

ARTS COMMISSION

Notice of Meeting on **Wednesday, May 27, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.**
Electronically, and in Room 488, 4th Floor, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC

J. Loveday (Chair)	M. Brame	S. Epp	W. Gardner	
D. Lajeunesse	G. Lemon	C. Plant	T. Ney	K. Roessingh

AGENDA

1. Territorial Acknowledgement
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes

Recommendation:

1. That the February 29, 2020, minutes of the Special meeting of the Arts Commission be adopted as read.
2. That the April 22, 2020, minutes of the Arts Commission be adopted as read.

4. Chair's Remarks
5. Presentations/Delegations
6. Commission Business

6.1. Arts Advisory Council Update

- 6.1.1. Arts Advisory Council Chair's Report (Verbal)
- 6.1.2. Arts Advisory Council Minutes for Information – May 5, 2020
- 6.1.3. Arts Advisory Council *Activities by Council Summary*, May 5, 2020

Recommendation: That the Arts Advisory Council Chair's verbal report; Arts Advisory Council Minutes of May 5, 2020, and *Activities by Council Summary* of May 5, 2020, be received for information.

6.2. Arts Implementation Plan Update

Recommendation: That the Arts Commission receive the Arts Implementation Plan Update for information.

6.3. Adoption of 2020–2023 Arts Strategic Plan

Recommendation: That the Arts Commission adopt the 2020-2023 Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan and report to the Capital Regional District Board on the fulfilment of Corporate Plan Initiative 12b 2.

6.4. Equity Grant Recommendations

Recommendation: That the Arts Commission approve \$9,000 in March 2020 Equity Grant recommendations as presented.

6.5. Incubator Grant Recommendations

Recommendation: That the Arts Commission approve \$10,000 in March 2020 Incubator Grant recommendations as presented.

6.6. IDEA Grant Recommendations

Recommendation: That the Arts Commission approve \$38,000 in 2020 March IDEA Grant recommendations as presented.

7. New Business

8. Adjournment

Next Meeting: June 24, 2020



Making a difference...together

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the ARTS COMMISSION

Held SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2020, in Room 652, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC

Present: **Members:** J. Loveday (Chair), M. Brame, S. Epp, W. Gardner, D. Lajeunesse, T. Ney, C. Plant, K. Roessingh
Staff: James Lam, Manager, Arts Development; J. Nichols, Community Outreach Coordinator, Arts Development; H. Heywood, Administrative Assistant (recorder)
Invited Guests: **Arts Advisory Council Members:** P. Sullivan (Chair), E. Beaton, M. Heinz, S. Ives, and D. Thorpe; **Strategy Session Facilitator:** E. Mattson
Absent: (Arts Advisory Council) T. Craig, D. Etsten, C. Heiman, B. McLean and J. Verano (Arts Commission) G. Lemon

Chair Loveday called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

1 Territorial Acknowledgement

2 Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Member Roessingh, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3 Chair's Remarks

Chair Loveday welcomed all to the meeting and noted the opportunity to meet together with Arts Advisory Council members, Arts Commission members and staff, to reflect and to look ahead. He noted changes such as the new grant programs, municipal participants, and enhanced communications through the new position in the Arts & Culture Support Service office. All were thanked for the work they do and for attending the meeting.

4 Presentations/Delegations: None

5 Strategic Planning Session

Chair Loveday spoke to the Arts Strategic Plan update session objectives and invited those present to introduce themselves around the table.

Erica Mattson, consultant, then facilitated the strategic planning session, including segments on:

1. Situational analysis
2. Strategic plan foundations (mission, vision, goals, impacts)
3. Pre-session survey results on strategic plan implementation
4. Strategic action planning
5. Next steps

Chair Loveday wrapped up the planning session. The 2020-2023 Arts Strategic Plan will be brought forward to the next Commission meeting for review.

6 New Business: There was no new business.

7 Adjournment

MOVED by Member Roessingh, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
That the meeting be adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER



Making a difference...together

Minutes of a Meeting of the ARTS COMMISSION

Held Wednesday, April 22, 2020, in Room 651, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC

Present in the Meeting Room:

Members: J. Loveday (Chair); C. Plant

Staff: J. Lam; N. Chan; J. Brooks, Clerk (recorder)

Present Electronically (Telephone):

Members: M. Brame, G. Lemon, D. Lajeunesse, W. Gardner, S. Epp, K. Roessingh (4:29)

Staff: J. Nichols

Also Present Electronically: C. Heiman, Chair; M. Heinz, Funding Chair, Arts Advisory Council

Absent: T. Ney

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm. Roll call was taken.

1 Territorial Acknowledgement

2 Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Member Lemon, **SECONDED** by Member Plant,
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3 Adoption of Minutes

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
That the minutes of the March 25, 2020, Arts Commission meeting be adopted as previously
circulated.

CARRIED

4 Chair's Remarks

The Chair noted that many arts and culture organizations have been hard hit by the COVID-19 situation and the requirement for physical distancing. Many current and summer events have been cancelled, and with others also hit by the economic impact, there will be less private money available. The CRD Arts Commission has a vital role to play in sustaining the arts going forward, and helping arts and culture non-profits adapt to the new requirements.

5 Presentations/Delegations - None

6 Commission Business

6.1 Arts Advisory Council Update: Chair's Report (Verbal)

The Arts Advisory Council did not meet in April. They will meet by electronic means over the next month to address the \$50,000 threshold for Operating grants as requested in November and to adjudicate the Equity, Incubator, and IDEA grants.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Loveday,
That the Arts Advisory Council Chair's verbal report be received for information.

CARRIED

6.2 Adoption of 2020-2023 Arts Strategic Plan

J Lam presented the Strategic Plan for review and comment, with the goal for it to be amended as required for eventual adoption and then taken to the Board in fulfillment of Board Initiative 12b-2.

He noted the revised vision from “The arts are central to life in our communities” to “The arts are central to life in the region” and the updated Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Results (SOAR) analysis. He also noted the updated evaluation framework that links each goal to priorities, outcomes and progress measures.

In discussion, the Commission expressed the desire to ensure that information related to Goal 2 on page 10 captures the board initiative to explore 100% participation in the arts function. This was seen to include not only pursuing funding participation by all CRD jurisdictions but also in bringing all CRD arts functions, including arts facilities, under a single CRD service umbrella.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
That the Arts Commission refer the 2020-2023 Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan back to staff, requesting a) that Goal 2 be re-titled “Increase Participation and Funding”; b) ensure that the plan references the SOAR aspiration to oversee all CRD arts-related services under one unified service; and c) provide specific initiatives on how to increase funding and increase participation.

K. Roessingh joined the meeting electronically at 4:29 p.m.

The Commission briefly discussed the CRD Board Strategic Plan on arts service participation.

The question was called.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
That the Arts Commission refer the 2020-2023 Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan back to staff, requesting a) that Goal 2 be re-titled “Increase Participation and Funding”; b) ensure that the plan references the SOAR aspiration to oversee all CRD arts-related services under one unified service; and c) provide specific initiatives on how to increase funding and increase participation.

CARRIED

6.3 Arts Implementation Plan Update–Outreach Activities during COVID-19 Pandemic

J. Nichols reviewed the highlights of the report and noted the production of a document with active links to organizations that are providing alternative presentations and productions in light of the pandemic event.

It was noted that the Arts & Culture Support Service is now collecting information on the impact of pandemic-related cancellations and postponements by funded organizations for future aggregation and reporting.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Roessingh,
That the Arts Commission receive the Arts Implementation Plan Update for information.

CARRIED

7 Correspondence

7.1 ProArt Alliance of Greater Victoria, April 16, 2020 re: Regional Arts Awards–Information and Proposal

J. Lam spoke to the correspondence and provided clarification in response to Commission questions, including noting that funding for the proposed award could be requisitioned or be drawn from the Arts and Culture Support Service reserve fund.

MOVED by Member Brame, **SECONDED** by Member Roessingh,
To provide \$5000 to ProArt Alliance for an award to recognize the outstanding impact an organization or event has on the CRD regional arts community on an annual basis.

The Commission discussion included the following points:

- fits with strategic goals
- ProArt instrumental in bringing people together in arts organizations
- a way to further promote the arts
- explore whether eligibility extends to organizations outside of ProArt Alliance members, and whether criteria and adjudication looks at whole spectrum of impact within the arts

MOVED by Member Brame, **SECONDED** by Member Roessingh,
To amend the main motion to add the words “to explore” and “direct staff to provide a report”.

Discussion included the following points:

- providing money to the organization as a sponsor of the award
- money to come from reserve fund instead of money already allocated to 2020 grants
- CRD not participating in choosing the recipient, but before sponsoring, explore ProArts criteria for the award and adjudication process

The question on the amendment was called.

MOVED by Member Brame, **SECONDED** by Member Roessingh,
To amend the main motion to add the words “to explore” and “direct staff to provide a report”.

DEFEATED

Opposed: Gardner, Epp, Loveday, Plant

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
To amend the main motion to add the words “for a one-year trial period” and “to fund it from the Arts and Culture Support Service reserve.”

Discussion included the following points:

- details contained in the ProArt Alliance proposal indicates working with the CRD on mutually agreed-upon criteria and procedures
- after the trial, could consider requisitioning this funding
- in the strategic plan to support, promote, and celebrate the arts
- award can help fill a gap in arts recognition in the region

The question on the amendment was called.

MOVED by Member Plant, **SECONDED** by Member Brame,
To amend the main motion to add the words “for a one-year trial period” and “to fund it from the Arts and Culture Support Service reserve”.

CARRIED

The question was called on the main motion, as amended.

MOVED by Member Brame, **SECONDED** by Member Plant,
To provide \$5000 to ProArt Alliance for an award to recognize the outstanding impact an organization or event has on the CRD Regional Arts community on an annual basis, for a one-year trial period funded from the Arts and Culture Support Service reserve.

CARRIED

8 Motion with Notice

8.1 Consideration of IDEA Grant Application, Member Gardner

MOVED by Member Gardner, **SECONDED** by Member Plant,
That the CRD Arts Commission recommend that the Arts Advisory Council receive and consider the IDEA Grant application from Salish Sea Inter-Island Transportation Society which was submitted a day late.

CARRIED

9 New Business

9.1 Reallocation of Unspent Funds

J. Lam sought direction to reallocate unspent funds from Incubator and Equity grants to IDEA Grants.

MOVED by J. Loveday, **SECONDED** by G. Lemon
That staff be directed to reallocate unspent funds from Incubator and Equity grants to IDEA grants if necessary.

CARRIED

10 Adjournment

MOVED by K. Roessingh, **SECONDED** by G. Lemon
That the meeting be adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER

ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Arts Advisory Council, Capital Regional

District Held Tuesday, May 5, 2020, Room 488, 625 Fisgard St.

Present Electronically (Teams):

Members: B. Crook, E. Beaton, D. Etsten, C. Heiman (Chair), M. Heinz, A. Hershberg,
B. McLean, P. Sullivan, D. Thorpe, J. Verano

Arts & Culture Staff: J. Lam, Manager, J. Nichols, Community Outreach Coordinator, H. Heywood,
Admin Assistant (recorder)

Regrets: T. Craig, S. Ives,

Chair Heiman called the meeting to order at 5:04, welcoming everyone to the inaugural Arts Advisory Council meeting through electronic participation, and then gave a formal acknowledgement of meeting in Lkwungen territory.

1. Approval of Agenda
MOVED by P. Sullivan, **SECONDED** by M. Heinz, that the agenda be approved as amended to move Items 7 and 8 prior to Item 6. **CARRIED**
2. **Introductions**
Current member's biographies were previously distributed for the benefit of new members. New appointees B. Crook and A. Hershberg gave brief introductions.
3. **Minutes:**
3.1 and 3.2 MOVED by P. Sullivan, **SECONDED** by D. Thorpe, that the minutes of the February 4, 2020 and of the March 17, 2020 Arts Advisory Council meetings be adopted as previously circulated.
3.3 and 3.4 MOVED by D. Etsten, **SECONDED** by P. Sullivan, that the minutes of January 22, 2020 and of the March 25, 2020 Arts Commission meetings be received for information.
4. **ABC'S (Activity By Council Summary)**
A list of Council activities was received for information. Council discussed the absence of live performances and experiences with online presentations.
5. **Chair's Report**
Chair Heiman highlighted two items discussed at the April Arts Commission meeting.
6. **2020 IDEA Grant Recommendations**
J. Lam spoke to the staff report, highlighting the process and recommendations totaling \$38,000. M. Heinz, Chair of the adjudication committee, noted the discussion went smoothly as committee members were well prepared, and that the recommendations are a reflection of the relative merits of each application as determined through scoring and a discussion of the applications. J. Lam commented that comments are provided in the recommendation notes.

After questions and discussion, it was,

MOVED by P. Sullivan, **SECONDED** by B. McLean, that the Arts Advisory Council approve \$38,000 in 2020 March IDEA Grant recommendations as presented and forward them to the Arts Commission for approval.

CARRIED

7. 2020 Equity and Incubator Grant Recommendations

J. Lam spoke to the **Equity Grant** staff report, noting the third year extension of the program. He provided an overview of the program and process and the addition of a community-based adjudicator. Total recommendations were \$9000. In response to a question, J. Lam noted that through an Arts Commission motion, unspent funds could, if necessary, be reallocated to the IDEA grant program.

MOVED by D. Thorpe, **SECONDED** by D. Etsten, that the Arts Advisory Council ratify \$9,000 in March 2020 Equity Grant recommendations as presented and forward them to the Arts Commission for approval.

CARRIED

J. Lam spoke to the Incubator Grant staff report, noting the extension of this program and the upcoming evaluation for it and the Equity program. Two organizations applied and are recommended for grants totaling \$10,000.

MOVED by D. Thorpe, **SECONDED** by D. Etsten, that the Arts Advisory Council ratify \$10,000 in March 2020 Incubator Grant recommendations as presented and forward them to the Arts Commission for approval.

CARRIED

Chair Heiman thanked committee members for their work on the adjudication.

8. Business Arising

Topics Arising from Operating Grant Plenary Fall 2019

- Consideration of Minimum Budget Requirement for Operating Grants

J. Lam provided background for this discussion topic noting that according to existing records, the current \$50,000 minimum budget criteria was established as early as 1989. The AAC's task is to examine the criteria's goal and purpose within the Operating grant program, consider whether changes are advisable, and provide a recommendation for the Arts Commission's consideration.

MOVED by B. Crook, **SECONDED** by D. Thorpe, to approve, in principal, an increase in the minimum budget requirement and refer this item to staff for more information, to be brought forward at the next meeting.

CARRIED

- Application of Notice of Significant Concern (NOSC) Policy as it relates to flagging of issues and potential decreases in funding

MOVED by P. Sullivan, **SECONDED** by M. Heinz, to table this topic of discussion to the next regular AAC meeting.

CARRIED

9. Arts Implementation Update

J. Nichols referred to her report, noting the Arts Implementation plan continues in response to the challenges of COVID-19. Funding programs continue with the promotion of alternative presentations and programming and looking at different ways to experience the arts. The list of activities and opportunities for enjoying the arts while physical distancing is updated on an ongoing basis as more organizations find different ways to present their events.

10. Correspondence - none

11. New Business - none

12. Adjournment

MOVED by P. Sullivan that the meeting be adjourned at 6:14 pm

CARRIED

*To ensure quorum, advise Heather Heywood, 250-360-3215 or hheywood@crd.bc.ca if you cannot attend.
If you are going to arrive late, contact James Lam at 250-216-5539, or the Commons Room (# above).*

Arts Advisory Council Meeting – Tuesday, May 5, 2020
ABC'S (Activities by Council Summary)

AAC members recently attended the following events in the region:

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria:

How We All Fit Together (Outdoor Mural) by Cedar Hill Middle School (Extreme Program)

Quiet Nature Exhibition (online)

A new digital arts initiative, *FIELD TRIP: ART ACROSS CANADA*. This new online platform delivers arts experiences with some of Canada's most celebrated artists in a national partnership with leading arts organizations:

- Virtual Tour of Kim Adam's Bruegel-Bosch Bus (from the Art Gallery of Hamilton)
- A Guided Tour of Carolos Bunga's "A Sudden Beginning" (MOCA Toronto)
- Megan Moore: Specimens (Robert McLaughlin Gallery)
- Art in the time of COVID-19 (2 part panel discussion with artists) (Museum of Toronto)

Belfry Theatre: Spark Festival "Busted Up: A Yukon Story (In the theatre)

Dance Victoria: Ballet Boyz: Deluxe (online)

Intrepid Theatre: UNO Fest Online

- Gemini – Lindsay Delaronde
- But Wait! There's More! – Jacquelin McLaughlin

Pearson College:

Pearson College's 2020 One World performance on March 14, livestreamed via Facebook. The students and staff only had one day to prepare and convert the production to take place on campus as opposed to the MacPherson Theatre, after Pearson College announced that students will be returning home after that weekend.

**REPORT TO ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020**

SUBJECT **Arts Implementation Plan Update**

ISSUE SUMMARY

This report describes the latest promotion and monitoring activities to advance the Capital Regional District (CRD) Arts & Culture Building Our Arts Future Together Implementation Plan.

BACKGROUND

As the directive of the Provincial Health Officer to maintain social distancing continues, most of the arts organizations funded by the CRD are experiencing significant changes in organizational needs and programming. In response, Arts & Culture increased digital outreach by:

- Posting resources and relief opportunities online for professional arts.
- Compiling lists of alternative arts and culture programming for the public, for example, an arts listing of family activities by grantees (Appendix A).
- Promoting arts and culture through social media and professional networks. Grant advertising and public art promotion gain the highest reach across Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. In May Instagram surpassed Facebook popularity, with over 700 followers.
- Convening the inter-municipal cultural planning Roundtable every second week, in virtual format, since March 22nd. Municipal staff attend electronically and share information about their communities.

Staff conducted initial tracking of the impact of social distancing on arts organizations through email and received a range of response plans based on different business models. Some organizations, such as the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria and “arc.hive”, re-opened with modified policies and procedures, while others cancelled their programming seasons. A formal survey for grantee organizations is underway. The CRD Arts & Culture Support Service is a subject matter expert for the 2019 Vital Signs report for the fourteenth year. The report will focus on COVID-19 impacts. Staff foresee monitoring becoming a prominent activity from June to August.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Arts Commission receive the Arts Implementation Plan Update for information.

IMPLICATIONS

Service Delivery Implications

The CRD Arts & Culture Support Service staff are adjusting convening, promotions and monitoring activities during the pandemic with a growing focus on impact tracking placing celebratory activities on hold.

CONCLUSION

The CRD Arts & Culture Support Service provides support and promotion of the arts sector responsive to the current State of Provincial Emergency and is advancing the Arts Future Together Implementation Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Arts Commission receive the Arts Implementation Plan Update for information.

Submitted by:



Jennifer Nichols, MSLS
Community Outreach Coordinator
Arts & Culture Support Service

Concurrence:



James Lam, Manager
CRD Arts & Culture Support Service

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Arts Listing of Family Activities by Grantees

Enjoy Arts Activities for Families, Youth & Children while maintaining physical distancing

The following list is a sample of local theatre, visual art, dance, music, and literary arts activities for families, youth and children. For more descriptions of arts and cultural activities for all ages visit www.crd.bc.ca/arts.

Arts & Culture | Updated May 2020



Theatre



Creation Continues Theatre Games & Stories

SKAM School of Performing Arts teachers Tony Adams and Monica Ogden share some of their favourite theatre games with you to enjoy at this time by video! www.skam.ca



Educational Theatre Shows

Story Theatre offers narrative, educational theatre for young people online. More digital art resources available soon. www.storytheatre.ca



Family Opera Pacific Opera Victoria and Vancouver Opera present a free, online broadcast of the new family opera: *The Flight of the Hummingbird*. In this enchanting opera, the animals of the forest are inspired to come together by Dukdukdiya, the Hummingbird, to save their beautiful home from a raging fire. Find performance info and study guide online. www.pacificopera.ca



Spark Festival: COVID Creation

A collection of performance videos by the Belfry 101 Collective – 14 local high school students inspired by the question “how do we create theatre together in a time of physical distancing and self-isolation, and what form can that theatre take?” www.sparkfestival.ca



Theatre Classes, Talks and Activities

Kaleidoscope Theatre offers classes and programs online. Free musical theatre and opera workshops. Games Night features easy to play games that are perfect for the whole family. Play along, have fun! www.kaleidoscope.ca



Wee Peeks: a Variety Show for Wee Ones

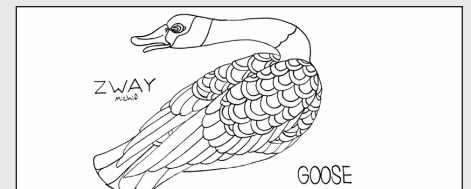
Impulse Theatre brings you a digital variety show for the young and young at heart. A delightful trip into the homes of some of Impulse's dearest friends. There will be song, dance, puppets, pirates, and much more! www.impulsetheatre.ca

Visual Art



Art Hive Art Therapy

One on one service for children and youth. Guardians or parents can select a practitioner of their choice, to work with their child, to help them explore their inner thoughts and feelings creatively. Email program questions to: info@ciat.org Free. To reserve call: 1-866-515-2916 www.arttherapy.network



Tah'lum Indigenous Artists Collective Colouring Book

A language-learning colouring book by artists Jesse Campbell (Métis/Cree) and Brianna Dick (Songhees Nation) sharing words from their respective Michif and Lekwungen languages. Available for free, digitally and in print. www.openspace.ca/programming/colouring-book



Sooke Art Exhibit Online

The Sooke Fine Arts show invites Youth artist to submit to the annual art show. This year online. www.sookefinearts.com



Landmarks Public Art

Enjoy fresh air and physical activity with your family while looking at public art. Make a self-guided tour with the map tool on LandMarksPublicart.ca featuring over 170 artworks. Please remain two metres apart from other art lovers. www.landmarkspublicart.ca



Virtual Family Sunday

The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria offers hands-on art-making and activity ideas for all ages on the third Sunday of each month until June. www.aggv.ca

Dance



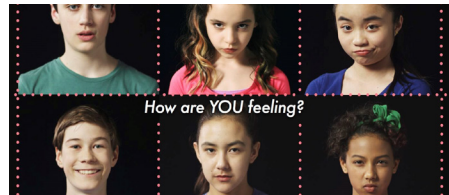
Adaptive Dance Classes For Kids

Embrace Arts teaches Dance Without Limits and Dance and Movement Games – free adaptive dance programs open to kids and youth of all abilities. www.embracearts.org/online-classes



Ballet Activities

Ballet Victoria is offering several ballet related activities online, such as dance activities and classes for youth and free, live ballet classes on Instagram. Subscribe to the newsletter for details. www.balletvictoria.ca



WITS in Motion Anti-bullying Dance program

Suddenly Dance Theatre has created a toolkit for building healthy relationships through social emotional learning and conflict resolution. This anti-bullying online education initiative features a non-verbal dance film. Available for streaming to parents, caregivers and educators at www.witsinmotion.ca.

Music



Music and Voice Lessons

The Victoria Conservatory of Music now offers its high quality lessons, group classes and music therapy sessions online. www.vcm.bc.ca



Ukulele Zoom-A-Long

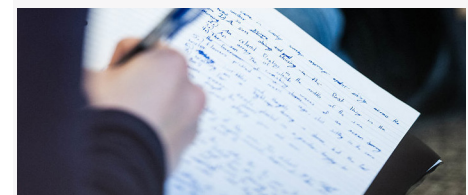
Ptarmigan Arts invites you to play some fun songs while at home! Open to all ages and abilities. Participants get a PDF file of the song sheets and a Zoom link. www.ptarmiganarts.org



Virtual Open Mic & Outreach

Victoria Guitar Society has developed a virtual guitar ensemble and hosts online open mic for classical guitar players. Virtual school outreach presentation available on request www.victoriaguitarsociety.ca

Literary Arts



Tongues of Fire Open Mic Online

Victoria Poetry Project celebrates the art of spoken word poetry. Currently hosting youth-centred online open mic events. www.victoriapoetryproject.com

About CRD Arts & Culture

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Arts & Culture Support Service supports, promotes and celebrates art across the capital region. Funding is provided by: Saanich, Victoria, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, View Royal, Highlands, Metchosin, Sooke and Southern Gulf Islands.

More information

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**REPORT TO ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020**

SUBJECT **Adoption of 2020-23 Arts Strategic Plan**

ISSUE SUMMARY

At their meeting of April 22, 2020 the Arts Commission requested several revisions to the draft 2020-23 Arts Strategic Plan (Plan). The revisions are provided for consideration and adoption.

BACKGROUND

At their April meeting the Arts Commission reviewed the draft Plan and requested changes to Goal 2 (p.10) of the draft as follows:

- that Goal 2 be re-titled “Increase participation and funding”
- ensure that the plan references the SOAR aspiration to oversee all CRD arts-related services under one unified service
- provide specific initiatives on how to increase funding and increase participation.

Goal 2 has been retitled and the underlying initiatives were revised as follows:

2a Create a “funding roadmap” that identifies increases in funding in accordance with community need as well as the funding sources required to meet these goals, including considering funding support outside of municipal requisition.

2b Strengthen and expand partnership activities to increase the number of participants and support the level of funding identified in 2a. Develop a toolkit for the Arts Commission that supports these activities.

2c Explore the possibility of consolidating all CRD arts-related services under one service.

The revised 2020-2023 Arts Strategic Plan accompanies this report.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Arts Commission adopt the 2020-2023 Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan and report to the Capital Regional District Board on the fulfilment of Corporate Plan Initiative 12b-2.

Alternative 2

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

IMPLICATIONS

Service Delivery Implications

Once adopted the 2020-2023 Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan provides direction to the Arts Service activities through 2023 and is in fulfilment of CRD Board initiative 12b-2.

CONCLUSION

The 2020-2023 Arts and Culture Support Service Strategic Plan has been updated through 2023 and provides a framework for guiding the activities of the Service and measuring success. Updating the Arts Strategic Plan is also a fulfillment of initiative 12b-2 of the CRD's 2019-2022 Corporate Plan

RECOMMENDATION

That the Arts Commission adopt the 2020-2023 Arts & Culture Support Service Strategic Plan and report to the Capital Regional District Board on the fulfilment of Corporate Plan Initiative 12b-2.



Manager, Arts & Culture Support Service

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: 2020-2023 Arts Strategic Plan

Support,
promote,
+ celebrate
the arts.



Capital Regional District
Arts & Culture Support Service

2020-2023 Strategic Plan >
Updated March 2020

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A Vision for the CRD Arts & Culture Support Service

The Arts & Culture Support Service is a division of the CRD and its activities support the CRD mission: *We are diverse communities working together to serve the public good and build a vibrant, livable and sustainable region, through an effective, efficient and open organization;* and vision: *Our communities strive to achieve exemplary environmental stewardship, a dynamic, vibrant economy and an inclusive, caring society. Regional cooperation, mutually beneficial decision making and advancing shared interests shape the essence of the CRD.*

Strategic planning session participants revisited the Arts Service vision and mission statements and agreed to continue with the current mission statement, and to update the vision statement:

Our Mission: The CRD supports, promotes and celebrates the arts.

Our Vision: The arts are central to life in the region.

The CRD Arts & Culture Support Service

CRD Bylaw 2884 established the Arts & Culture Support Service (Arts Service) in June 2001 for “the provision of assistance in relation to the arts and culture for the purpose of benefiting the community or an aspect of the community.” Bylaw 2884 also gives authority to the Arts Service’s political oversight body, the Arts Commission (AC).

The Arts Commission is appointed annually by the CRD Board and consists of one elected official from each jurisdiction that is a member of the Arts Service. The Arts Commission sets an annual budget to support policies and programs pursuant to its governing bylaw.

CRD Bylaw 2973 established the Arts Advisory Council (AAC) “for an independent community-based body to provide advice to the CRD” on matters relating to the Arts Service. The AAC’s mandate is to act as an arm’s length adjudication body for Arts Service

funding programs and to advise the Arts Commission on policies that foster and promote:

- Support of the arts in the region,
- Public awareness of and involvement in the arts,
- The creation, exhibition and performance of artistic works, and
- The development of artistic and other requisite skills, and shall advise the CRD Arts Commission of measures which the Council considers to be conducive to these ends.
- Other appropriate duties as assigned by the Arts Commission from time to time.

The Arts Service has five grant programs:

1. **Operating Grants** provide annual and multi-year financial support to organizations for ongoing annual operations,
2. **Project Grants** support one-time events, short series or extended project-based programming,

3. **Equity Grants** support arts initiatives by applicants from communities that are at-risk of exclusion or have difficulty accessing support for systemic reasons.
4. **Incubator Grants** support development or capacity building for emerging or developing organizations
5. **IDEA** (Innovate, Develop, Experiment, Access) **Grants** support arts-based programming by non-arts mandated organizations.

In broad terms, the Operating Grant program is designed to support larger organizations for annual operations while the other grant programs support project-based events or series of events produced by smaller organizations.

