

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FUNDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FAC)

JANUARY 13, 2021; 6pm-7:30PM



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AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 3, 2020 Special Meeting

REPORTS Roberto Bedoya, Manager -Cultural Affairs Division
Denise Pate, Coordinator-Cultural Funding Program

OPEN FORUM (15 minutes)

DISCUSSION ITEM #1: Informational report on possible changes to budget allocations for FY20-21 (Neighborhood Voices). This is being considered by Administration, considering COVID and the economic downturn that is impacting the City's budget.

ACTION ITEM #1: *Appoint MICHELLE MUSH LEE as the Cultural Affairs Commission liaison to the Funding Advisory Committee for a two-year term.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Minutes from Special Meeting of the Funding Advisory Committee

Attachment B: Biography information for Michelle "Mush" Lee

♿ This meeting is wheelchair accessible. To request materials in alternative formats, or to request an ASL interpreter, or assistive listening device, please call Cultural Funding Coordinator Denise Pate at 510-238-7561 or TDD 510-238-3254 at least three working days before the meeting. Please refrain from

wearing scented products to this meeting so attendees who may experience chemical sensitivities may attend. Thank you



Cultural Funding Program (CFP)

Funding Advisory Committee Special Meeting

Thursday, December 3, 2020; 6pm – 7:30 pm.

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members in Attendance: Jim Santi Owen (chair), Adriana Griñó, Sriba Kwadjovie, Indi McCCasey, and Tyese Wortham

Committee Members Absent: Maisha Quint

Staff in Attendance: Denise Pate, Roberto Bedoya, Kristen Zarembo, Neha Balram and Raquel Iglesias.

Call to Order/Determination of Quorum: 6:04 pm

Approval of Minutes:

1. Approval of MINUTES of July 8, 2020 Minutes
Motion moved to approve by Indi McCCasey. Seconded by Jim Santi Owen. The motion passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Roberto Bedoya, Cultural Affairs Manager

Bedoya's report started with an update on the Oakland CARES Fund grants, which after much work have been distributed. In total \$1.4M in grants were given out, which represented 51 organizations and 371 individuals; all those Organizations who applied for funding received support. The greatest number of grants went to musicians followed by arts education, theater and visual arts artists/organizations, with most requests supporting accounts payable. Although the Cultural Affairs Division is limited in our ability to gather demographic data due to local regulations preventing affirmative action activities, we could gather zip codes from grantees.

Bedoya also reported that we are coming to the end of our Technical Assistance Workshops, sponsored with the CARES funding. We have held a total of 14 workshops, and have a few more in the weeks ahead before the program sunsets. These programs have received a positive response from community members.

Lastly, Bedoya reported that the Division is gearing up for 2021 Budget conversations. He has some concerns related to not knowing where the city's budget will land, and will share more information with FAC and the Commission in the months ahead.

Attachment A

Bedoya expressed gratitude to Denise Pate for her work on the Neighborhood Voices application and panel process, as well as FAC member Indi McCCasey who served as a panelist.

Discussion Points:

- Jim Santi Owen asked if any demographics from the CARES Fund grantees were collected. Roberto Bedoya confirmed that CCI (Center for Cultural Innovation) did collect some information, but it was not considered in the decision-making process. There are no more CARES funds coming down the pipeline, and it is unknown what funds might be forthcoming.
- Adriana Griñó asked for clarification on how much money came from CARES, since the original amount shared was \$1.8M. Roberto Bedoya clarified that \$1.45M of CARES went to CCI for grantmaking, and the rest went to technical assistance grants for specific organizations as directed by City Council.
- Jim Santi Owen asked for an update on the City budget. Roberto Bedoya shared that we will know more about the City budget in the months to come, which will be shared with FAC and the Commission at that time.

Coordinator's Report

Denise Pate, Cultural Funding Program Coordinator

Pate's report started with welcoming new CFP staff member Raquel Iglesias.

Pate continued with discussing Round One of Organizational Assistance grants. Round One grants were approved by City Council on October 20, 2020. Since this was the 2nd year of their two year funding, they were approved at their FY2019-20 amount. Contracts were sent to grantees by October 30th.

The COVID pandemic has presented quite a challenge for our grantees. The CFP grantees are continuing their work via social distance, outdoor activities, or by using virtual events. After reading the FY19-20 reports, Pate was pleasantly surprised by the ways in which these organizations and artists are navigating the pandemic. They've also launched fundraising campaigns to raise funds to cover operating costs, many taking advantage of COVID relief grants that were offered by foundations and some city-sponsored sources.

