



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of July 21, 2012**

DATE: June 26, 2012

SUBJECT: Arlington Commission for the Arts FY 2013 Grants Recommendations

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the allocation of \$249,100 for the FY 2013 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 Arlington Commission for the Arts' recommendations regarding County funding and support for Arlington-based arts organizations in FY 2013.

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 2013. As a result of that process, the Commission recommends, for the County Board's approval, 25 grant awards totaling \$249,100.00 in direct funding support. All 25 recommended grant recipients are Arlington arts organizations or individual artists.

BACKGROUND: In December 1990, the County Board approved the "Policy for the Support of Arts Organizations and Artists". Through that 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 FY 2013 direct financial support recommendations to the Board for final approval. The recommendations submitted by the Commission total \$249,100.00, which is the amount previously appropriated by the Board for this program in FY 2013.

DISCUSSION: The Commission received 33 direct financial support applications requesting a total of \$1,056,945.20, as well as requests for facilities and technical services. Of the 33 direct

County Manager:

County Attorney:

BRC

33.

Staff: Cynthia Richmond, Arlington Economic Development (AED)

financial support applications, 29 were from non-profit arts organizations, and 4 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, 23 are arts organizations and two are individual artists.

In making 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-grant resources. This process required 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 panel representatives, 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 the opportunity to appeal the Commission’s decisions and recommendations. One organization, the Arlington Artists’ Alliance, appealed the Commission’s decision for direct financial support of \$250.00. On June 27, 2012, 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 grants guidelines”.

The Commission recommends three types of financial support: 1) General Operating Grants, 2) Project Grants and, 3) Spotlight Grants. General operating grants are awarded to assist organizations with the expenses involved with overall administration and program offerings. Some applicants for General Operation Support may have also requested Space & Services (facilities and technical services). Project Grants support specific projects planned by an organization or individual artist. Spotlight Grants support individual artists in their development and presentation of innovative new arts projects or programs.

General Operating Grants – The Commission is recommending that the following arts organizations receive General Operating Support in the form of direct financial support and Space and Services support if requested:

Organization	Financial Support
American Century Theater, The	\$7,728.66
Arlington Artists' Alliance	\$250.00
Arlington Arts Center	\$20,718.16
Arlington Children's Chorus, The	\$250.00
Arlington Philharmonic, The	\$1,322.10
Arlington Players, The	\$4,581.38
Ballet Nova Center for Dance	\$7,313.11
Bowen McCauley Dance	\$18,285.78
Dominion Stage	\$1,354.84
Educational Theatre Company	\$6,073.02

Encore Stage & Studio, Inc.	\$12,670.57
IBIS: A Chamber Music Society	\$2,928.91
Jane Franklin Dance	\$2,732.64
Metropolitan Chorus, The	\$3,721.44
National Chamber Ensemble	\$3,706.75
Prelude: The Arlington Youth Orchestral Program	\$520.23
Signature Theatre, Inc.	\$45,000.00
Synetic Theatre, Inc.	\$45,000.00
Teatro de la Luna	\$17,667.96
UrbanArias	\$7,504.48
Washington Balalaika Society, The	\$4,192.26
WSC Avant Bard*	\$18,077.71
<i>Sub-total, General Operating Support Grants</i>	<i>\$231,600.00</i>

* WCS Avant Bard is in a transition period that has caused them to restructure their board and reconfigure their season. While staff and the Arts Commission firmly believe that WSC Avant Bard will be successful in this process, and are providing them with assistance through our non-profit resource center, our intention is to withhold their financial grant until progress is ensured and their first performance has been scheduled.

Project Grants – The Commission recommends that the following organization receive Project Grant Support for the following specific program:

American Century Theater, The	“Managing Director Salary Support”	\$7,500.00
<i>Sub-total, Projects Grants</i>		<i>\$7,500.00</i>

Spotlight Grants – The Commission recommends that the following individual artists receive Spotlight Grant Support for the following specific projects:

Gankhuyag Natsag	“Formation of Being”	\$5,000.00
David Carlson	“Mongolian Mask”	\$5,000.00
<i>Sub-total, Spotlight Grants</i>		<i>\$10,000.00</i>
TOTAL, GRANT PROGRAM		\$249,100.00

Financial support is complemented by access to facilities and technical 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
Arlingtones, The
Bangladesh Center for Community Development, Inc.
Cambodian American Heritage, Inc.
Carmen de Vicente Spanish Dance Academy, LLC
Dance Asia
El Tayrona
Festival Argentino
First Draft at Charter Theater
Halau O'Aulani
Hexagon, Inc.
Indian Dance Educators Association
Los Quetzales Mexican Dance Ensemble
Opera Guild of Northern Virginia
Potomac Harmony Chorus
Prio Bangla, Inc.
Pro Bolivian Committee, The
Symphonica Nova/ASO
Tinkus Tiatiaco USA
Vietnamese Cultural Society of Metropolitan
Washington

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 County Board's FY 2013 adopted operating budget for Arlington Economic Development.