

# Information

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Bellevue Arts Commission

1E-113 or Zoom Meeting, 4:30 pm

City of Bellevue, WA

## Partner Presentations

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

**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.

### Background

Staff are piloting a program for the Arts Commission to be better informed about the organizations and events supported by the Commission. The presentations are voluntary for all 2025-26 EAP grant recipients. Staff reached out in February to open the opportunity up and received great success, with interested folks now scheduled through September. Today's meeting marks the third round of presentations. Below are details about each grantee and their award for the 2025-26 cycle.

### Peyvand NPO

2025-26 Award: \$7,000 each year

Peyvand, the Persian word for "synthesis/union", serves as a cultural bridge between underrepresented, multicultural communities and the broader Washington community. Peyvand is the intersection of Culture, Identity and Belonging, linking diverse communities through Arts and Cultural Engagement. We are committed to helping underrepresented, multicultural, and immigrant youth and their families realize their potential through community building, education opportunities, and enrichment resources. Among Peyvand's main objectives are Community Development, Meaningful Inclusion, Representation, and Artistic Expression, especially of Iranian, Afghan, and Central Asian origin.

Upcoming event: NAMAD Ensemble at Bellevue Performing Arts Center (Bellevue High School) on Saturday, June 7 at 7:00 PM. In collaboration with the Bellevue High School MENA Club, Peyvand proudly presents an evening of classical Persian music with the renowned NAMĀD Ensemble, featuring distinguished vocalist Mahboobe Golzari. This performance brings together four master artists whose musical dialogue bridges centuries of tradition with contemporary sensibility.



## **Performing Arts Festival of the Eastside (PAFE)**

2025-26 Award: \$3,000 each year

We are a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to providing a rewarding and educational experience for young performers in the Greater Puget Sound area since 1986.

Our program is a week-long music festival featuring solo and concerto classes in a master class setting. We invite professional musicians and pedagogues from across the U.S. and Canada to help students reach their full artistic expression. Six concerts showcase top-performing students, five of which are hosted and produced by PAFE.



## **Resounding Love Center for the Arts**

2025-26 Award: \$9,000 each year

Resounding Love Center for the Arts fosters racial healing, co-laboring toward social justice for all, and transformative experiences through music and other forms of artistic expression. Resounding Love's current incarnation is an intentionally multiracial, interfaith, LGBTQIA+ embracing choir that sings African American genres such as gospel, spirituals, and R&B. Our choir celebrates our differences in race, gender, gender identity and expression, background, beliefs, neurodivergence, age, sexual orientation, dis/abilities, and socio-economic status.



Our audiences are as varied as our membership. We've sung the national anthem at Lumen Field, performed at Benaroya Hall as part of the Seattle Symphony's Community Stages Fund, and regularly sing to audiences on the margins of our community, such as the incarcerated and people experiencing homelessness.

## **Emerald Ballet Theatre (EBT)**

2025-26 Award: \$7,500 each year

Founded in 2007, Emerald Ballet Theatre (EBT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the arts through education, performance, outreach, and collaboration. At our Bellevue school, we offer high-quality dance training in a positive, inclusive environment and provide meaningful performance opportunities for students of all abilities.



Now under the leadership of Artistic Director Erin McEachran, EBT strives to nurture the dancer in each human—and the human in each dancer. As part of our mission to make ballet more accessible, we perform in theaters, schools, festivals, and other community spaces. Our next performance is Peter and the Wolf on June 7-8 at the Juanita Performing Arts Center.

To learn more about our programs, performances, and how to get involved, please visit [emeraldballet.org](http://emeraldballet.org).

### **Staff Contact**

Manette Stamm, Arts Program Analyst  
425-452-4064, [mstamm@bellevuewa.gov](mailto:mstamm@bellevuewa.gov)