The Arts Service also:

- Manages landmarkspublicart.ca, a searchable website dedicated to the presentation of public art in the region for jurisdictions participating in the Arts Service

- Provides outreach and communications activities, produces an annual Progress Report, a bi-annual Arts Summit, and hosts a community of practice roundtable for municipal staff responsible for arts and culture activities in the region.

Arts Service staff consist of a full-time manager, a full-time community outreach coordinator and a 0.8 FTE administrative assistant. They are responsible for the reporting, analysis and administration of the funding programs and outreach activities. They also provide support to the AC and AAC, and liaise with other levels of government, NGOs and the public in providing information and representing the Arts Service.

Members of the AC, AAC and staff create a strategic plan for the purpose of defining the Arts Service's vision, mission, goals and strategic priorities. This report updates the 2015-2019 plan and is the result of a planning session held in February 2020. A list of the participants is appended.

Situational Analysis

To analyze the Arts Service's current state, strategic planning session participants reviewed the situation analysis created in 2015, and engaged in an appreciative inquiry exercise to identify current strengths, opportunities, aspirations and results to guide the updated strategic plan. A "SOAR" framework was completed, and key risks/threats were noted in a Risk Register*.

Strengths What are our greatest strengths?	Opportunities What are our best opportunities?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong staff• New outreach program has created new conduits to the community we serve• Have accomplished many actions from the implementation plan adopted in 2017• Arts & Culture Support Service programs are more inclusive and diverse• We have increased access through new programs• We have the tools to successfully make the case for investment in arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build upon successful implementation results from current strategic plan• Play a part in reconciliation with First Nations• Share the social and economic impact story of the arts in our region• Arts as part of the innovation economy – explore tech and business collaborations• Build new partnerships to help increase funding for the arts• Create a funding roadmap to understand what increased funding will be used for and how it will be secured• Orientation program to support new Arts Commission members• Continue to expand outreach activities• Build capacity using available resources like arts hubs in diverse regions, school district collaborations, etc.

Aspirations What is our preferred future?	Results What results show we've achieved the vision?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More funding available in the system • A more inclusive and diverse funding system • More intentional granting program design • 100% participation in the arts service by all CRD jurisdictions • All CRD arts-related services rolled into a centralized service (e.g. granting, facilities) • Centralized applications and collaborative funding opportunities • Align programs with broader impact metrics – e.g. international social development goals • Introduce orientation tools to support new Arts Commission members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased funding in the system measured over time • Create a funding roadmap that lays out funding goals, sources and allocation plan for how funds are allocated, ways to support different types of organizations, equitable sharing of resources • Sustainable region-wide participation in the arts service • Arts Commission has tools for outreach activities

Risk Register - *Identified Risk

- Demand for funds from new and existing organizations outstrips current funds available. Limitations on amount that can be requisitioned through the tax base
- Not all municipalities in the CRD are represented through the Arts Service, meaning that only a portion of the population is served (76% as of 2018)
- Questions around the amount of funds received by different organizations – e.g. do the granting programs privilege certain segments of the arts eco-system?

Goals & Priorities

Session participants reviewed the 2015-2019 Arts Strategic Plan's goals, the impact areas related to the goals, and the implementation actions taken to date. A decision was made to remain focused on the current goals and outcome areas which are aligned with broader CRD organizational outcomes.

Goals

1. Increase community awareness
2. Increase funding
3. Make access equitable
4. Sustain creativity
5. Respond to granting needs

1. Increase community awareness

Increase community appreciation and knowledge of regional arts, the benefits of arts and the value of public sector funding delivered through the Arts Service.

Initiatives

1a Deliver community outreach to increase awareness of arts as a valued part of life in the capital region.

1b Implement Communications Strategy

1c Facilitate dialogue and celebrate the arts through convening opportunities

1d Share information about links between arts, sustainable communities and wellbeing

Impact

Outcome Area	Progress Measures
Arts and culture are central to life in our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attendance at events programmed by grantees• Volume of Events -by grantees and CRD convening events• Number of participatory activities for community by grantees• Social Media uptake• Number of volunteers in funded organizations

2. Increase participation and funding

Encourage all CRD jurisdictions to participate as contributing members in the Arts Service.

Initiatives

2a Create a “funding roadmap” that identifies increases in funding in accordance with community need as well as the funding sources required to meet these goals, including considering funding support outside of municipal requisition.

2b Strengthen and expand partnership activities to increase the number of participants and support the level of funding identified in 2a. Develop a toolkit for the Arts Commission that supports these activities.

2c Explore the possibility of consolidating all CRD arts-related services under one service.

Impact

Outcome Area	Progress Measures
Collaborative governance benefits the arts sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approved funding roadmap• \$ increases in funding pool• # of Group 1 participants• # of Group 2 participants• % of population living in contributing jurisdictions

3. Make access equitable

Increase representation of art forms funded by the CRD

Initiatives

3a Ensure support for new and emerging organizations.

3b Support equity, diversity and inclusion through grant programs.

3c Reduce barriers experienced by rural communities.

