

December 11, 2017

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ITEM

SUBJECT

Allocation of funds to artists and arts groups serving Bellevue through the Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power UP Bellevue Funding Programs.

STAFF CONTACTS

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POLICY ISSUES

Council reviewed the 2018 Guidelines for Eastside Arts Partnerships and Special Projects funding programs on September 18. The approved guidelines were used to guide the advertisement of funding opportunities and recommended funding. If approved, the action would authorize the City to allocate \$123,000 from the General Fund and \$25,000 from a King County 4Culture grant to artists and arts groups serving Bellevue through the Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power UP Bellevue funding programs. The funding is included in the 2017-2018 General Fund budget for the Arts Program in the Planning & Community Development Department.

DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL

ACTION



DIRECTION



INFORMATION ONLY



Staff is seeking approval, via motion, of the Arts Commission recommendations for 2018 Eastside Arts Partnership, Special Projects, and Power UP Bellevue allocations and staff direction to proceed with implementation.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Since 2001, the City Council has allocated annual funding generated by the general fund to support artists and arts organizations that provide arts, cultural, and heritage programs and services in Bellevue. Funding recommendations are developed through an in-depth application process administered by the Arts Program and evaluated by the Arts Commission Allocations Committee. The Committee includes three members of the Arts Commission and two arts professionals who are familiar with grant-making and the local arts community. The Committee considered the quality of the creative engagement, the public benefits generated for Bellevue residents and visitors, and the organizational capacity and sustainability of the applicants. Please see Attachment A and B for more information about the review criteria and process for the two funding programs. Following is a brief description of each program and its purpose.

Focus on Organizational Support: Eastside Arts Partnerships (EAP)

EAP provides operating support to nonprofit organizations that offer high quality arts, cultural, and heritage programs in Bellevue. EAP funding encourages programming quality and sustainability, arts access for Bellevue residents, artistic, managerial and fiscal excellence, and greater cooperation among

arts groups.

Focus on Project Support: The Special Projects Program

Special Projects fosters creativity and innovation in the arts and access to art, culture, and heritage by new and under-served people and communities. Project funding encourages innovative projects by artists and communities that fill in cultural gaps and inspire new forms of creative participation, particularly for under-served groups.

Focus on Capacity Building: Power UP Bellevue

Power UP Bellevue is a pilot funding program aimed at building organizational capacity. The program responds to needs heard from arts nonprofits earlier this year and aims to strengthen their ability to fulfill their mission and increase their capacity to serve Bellevue residents and visitors. The program provides project funding, a learning community, and technical assistance to Eastside Arts Partners.

2017 Funding Recommendations Overview

The Arts Commission has accepted the Allocation Committee's recommendation that \$123,000 be allocated between two funding programs, EAP and Special Projects. The Arts Program received a grant from King County 4Culture in the amount of \$25,000 and the Arts Commission recommends that these funds be allocated to Power UP Bellevue. Arts organizations and artists working in Bellevue submitted 31 grant applications totaling \$209,130 in funding requests. In addition, six organizations submitted Power UP proposals. A list of each proposed allocation and a brief description is attached (Attachments A and B). These recommendations are consistent with previous years' recommendations approved by Council.

EAP: 19 applications were submitted and the total funds requested was \$175,000. The applicant pool included 15 organizations funded in 2017 including the Bellevue Arts Museum, KBCS 91.3, and Village Theatre. Four new applications were submitted including the Chop Shop Dance Festival and the Global Organization for Arts and Leadership. Three of the four new applications were previously funded as Special Projects in 2017. The Committee recommends funding all 18 applications with a total of \$101,100 and moving the application submitted by artEAST to Special Projects. This represents 82 percent of the total grant allocations. The average award is \$5,616 which is 60 percent of the average request of \$9,211. Five applications received 100 percent of their request. Please see Attachment A for more information on specific allocations.

Special Projects: 12 applications were submitted and the total funds requested was \$34,130. The applicant pool included four project renewal applications submitted by applicants who received a 2017 Special Project award including the Ballard Civic Orchestra and the Seattle Chinese Chorus. Eight new Special Project applications were submitted including the Eastside Jazz Club and the artist Kai Chen. The Committee recommends funding all 12 applications and an application submitted by artsEAST in the EAP program with a total of \$21,900. This represents 18 percent of the total grant allocations. The average award is \$1,685 which is 59 percent of the average request of \$2,844. Please see Attachment B for more information on specific allocations.

Power UP Bellevue: Six applications were submitted by organizations in the EAP program and the total funds requested was \$30,000. The Committee recommends funding five of the six applications with a total of \$25,000. The average award is \$5,000. Please see Attachment A for more information

on specific allocations.

Access, Public Benefits and Results

Arts organizations and artists working in Bellevue plan to maintain or increase cultural services and public benefits from 2016 levels. The 2016 funding program results are used as the comparison year because it is the most recent year with full reported data from all grantees. Artists and arts groups funded by the City will serve an estimated 788,594 residents and visitors through museum programs, performances, cultural festivals, and arts education. City support will ensure 47,985 people have access to these opportunities through free or reduced admissions. An additional 2,041 youth will be provided with scholarships to participate in arts education programs. Overall, grantees will offer programs designed to increase access for people with disabilities, disadvantaged youth or seniors, low income people, limited-English speaking people, and historically disadvantaged minorities. These arts and cultural organizations and projects will also support higher levels of creative civic engagement. A total of 2,609 artists and 2,995 volunteers will have the opportunity to contribute their creativity to Bellevue. Most artist opportunities will be unpaid and the total contributed volunteer labor hours is equivalent to 36.5 full time paid positions.

All Grantees

	ATTENDANCE		CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT				PUBLIC BENEFIT			ACCESS				
	Live ticketed events and education programs	Free festivals and concerts	Paid artists	Unpaid artists	Volunteers	Volunteer hours	Free or reduced tickets	Scholarships	Other	Disabled	Disadvan youth or senior	Low income	Limited-English	Disadvantaged minority
2018	413,107	375,487	1,244	1,365	2,955	76,010	47,985	2,041	28,925	x	x	x	x	x
2016	160,826	584,000	1,549		3,072	57,653	37,245	830						

Eastside Arts Partnerships

2018	403,304	300,327	930	1,055	2,383	62,560	46,074	1,950	28,925	x	x	x	x	x
2016	139,921	493,000	710		2,226	40,663	33,672	701						

Special Projects

2018	9,803	75,160	314	310	572	13,450	1,911	91		x	x	x	x	x
2016	20,905	91,000	839		846	16,990	3,573	129						

OPTIONS

1. Move to approve the Arts Commission recommendations for 2018 Eastside Arts Partnership, Special Projects, and Power UP Bellevue allocations and direct staff to proceed with implementation.
2. Do not approve the Arts Commission recommendations and provide alternative direction to staff.

RECOMMENDATION

Option 1

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Eastside Arts Partnerships and Power UP goals, review criteria and 2018 funding recommendations
- B. Special Projects goals, review criteria and 2018 funding recommendations

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY

Funding Guidelines for 2018 EAP, Special Projects Programs and Power UP Bellevue