

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION**

Approval of the 2020 Guidelines for Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue funding programs.

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*Bellevue Arts Commission*

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At Council's direction, guidelines for arts funding programs are presented annually to Council for feedback and approval. If Council approves these guidelines, staff will begin advertising funding opportunities for the Eastside Arts Partnerships (EAP), Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue programs on August 1, 2019 and begin accepting grant applications on September 3, 2019.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the 2020 Guidelines for Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue funding programs, and proceed to accept grant applications.

If approved, effective date: 07/15/2019

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

Since 2001, the City Council has allocated annual funding generated from 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.

At their June 11 meeting, the Arts Commission voted to recommend continuing with the guidelines as developed last year without changes. If the guidelines are approved, the Arts Commission will return with recommended grant allocations for Council approval in December.

The three funding programs are:

**Focus on Organizational Support: Eastside Arts Partnerships (EAP)**

Eastside Arts Partnerships 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. Awards can be for up to \$10,000 depending on the type and size of organization.

### **Focus on Project Support: The Special Projects Program**

The Special Projects Program 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, individuals, and communities that fill in cultural gaps and inspire new forms of creative participation, particularly for under-served groups. Grants in this category generally range from \$500 to \$3,000.

### **Focus on Capacity Building: Power UP Bellevue**

Power Up Bellevue is a funding program aimed at building organizational capacity. The program responds to needs from arts nonprofits 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. One-time project funding is up to \$5,000.

Grants are intended for artists or non-profit arts organizations, with an arts-based mission, that provide programs, services, or develop projects in Bellevue.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

The Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue funding programs are supported by the following adopted City policies to support new and existing arts organizations in Bellevue and encourage the development of a creative ecosystem to support Bellevue's residents and businesses.

#### Comprehensive Plan

UD-13. Support and encourage art and arts programs that facilitate involvement, engagement, communication, understanding, and respect among the city's diverse population.

UD-14. Support and encourage development, display and performance opportunities for a wide range of artistic expression throughout the City.

UD-16. Support and encourage lifelong arts education for all skill levels.

UD-19. Support artists and arts groups working in the community through city programs and private partnerships.

ED-14. Recognize the economic development benefits of city and private sector investments in urban amenities like arts and culture, open space and recreational facilities, and high-quality urban design.

Strengthen the City's assets in these areas as an explicit component of the city's economic development strategy.

ED-22. Support efforts that promote tourism, hotel, retail and arts businesses.

#### Cultural Compass:

Goal 1: Strengthen Bellevue's arts and cultural organizations and opportunities for artists, both professional and avocational.

Goal 7: Develop a mix of stable and sustainable public and private sector funding and support mechanisms to strengthen Bellevue's arts and cultural sector.

Objective 7.1: Confirm and build the city's leadership role in supporting arts and culture.

#### Diversity Advantage Plan

Civic Engagement-5. Increase support for artists (e.g. funding, exhibition/performance opportunities, etc.) whose work addresses intercultural themes.

Cultural Competence in the Community-2. Support and produce special events, art exhibits and performances, educational materials, festivals and public information that increase opportunities for cultural interaction and education.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

There is \$125,000 available for Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue grants. These funds were designated in the Council approved 2019-2020 Budget and is administered by the Arts Program.

#### **OPTIONS**

1. Move to approve the 2020 Guidelines for Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue funding programs, and proceed to accept grant applications.
2. Do not move to approve the 2020 Guidelines for Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue funding programs, and do not proceed to accept grant applications.
3. Move to change the 2020 Guidelines for Eastside Arts Partnerships, Special Projects, and Power Up Bellevue funding programs.

#### **ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

- A. 2020 Eastside Arts Partnerships and Power Up Bellevue Grant Guidelines
- B. 2020 Special Projects Grant Guidelines.

#### **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

N/A