



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of July 10, 2010**

DATE: June 07, 2010

SUBJECT: Arlington Commission for the Arts Grant Recommendations for FY 2011

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the allocation of \$249,077 in FY 2011 for the financial support of Arlington arts organizations and artists as recommended by the Arlington Commission for the Arts.

ISSUES: The County Board is being requested to review and approve the Arts Commission's recommendations regarding County funding and support for Arlington-based artists and arts organizations.

SUMMARY: As per the "Policy for the Support of Arts Organizations and Artists", the Arlington Commission for the Arts has administered the County's annual arts granting process for Fiscal Year 2011. As a result of that process, the Commission is recommending 22 grant awards totaling \$249,077 in direct funding support for the County Board's approval. Of the 22 grants, 19 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 authorized to 1) make decisions regarding the granting of facilities and technical services, and 2) make recommendations to the Board regarding the 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 \$249,077; this funding was appropriated as part of the FY 2011 adopted budget.

DISCUSSION: The Commission received 47 applications requesting \$1,042,989; as well as requests for facilities and technical services. Of the 47 applications, 36 were from non-profit arts organizations, and 11 from individual artists. Twenty-two applications are recommended to receive County financial support; of these, 19 applications are from arts organizations and three are from individual artists.

County Manager: MB

County Attorney: SA

Staff: Joan Lynch, Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources

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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 arts organizations receive general operating support:

The American Century Theatre	\$ 9,315.58
Arlington Artists' Alliance	\$ 2,339.78
Arlington Arts Center	\$ 21,130.83
The Arlington Players	\$ 6,527.97
Bowen McCauley Dance	\$ 19,712.37
Dominion Stage	\$ 1,539.23
Educational Theatre Company	\$ 7,941.23
Encore Stage and Studio	\$ 10,393.09
IBIS: A Chamber Music Society	\$ 1,241.65
Jane Franklin Dance	\$ 4,031.79
Metropolitan Chorus	\$ 5,483.40
National Chamber Ensemble	\$ 1,691.35
Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia	\$ 5,352.46
Signature Theatre	\$ 44,625.14
Synetic Theatre	\$ 44,625.14
Teatro de la Luna	\$ 21,612.25
Washington Balalaika Society	\$ 6,263.65
Washington Shakespeare Company	\$ 17,400.05

Total, General Operating Support Grants **\$ 231,226.96**

Financial support is complemented by access to space and services, which the Commission has awarded to many of these organizations under this program. Additionally, Alma Boliviana, The Arlingtines Barbershop Chorus, Ballet NOVA, Charter Theatre, Dance Asia, El Tayrona, Fundacion Socio Cultural Boliviana Inc, Halau O’Aulani, Indian Dance Educators Association, Los Quetzales Mexican Dance Ensemble, Potomac Harmony Chorus, The Probolivian Committee, Requeibros Spanish Dance Academy and The Starving Artist Theatre received general operating support in the form of facilities and service only.

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

Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia	Salary support for part-time general director	\$4,462.51
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<i>Sub-Total, Arts Organizations Project Grants</i>		<i>\$4,462.51</i>
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Thomas H. Guevara	“Chanchona: The Music of the Soul” Short-subject film about chanchona	\$4,462.51
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Emily Leatha Everson Gleichenhaus	“Sing Books with Emily, the Cabaret” A one hour, one woman cabaret show	\$4,462.51
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Maida Withers	“Dance Artists - Portrait on Screen” A “dance on camera” short-film	\$4,462.51
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<i>Sub-Total, Individual Artists Project Grants</i>		<i>\$13,387.53</i>
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TOTAL, GRANTS PROGRAM	\$249,077.00
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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 2011 adopted Budget to the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs.