

Councilmember Ben Bartlett

City of Berkeley, District 3 2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor Berkeley, CA 94704 PHONE 510-981-7130 EMAIL: <u>bbartlett@cityofberkeley.info</u>

CONSENT CALENDAR April 23rd, 2019

To:

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Ben Bartlett and Cheryl Davila

Subject: Black Repertory Group Theater: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Fund to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$3,000 per council member, including \$3,000 from Councilmember Bartlett, to the Black Repertory Group, with funds relinquished to the city's general fund for this purpose from the discretionary council office budget of Councilmember Ben Bartlett and any other council members who would like to contribute.

BACKGROUND:

The Black Repertory Group is a long standing theatrical griot group that provides access to the dramatic arts for members from underserved populations. As a nonprofit organization, the Black Repertory Group Theater has provided access for and support to minority populations to learn and rediscover their cultural heritage through the productions of dramas, music, and dances. The theater has also been vital in helping young people raise their self-esteem, educating them on health and wellness, and preparing them for future careers. Donating to the Black Repertory Group Theater can enhance Berkeley's cultural diversity and allow constituents to explore and learn artistic and practical skills.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No General Fund impact; \$3,000 is available from fund. The cost is as follows: Donation to the Black Repertory Theater (\$3,000).

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RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR A GRANT TO BLACK REPERTORY GROUP TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Councilmember Ben Bartlett has surplus funds in their office expenditure account; and

WHEREAS, a California non-profit tax-exempt corporation – the Black Repertory Group will receive funds in the amount of \$3,000; and

WHEREAS, the Black Repertory Group is a long standing theatrical griot group that provides access to the performance arts for underprivileged populations; and

WHEREAS, the Black Repertory Group provides education on African American history and their theater work is a cultural treasure to our community; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would fulfill the following municipal public purpose of providing educational programs, and promote cultural diversity among Berkeley residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and council members from their council office budget of up to \$3,000 per office shall be granted to the Black Repertory Group.