



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of July 11, 2009**

DATE: June 10, 2009

SUBJECT: Arlington Commission for the Arts Grant Recommendations

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the allocation of \$279,077 for the financial support of Arlington arts organizations and artists as recommended by the Arlington Commission for the Arts.

ISSUES: As part of the regular process, the County Board is being requested to review the Arts Commission's recommendations for final approval regarding County funding and support for Arlington-based artists and arts organizations.

SUMMARY: As directed by the "Policy for the Support of Arts Organizations and Artist", the Arlington Commission for the Arts has administered the County's annual arts granting process for Fiscal Year 2010. As a result of that process, The Commission is recommending 29 grant applications totaling \$279,077 in financial, facilities, and technical service support for the County Board's approval. Of the 29 grants, 26 applications are from Arlington arts organizations and three applications are from individual artists.

BACKGROUND: In December 1990, the County Board approved the "Policy for the Support of Arts Organizations and Artists". Through this policy, the Commission was empowered to make decisions regarding the distribution of facilities and technical services and recommendations to the Board regarding the distribution of direct financial support to Arlington arts organizations and artists.

The Commission has submitted its recommendations for this direct financial support to the Board for final approval. The recommendations submitted by the Commission total \$279,077, the amount appropriated by the Board for this program in Fiscal Year 2010.

DISCUSSION: The Commission received 38 applications requesting \$890,329.00; as well as requests for facilities and technical services. Of the 38 applications, 27 were from non-profit arts organizations, and 11 from individual artists. Twenty-nine applications are recommended to receive County financial support; of these, 26 applications are from organizations and three are from individual artists.

County Manager: _____

County Attorney: _____

Staff: Norma Kaplan, Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources

In determining its decisions and recommendations, the Commission followed the guidelines outlined in the policy and developed a fair and comprehensive process for the distribution of the County's arts resources. This process required all potential grantees to submit applications for support to the Commission. Advisory panels of art experts and staff reviewed the applications. Formal recommendations to the Commission were made by both the panel and staff.

The Commission also reviewed each application, and in a meeting with the panel chairs and staff made final determinations regarding its decisions and recommendations. Applicants were notified of the Commission's actions and were given the opportunity to appeal the Commission's decisions. There were no appeals.

Two types of financial support grants are recommended: 1) General Operating Grants and 2) Project Grants. General operating support is awarded to assist organizations with the expenses involved with overall administration and program offerings. Project grants support specific projects planned by an organization or individual artist.

The Commission is recommending that the following groups receive general operating support:

American Century Theatre	\$ 8,602.74
Andrew Keegan Theatre	\$ 9,271.22
Arlington Artists' Alliance	\$ 3,277.48
Arlington Arts Center	\$22,157.57
Arlington Philharmonic Association	\$ 1,539.86
Arlington Players	\$ 4,764.17
Bowen McCauley Dance	\$13,510.78
Center Dance Company	\$ 3,894.24
Charter Theatre	\$ 1,584.47
Synetic Theater	\$50,000.00
Dominion Stage	\$ 1,551.75
Educational Theatre Company	\$ 6,855.40
Encore Stage and Studio	\$ 8,324.98
Firebelly Productions	\$ 691.81
Jane Franklin Dance	\$ 6,478.58
Metropolitan Chorus	\$ 4,947.55
National Chambers Ensemble	\$ 1,025.24
Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia	\$ 5,037.56
Potomac Harmony Chorus	\$ 2,373.91
Signature Theatre	\$50,000.00
Teatro de la Luna	\$26,991.21
Washington Balalaika Society	\$ 6,068.44
Washington Shakespeare Company	\$25,128.04
<i>Total, General Operating Support Grants</i>	<i>\$264,077.00</i>

Financial support is complemented by access to space and services, which the Commission has awarded to many of these organizations under this program. Additionally, The Arlingtones Barbershop Chorus, Indian Dance Educators Association, and Los Quetzales Mexican Dance Ensemble received general operating support in the form of facilities and service only.

The Commission recommends that the following individuals receive project grant support for these specific projects:

Individual Artists - Project Grants

Cindy Coldiron	Public Art installation at Barcoft Sports Facility Park	\$5,000
Kay Chernush	Difference and Commonality-Photographic Exploration of prejudice and stereotyping	\$5,000
Lloyd Wolf	Columbia Pike Documentary. Exhibition and slideshow	\$5,000

Sub-Total, Individual Artists Project Grants **\$15,000**

TOTAL, GRANTS PROGRAM **\$279,077**

Staff assisted the Commission through the process of developing its decisions and recommendations, and is satisfied that the policy was implemented appropriately and supports the Commission’s recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT: The funds for this program were appropriated in the FY 2010 adopted Budget.

