



Office of the City Manager

INFORMATION CALENDAR
October 15, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
 Submitted by: Eleanor Hollander, Economic Development Manager
 Subject: Civic Arts Grant Awards: Fiscal Year 2025

INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the Civic Arts Grant awards for budgets appropriated in mid-Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) & Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25). It includes Capital Projects Grants appropriated in FY24 Mid-Year Budget Update (AAO#1) and awarded as part of the FY25 Civic Arts grant cycle along with the FY25 Civic Arts Grant categories of Individual Artist Projects, Community Festivals, and Arts Programs, for a total of 113 awards detailed in Attachment 1: *FY25 Civic Arts Grantees*.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Civic Arts Grant award amounts (Attachment 1), as approved by the Civic Arts Commission, include two annual grant categories (FY25 Individual Artist Projects and FY25 Community Festivals), and two new categories (FY24 Capital Projects and FY25 Arts Programs). Awards in the annual Civic Arts Grant categories for FY25 totaled \$44,000 for eleven (11) Individual Artist Projects and \$199,680 for thirty-four (34) Community Festivals. These FY25 awards are in addition to the deployment of the second year, in the two-year cycle, of arts and cultural organizations' General Operating Support grant funding (totaling \$444,799 per year for 54 organizations).

The newly offered Arts Programs grant (funded in part with a \$30,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts) included \$60,000 for twelve (12) projects. In a second new grant category this year, the Capital Projects grants, \$295,000 was awarded to two (2) organizations seeded with funding from the City's FY24 AAO#1 budget cycle.

The Civic Arts program received a total of 129 grant applications across four grant categories in the recent cycle. Because the *General Operating Support* grant category has a two-year activity period, applicants were not required to apply again in that category. Similar to the previous grant cycle, there was high demand for *Individual Artist Projects* grants, with a total of 57 applications. The *Community Festivals* category received 43 applications, a 16% increase over the last cycle which had 37 applications. The new *Arts Programs* grant category received a total of 17 applications, all from nonprofit organizations not previously funded by the City's Civic Arts program. The

FY24 *Capital Projects* grant category (new this year) received twelve applications from Berkeley’s arts and cultural organizations, representing a total request amount of \$1,020,234.

BACKGROUND

The Civic Arts FY25 grant application period started January 8, 2024 and had staggered application deadlines for each grant category (see table below):

<i>FY 25 Civic Arts Grant Program Category</i>	<i>Grant Application Deadline</i>
Capital Projects	February 21, 2024
Individual Artist Projects	February 28, 2024
Community Festivals	March 6, 2024
Arts Programs	March 13, 2024

In January 2024, at the beginning of the application period, Civic Arts staff held four grant webinars (one workshop for each grant category) to inform applicants about eligibility, application requirements, and to provide instruction on using the online grants management system. All webinars were held virtually using Zoom Webinar. Recordings of the webinars were also made available on the Civic Arts website for applicants’ reference.

To evaluate the grant applications, Civic Arts staff selected panelists from a Civic Arts Commission-approved pool of potential panelists. The pool consists of individuals from the greater Bay Area who have substantial backgrounds in arts and culture and a demonstrated commitment to cultural equity. Between April 30, 2024 and July 9, 2024, staff conducted four grant review panel meetings via Zoom webinar format. Panelists independently evaluated and scored applications relative to the review criteria prior to the panel meetings, and discussed their evaluations with fellow panelists during the panel review meetings.

At the conclusion of the grant review process, the compiled panel scores were presented to the Civic Arts Commission's Grants Subcommittee. The Subcommittee determined award recommendations based on application scores, the grant program guidelines, funding criteria, and available funding. The Grants Subcommittee’s award amount recommendations were then forwarded to the full Civic Arts Commission for approval. Civic Arts staff communicated the grant award amount recommendations to all applicants via email after each Civic Arts Commission meeting. Grant award approvals took place at the following meetings, with the following commission votes:

FY24 Capital Projects Grants

- Grants Subcommittee meeting: May 6, 2024
- Civic Arts Commission Meeting award amount approval: May 22, 2024

Action Item: M/S/C (Ibarra/Woo) to approve FY24 Capital Projects grant awards.