Pate also shared an update on the FY2020-21 Neighborhood Voices grant program. We received applications from 53 organizations and 126 individual artists, making it a total of 179 submissions for round two of the FY2020-21 Neighborhood Voices program. Due to high volume, Pate screened the applications down to 106 to pass along to the panelists for review. Panels were held via Zoom. Applicants were able to see and hear the panel discussion and then address them for a three-minute period. Out of the 106 applicants, only two did not attend the online review. One applicant was teaching during their scheduled time, and the other forgot.

Lastly, Pate shared the award vs. decline rate of this grant cycle:

Individual applications received 126; Funding 21; 21% awarded and 84% declined

Organization applications received 53; Funding 17; 32% awarded and 68% declined

Discussion Points:

Attachment A

- Roberto Bedoya clarified that the extra grant funds found for the FY2020-21 Neighborhood Voices program came from funds rolled over from the previous fiscal year.
- Tyese Wortham asked what contributed to additional engagement from the SE Asian Community. Denise Pate shared that the Eastside Arts Alliance and Asian Heath Services were in the pool of grantees last year, which solidified their connection to the City.
- Sriba Kwadjovie asked for clarification in the decline rate of grantees. Denise Pate clarified that the decline rate refers to the number of applicants the City can fund, vs. the amount of total applications received.

OPEN FORUM:

Speaker(s): Open Forum

The following community members were in attendance: Alfredo Aguayo, Darren Colston, Diane Sanchez, Dominique Enriquez, Elizabeth D Foggie, Erin Merritt, Gema Cantu, Holly Shogbesan, Jennifer Easton, Laurie Polster, Lil Milagro Henriquez, Madeline Lambie, Maria de la Rosa, Marlon Richardson, Michael, Rachel-Anne Palacios, Rebecca Dreyfus, Shefali Shah, Stephanie Brady, Tyrice Brown, Vanessa Whang, and West Oakland to West Africa.

- Maria de la Rosa, a NV individual artist applicant, expressed her thanks to FAC. She is excited to bring curriculum to the OUSD Music Dept and support the ways in which music impacts our lived experience.
- Marlon Richardson, the Education Director for Hip Hop for Change and a NV organization applicant, expressed his thanks to FAC. He also wanted to share that the goal of his organization is to offer kids a safe environment to express themselves and give 24 weeks of classes to showcase their work.
- Erin Merritt, an NV individual artist applicant, expressed her appreciation to FAC. She also wanted to share that the category she was rated lowest in only received positive comments. Denise Pate offered clarification that these are individual panel comments and each panel member chooses to give comments or not. The CFP staff currently does not have the capacity to review all comments and follow up with each panel member.
- Lil Milagro Henriquez, founder of Mycelium Youth Network and NV organization applicant, expressed her appreciation to FAC and the CFP for taking a chance on their STEM focused program.

ACTION ITEM #1

Approve the FY2020-21 Round Two Neighborhood Voices Allocations for 17 organizations

Motion to approve by Tyese Wortham. Seconded by Adriana Griño. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM #2:

Approve the FY2020-21 Round Two Neighborhood Voices Allocations for 21 Individual Artists

Motion to approve by Indi McCasey. Seconded by Tyese Wortham. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Points:

Attachment A

- Denise Pate noted that fewer grantees are receiving funding due to the lack of staff capacity. However, this is the first time in 21 years that individual artists are receiving an increase, from \$4999 to \$7,000.

DISCUSSION ITEM #1

1. Nominations to fill current FAC Vacancy

Discussion Points:

- Denise Pate asked FAC to approach her with nominees to fill the current committee member vacancy after the departure of Katherin Canton.
- Tyese Wortham asked Denise Pate if there was a pool of candidates FAC should consider, and if there was a gap FAC was looking to fill. Pate shared there were several potential FAC members she would share with the group, and that currently FAC was overwhelmingly female identifying. FAC should consider candidates who are funders, and practicing artists familiar with the panel practice in grantmaking. Indi McCCasey shared that it would be wonderful to have a Teaching Artist as a member of FAC.
- Jim Santi Owen asked Roberto Bedoya if there were any updates from the Commission. Diane Sanchez and Vanessa Whang of the commission were on the call. Sanchez shared that the Commission would like to spend some time with FAC and learn more about the needs that come through from the community. She invited FAC to attend Commission meetings and add to their agenda.
- Commissioner Vanessa Whang suggested that there be some overlap between FAC and the Commission, and the vacancy in FAC could be a good opportunity to recruit someone from the Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Regular Meeting of the Funding Advisory Committee will be held January 13, 2021 at 6pm.

The Neighborhood Voices applications approved by FAC will next go to Life Enrichment for approval in the second week of January. After they are approved by Life Enrichment, they will move to City Council for final approval the last Tuesday of January.

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 7:01p.m.

Motion to approve by Adriana Griño. Seconded by Jim Santi Owen. The motion passed unanimously.