



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item Meeting of July 9, 2011

DATE: June 23, 2011

SUBJECT: Arlington Commission for the Arts Grant Recommendations

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the allocation of \$249,077 for the FY2012 financial support of Arlington arts organizations and artists, as recommended by the Arlington Commission for the Arts.

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

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the County's "Policy for the Support of Arts Organizations and Artists", the Arlington Commission for the Arts has facilitated the County's annual arts grants recommendation process for Fiscal Year 2012. As a result of that process, the Commission recommends, for the County Board's approval, 25 grant awards totaling \$249,077 in direct funding support. All 25 recommended grant recipients are from Arlington arts organizations.

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 County Board regarding the Board's direct financial support to Arlington arts organizations and artists.

The Commission has submitted its FY2012 direct financial support recommendations to the Board for final approval. The recommendations submitted by the Commission total \$249,077, which is the amount previously appropriated by the Board for this program in Fiscal Year 2012.

DISCUSSION: The Commission received 52 direct financial support applications requesting a total of \$1,023,563.00, as well as requests for facilities and technical services. Of the 52 direct financial support applications, 50 were from non-profit arts organizations, and two were from individual artists. The Commission recommends that 25 of the direct financial support applicants receive direct County financial support; of these recommended grant recipients, all are arts organizations.

County Manager:

BMD/mjs

County Attorney:

BRC

[Signature]

39.

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

In determining its decisions and recommendations, the Commission followed the guidelines outlined in the policy and oversaw 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 County staff reviewed the applications. Both the panels and County staff made formal recommendations to the Commission.

The Commission also reviewed each application, and in a meeting with the panels’ chairs and County staff, the Commission made final determinations regarding its decisions and recommendations. Applicants were notified of the Commission’s decisions and recommendations, and were given an opportunity to appeal the Commission’s decisions and recommendations. There was one appeal from the Opera Guild of Northern Virginia, whose application was for space and services only, and that appeal does not affect these funding recommendations. On June 22, 2011, the Arlington Commission for the Arts reviewed the appeal and denied it because it “failed to meet the standard of an appeal as cited under the Grounds for Appeal Section on page 16 of the grant guidelines”.

The Commission recommends two types of financial support: 1) General Operating Grants, and 2) Project Grants. General operating grants are 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.

General Operating Grants - The Commission is recommending that the following arts organizations receive General Operating Support:

Arlington Artists’ Alliance	\$ 2,160.20
Arlington Arts Center	\$ 26,367.43
Arlington Philharmonic Association	\$ 514.82
Bowen McCauley Dance	\$ 19,445.99
Dominion Stage	\$ 1,582.33
Educational Theatre Company	\$ 7,577.16
Encore Stage and Studio	\$ 10,264.48
IBIS A Chamber Music Society	\$ 1,382.51
Jane Franklin Dance	\$ 2,886.78
Metropolitan Chorus	\$ 4,986.88
National Chamber Ensemble	\$ 2,615.69
Prelude, The Arlington Youth Orchestral Program	\$ 454.77
ProBolivian Committee	\$ 274.79
Signature Theatre	\$ 44,625.14
Symphonica Nova	\$ 8,072.46
Synetic Theatre	\$ 44,625.14
Teatro de la Luna	\$ 15,163.55
The American Century Theatre	\$ 10,761.74
The Arlington Players	\$ 5,556.49
Urban Arias	\$ 1,094.48
Washington Balalaika Society	\$ 5,364.56

Washington Shakespeare Company	\$ 17,724.61
<i>Sub-Total, General Operating Support Grants</i>	\$ 233,502.00

Project Grants - The Commission recommends that the following organizations receive Project Grant support for these specific projects:

Educational Theatre Company	New Pilot Program	\$4,450.00
Indian Dance Educators Association	New Work	\$2,225.00
The American Century Theatre	Salary Support	\$8,900.00

Sub-Total, Project Grants **\$15,575.00**

TOTAL, GRANTS PROGRAM **\$249,077.00**

Financial support is complemented by access to space and services, which the Commission has awarded to many of these organizations under this grant program. Additionally, the following organizations are recommended for support in the form of space and services:

- Alma Boliviana
- Bangladesh Center for Community Development, Inc.
- Cambodian American Heritage
- Centro Cultural Peru
- Arlington Children’s Chorus
- Ballet NOVA
- Charter Theatre/First Draft
- Dance Asia
- El Tayrona
- Festival Argentino
- Halau O’Aulani
- Hexagon
- Indian Dance Educators Association
- Los Quetzales Mexican Dance Ensemble
- Matices; DC Peruvian Folklore Dance School
- Potomac Harmony Chorus
- Requeibros Spanish Dance Academy
- The Arlingtones Barbershop Chorus
- Tinkus Tiataco USA
- Vietnamese Cultural Society

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

FISCAL IMPACT: The funds for this program were appropriated in the FY 2012 adopted Operating Budget for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources.