Festival	\$3,696
Comunidad de la Placita	\$3,850
Dia de Los muertos 2020 (DDLm)	\$4,004
Earth Day 2021	\$3,780
Grateful Day Festival	\$4,173
SF Bay Brazilian Day & Lavagem Festival 2020	\$4,473
Telegraph Avenue Holiday Street Fair	\$3,780
The Second Annual Queering Dance Festival	\$4,620
Watershed Environmental Poetry Festival	\$4,100
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$57,189</b>
<b>Small Festivals</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Berkeley Poetry Festival	\$1,502
Inferno Theatre's annual Contemporary Diasporas Festival	\$1,419
<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>\$2,921</b>
<b>Total Amount to Arts Orgs and Artists</b>	<b>\$499,524</b>
<b>Total Amount to Festivals</b>	<b>\$79,969</b>
<b>Total Civic Arts Grant Funding</b>	<b>\$579,493</b>