Vote: Ayes — Blecher, Ibarra, Passmore, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Anno, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Crandall.

FY25 Community Festivals and FY25 Arts Programs Grants

- Grant Subcommittee meeting: June 17, 2024
- Civic Arts Commission Meeting award amount approval: June 26, 2024
Action: M/S/C (Bullwinkel/Covarrubias) to approve FY25 Community Festivals Grant Awards Scenario 1 and 2.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Crandall, Passmore, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Ibarra.
Action: M/S/C (Bullwinkel/Crandall) to approve FY25 Arts Programs Grant Awards.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Crandall, Passmore, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Ibarra.

FY25 Individual Artist Projects Grants

- Grants Subcommittee meeting: July 12, 2024
- Civic Arts Commission Meeting award amount approval: July 24, 2024
Action: M/S/C (Bullwinkel/Ibarra) to approve FY25 Arts Programs Grant Awards.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Crandall, Ibarra, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — None.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Civic Arts Grants program is administered online. Applicants used a web-based grants management system to apply, and grant review panelists evaluated and scored the applications using the same system. This eliminates the use of paper applications.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The Civic Arts *General Operating Support* grant is awarded on a two-year basis to arts organizations and includes an annual amount granted in both fiscal years; *Individual Artist Projects* and *Community Festival* grants are awarded on an annual basis and include funding for one year. Staff plans to implement the annual Civic Arts grant application and review process for Fiscal Year 2026 beginning in fall 2024. The grant cycle for FY26 will be substantially similar to this year's cycle and will culminate with the Civic Arts Commission's approval of the FY26 grant award amounts.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The City's annual budget typically includes a baseline amount of \$500,000 for Civic Arts Grants to *Arts Organizations* and *Individual Artists* and approximately \$156,000 for *Festivals*. Council voted to increase *Festival* category funding from \$158,315 to \$200,315 in FY25 using \$42,000 from the Mayor's Budget. No additional funds have been added to the Community Festivals allocation for FY26, funding remains at \$156,000. Civic Arts staff has applied for federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts to offer the *Arts Programs* grant again in FY26; the City will be notified about award or decline of this matching grant in November 2024.

CONTACT PERSON

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Attachment:

1. FY25 Civic Arts Grantees



ATTACHMENT 1: FY25 Civic Arts Grant Awards

FY24 Capital Projects (2 total)

Applicant	District	Request	Award
Berkeley Ballet Theatre	District 1	\$145,000	\$145,000
Sense Object	District 1	\$150,000	\$150,000
			\$295,000

FY25 Individual Artist Projects (11 total)

Artist	District	Discipline	Award
ChingChi Yu	District 3	Dance	\$4,000
Cordy Joan	District 5	Folk and Traditional Arts	\$4,000
Craig Nagasawa	District 5	Visual Arts	\$4,000
Isaiah Mostafa	District 3	Music	\$4,000
Jay Lotus Allen	District 3	Multidisciplinary / Interdisciplinary	\$4,000
Martin Perna	District 4	Music	\$4,000
Milani	District 1	Literary Arts	\$4,000
Nur Yavuz	District 5	Folk and Traditional Arts	\$4,000
pan ellington	District 4	Literary Arts	\$4,000
Risa Lenore	District 8	Multidisciplinary / Interdisciplinary	\$4,000
Yano	District 4	Visual Arts	\$4,000
			\$44,000

FY25 Arts Programs (12 total)

