

ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA TOPIC

Partner Presentations

Margaret Toomey, Managing Director, Studio East

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**INFORMATION
ONLY**

At today's meeting, an Eastside Arts Partnership (EAP) grant recipient will give short presentations about their organization and any upcoming events.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**Studio East Training for the Performing Arts**

2025-26 Award: \$10,000 each year



Studio East Training for the Performing Arts is a youth theatre and training organization located in Kirkland that reaches students and families around the Eastside through a variety of offerings. Studio East's flagship program is the Mainstage season, which features students ages 6-19 in approximately 9 full-length performances each year. These young performers are guided by a team of professional theatre artists, including a director, choreographer, music director, and designers. The 2025-2026 season wraps with our performances of *The Prom* featuring ages 13 to 19 and *Wonka KIDS* with young performers ages 6 to 13, lead by an emerging artistic team mentored by our professional artists. In August auditions will be held for our Pre-Professional production of Mel Brooks' *Young Frankenstein*.

The studio also produces smaller-scale performances with local schools and homeschool programs. The SchoolStage program works in cooperation with local schools and their PTSA's to provide musical theatre opportunities for students as a 6-week after-school program with a resident director. In the 2026-2027 Studio East has been able to expand from 12 schools to 20 schools across the region.

Our arts education programs also extend to provide a collection of musical theatre classes, workshops, and camps for students in elementary through high school onsite after school and during break and summer camp days.

Finally, StoryBook Theatre is a touring production that travels throughout the greater King County, featuring an interactive storytelling performance by a professional cast and crew. Our 2026 production of Me...Jane:



The Dreams & Adventures of Young Jane Goodall has visited over 20 schools from Renton up to Bothell and will be featured at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in the latter part of the summer.

Upcoming Events:

Now through August 28: Summer Camps for students age 4 to 17

July 24 – August 2: The Prom featuring performers ages 13-19

August 7 – 9: Wonka KIDS featuring performers age 6-13

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Arts Commission City Code and Bylaw Support

This item is presented to the Commission as it is supported by City Code 3.56.070 item J: “Recommend priorities for funding and allocation of small grants to arts organizations based on eligibility and selection criteria approved by council,” along with items B and E.

OPTIONS

1. N/A

ATTACHMENTS

A. N/A