Applicant	District	Request	Award
ARTogether	District 2	\$5,000	\$5,000
California Poets in the Schools	District 2	\$5,000	\$5,000
Capacitor	District 4	\$5,000	\$5,000
Center for Accessible Technology	District 3	\$5,000	\$5,000
Center for Independent Living	District 3	\$5,000	\$5,000
Cubacaribe	District 7	\$5,000	\$5,000
Fuse Theatre Inc		\$5,000	\$5,000
Jazzline Institute	District 4	\$5,000	\$5,000
Mozart Youth Camerata	District 7	\$5,000	\$5,000
Options Recovery Services	District 4	\$5,000	\$5,000
Pacific Center for Human Growth	District 4	\$5,000	\$5,000
South Berkeley Neighborhood Development Corporation	District 3	\$5,000	\$5,000
			\$60,000

FY25 Community Festivals (34 total)

Festival	District	Request	Award
6th Annual California Native Ways - California Indian Arts & Culture Festival	District 1	\$7,000	\$7,000

Berkeley CA Juneteenth Festival	District 3	\$7,000	\$7,000
Berkeley Maqam Festival: Cross-Roots and Encounters	District 5	\$7,000	\$7,000
Berkeley Poetry Festival	District 4 District 7 District 3	\$7,000	\$7,000
Black Women's Roots Festival	District 4	\$7,000	\$7,000
Family Empowerment Conference		\$7,000	\$7,000
La Peña Summer Tianguis and Community Block Party	District 8	\$7,000	\$7,000
West Berkeley Community Print Festival	District 2	\$7,000	\$7,000
11th annual Bay Area Book Festival	District 4	\$7,000	\$6,300
32nd Annual Indigenous Peoples Day Powwow and Indian Market	District 4	\$7,000	\$6,300
Berkeley Festival of Choro 2025	District 4 District 1 District 6	\$7,000	\$6,300
Community Block Party	District 4	\$7,000	\$6,300
Comunidad En La Placita	District 4	\$7,000	\$6,300
East Bay Open Studios (EBOS) Berkeley	District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5 District 6 District 7 District 8	\$7,000	\$6,300
Legados II: Grito de liberdade	District 1 District 2 District 4	\$7,000	\$6,300
SF Bay Brazilian Day & Lavagem Festival 2024	District 1	\$7,000	\$6,300
Cesar Chavez Dolores Huerta Tribute Site	District 1	\$7,000	\$5,600
DeFord Bailey Legacy Festival	District 4	\$7,000	\$5,600
Dia de los Muertos	District 4	\$7,000	\$5,600
San Francisco Mime Troupe "Free Shows in the Parks" Berkeley	District 8 District 4 District 5 District 1	\$7,000	\$5,600
The Berkeley Aquatic Park Youth Festival: A Bike and Boat Parade	District 2	\$7,000	\$5,600
Watershed Environmental Poetry Festival	District 4 District 1	\$7,000	\$5,600
Winter Jazzschool Community Ensemble Festival	District 5	\$7,000	\$5,600
Capoeira: Our Life-Giving Waters	District 1	\$6,350	\$5,080
2025 Junior Bach Festival Concerts	District 1 District 4 District 7 District 5 District 3	\$7,000	\$4,900

Annual Contemporary Performance Diasporas Festival	District 1	\$7,000	\$4,900
Community Music Day	District 1	\$7,000	\$4,900
EBCLC Community Open House & Celebration	District 3	\$7,000	\$4,900
Forgotten Frontlines: World War II's Asia-Pacific Theater and the Road to Partition	District 4	\$7,000	\$4,900
Growing Songs		\$7,000	\$4,900
Ho'ōla Nā Leo: Celebrating Hawaiian Sound Healing	District 1	\$7,000	\$4,900
	District 4		
North Shattuck Summer Block Party Series	District 5	\$7,000	\$4,900
Telegraph Second Sundays	District 7	\$7,000	\$4,900
The Front Row Music and Arts Festival (FRMAF)	District 4	\$7,000	\$4,900
			\$199,680

FY25 General Operating Support (54 total)

Applicant	District	Request	Award
AXIS Dance Company	District 1	\$10,000	\$10,000
Berkeley Art Center Association	District 5	\$10,000	\$10,000
Berkeley Community Media	District 4	\$10,000	\$10,000
Berkeley Music Group	District 4	\$10,000	\$10,000
Berkeley Repertory Theatre	District 4	\$10,000	\$10,000
BrasArte the Damasceno Brazilian Cultural Exchange	District 1	\$10,000	\$10,000
California Institute for Community, Art & Nature	District 4	\$10,000	\$10,000
Kairos Music Academy	District 5	\$10,000	\$10,000
Left Margin LIT	District 5	\$10,000	\$10,000
Luna Kids Dance, Inc dba Luna Dance Institute	District 2	\$10,000	\$10,000
Anatolia Art Institute	District 5	\$10,000	\$9,000
Berkeley Old Time Music Convention	District 4	\$10,000	\$9,000
Berkeley Playhouse, Inc.	District 8	\$10,000	\$9,000
Danse Lumiere	District 1	\$10,000	\$9,000
Four Seasons Arts, Inc.	District 8	\$10,000	\$9,000
Girls Garage	District 1	\$10,000	\$9,000
Heyday	District 1	\$10,000	\$9,000
Kala Art Institute	District 2	\$10,000	\$9,000
La Peña Cultural Center	District 8	\$10,000	\$9,000
Makers Paradise	District 4	\$10,000	\$9,000
Poetry Flash	District 1	\$10,000	\$9,000
Sacred and Profane, A Chamber Chorus	District 1	\$10,000	\$9,000
The Capoeira Arts Foundation, INC (CAF)	District 1	\$10,000	\$9,000
The Regents of the University of California at Berkeley / Cal Performances	District 7	\$10,000	\$9,000
Ashkenaz Music & Dance Community Center	District 1	\$10,000	\$8,000
Aurora Theatre Company	District 4	\$10,000	\$8,000
Berkeley Choro Ensemble	District 5	\$10,000	\$8,000
Berkeley Community Chorus & Orchestra (BCCO)	District 4	\$10,000	\$8,000
Berkeley Juneteenth Cultural Celebrations	District 3	\$10,000	\$8,000
Berkeley Society for the Preservation of Traditional Music dba Freight & Salvage	District 4	\$10,000	\$8,000
David Brower Center	District 4	\$10,000	\$8,000

Gamelan Sekar Jaya	District 8	\$10,000	\$8,000
Mahea Uchiyama Center for International Dance	District 4	\$10,000	\$8,000
pateldanceworks	District 8	\$10,000	\$8,000
PlayGround	District 3	\$10,000	\$8,000
Shawl-Anderson Modern Dance Center	District 8	\$10,000	\$8,000
Shotgun Players	District 3	\$10,000	\$8,000
Youth Musical Theater Company	District 2	\$10,000	\$8,000
California Jazz Conservatory	District 4	\$10,000	\$7,000
Cazadero Performing Arts Camp	District 5	\$10,000	\$7,000
Central Works	District 7	\$10,000	\$7,000
East Bay Media Center	District 4	\$10,000	\$7,000
Holistic Honu Wellness Center	District 1	\$10,000	\$7,000
Immersive Arts Alliance	District 4	\$10,000	\$7,000
Inferno Theatre	District 3	\$10,000	\$7,000
MBIRA	District 4	\$10,000	\$7,000
Play Cafe, Inc.	District 1	\$10,000	\$7,000
The Potters' Studio (Nara Corporation)	District 1	\$10,000	\$7,000
Young People's Symphony Orchestra Association	District 4	\$10,000	\$7,000
Habitot Children's Museum	District 5	\$9,998	\$6,999
Actors Ensemble	District 3	\$8,000	\$6,400
UC Alumni Chorus	District 6	\$8,000	\$6,400
Berkeley Chamber Performances	District 5	\$6,500	\$5,200
Berkeley Commonplace	District 3	\$6,000	\$4,800

\$444,799