Impact

Outcome Area	Progress Measures
Arts funding contributes to a more equitable society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• # of barriers removed• # of Equity grants provided• # of first time applicants• Evidence of broader representation of art forms and those from rural communities

4. Sustain creativity

Enable sustainable growth of the arts and foster a culture of creativity by arts organizations in the region.

Initiatives

4a Support arts organizations in fulfilling their artistic mandates.

4b Invest in emerging and growing organizations.

4c Support innovation through a funding system that allows arts organizations to take risks.

Impact

Outcome Area	Progress Measures
Artists create a unique cultural landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• # funded organizations• % of funded organizations creating new work• Impact of Incubator grant and evidence of increase in emerging arts organizations• Evidence of funded organizations creating artistic output unique to the region

5. Respond to granting needs

Ensure that the CRD Arts Service programs are responsive to community need.

Initiatives

5a Use effective and accountable processes to stimulate a healthy creative economy.

5b Review grant program design and guidelines to ensure funding is allocated in a sustainable way.

5c Include community input when evaluating programs.

Impact

Outcome Area	Progress Measures
A thriving creative economy meets the needs of the arts sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$ of funding pool• # of jobs for culture workers stimulated by CRD grants• Revenues of funded organizations

Implementation Monitoring

To support implementing this plan:

- The strategic priorities will inform the Arts Service Business Plan,
- The Arts & Culture Strategic Implementation plan will be updated based on the renewed Strategic Plan,
- The Arts Advisory Council and the Arts Commission will mutually report on activities supporting the established priorities
- Implementation status of the Plan will be a standing item on meeting agendas for the AC and AAC
- The AC and AAC will reconvene to discuss participation in the work plan, and
- This plan and its priorities will be reviewed annually.

Appendix: Planning Session Participants

The following individuals participated in developing this plan.

Emmy Beaton	Arts Advisory Council
Meagan Brame	Arts Commission (Esquimalt)
Sharie Epp	Arts Commission (Metchosin)
Wendy Gardner	Arts Commission (Southern Gulf Islands)
Michelle Heinz	Arts Advisory Council (Funding Chair)
Heather Heywood	Administrative Assistant, Arts & Culture Support Service
Suzanne Ives	Arts Advisory Council
Dana Lajeunesse	Arts Commission (Sooke)
James Lam	Manager, Arts & Culture Support Service
Jeremy Loveday	Chair, Arts Commission (Victoria)
Tara Ney	Arts Commission (Oak Bay)
Jennifer Nichols	Community Outreach Coordinator, Arts & Culture Support Service
Colin Plant	Arts Commission (Saanich)
Karel Roessingh	Arts Commission (Highlands)
Patti Sullivan	Arts Advisory Council
Erica Mattson	Facilitator

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central to life in
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**REPORT TO THE ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020**

SUBJECT **March 2020 Equity Grant Recommendations**

ISSUE

The March 2020 Equity Grant recommendations are presented for Arts Commission review and approval.

BACKGROUND

March 2020 was the third, extended pilot year for Equity Grants. Equity Grants are intended to support applicants that face systemic barriers to accessing support through other CRD Arts and Culture Service funding programs. Equity Grants are unique among CRD funding programs as it allows a not-for-profit society to function as a “Sponsor Society” on behalf of an Equity applicant that is not itself a society.

Total requests were \$19,000 on cash budgets totaling \$31,810. The same jury, comprised of two Arts Advisory Council members and a member from the arts community, assessed both Equity and Incubator Grants. The Equity Grant program received four applications. This compares to six applications received in the previous year and four in the first year of the program.

Applications were assessed using a scoring matrix that reflected the desired outcomes of the program related to:

- The identified group or organization leading the project
- The thoroughness of the project description
- The benefits and impacts for the group, their community and the regional community
- An understanding of the intended audience
- Partnerships or collaborations
- The clarity of the proposed budget

Jurors’ scores are compiled and averaged resulting in a comparative assessment of each organization’s proposal. “Outlier” scores were reconciled each application was discussed to ensure its final score was an accurate reflection of the information provided. The jury’s recommendations were then considered by the Arts Advisory Council in a plenary discussion following which they were ratified for the consideration of the Arts Commission.

Two applications scored at or above the satisfactory level and are recommended for funding. Two applications scored below the 50% level and are not recommended for support.

An application receiving a score of less than 50% is difficult to support. It broadly reflects an application that has failed to provide sufficient and clear information on what is being proposed and the activities that will take place making it difficult to determine if the project will achieve the intended goals of the program.

See attached summary pages for specific comments on each application.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Arts Commission approve \$9,000 in March 2020 Equity Grant recommendations as presented.

Alternative 2

That the Arts Commission revise and approve the March 2020 Equity Grant recommendations.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

\$25,000 was available for Equity Grants. A total of \$9,000 in Equity funding is recommended. The unspent funds were moved to augment funding in the IDEA grant program as approved by the Arts Commission at their meeting of April 22, 2020.

CONCLUSION

Two applications, or 50% of applicants are recommended for funding for the full amount of their request. Two other applications are not recommended for funding due to insufficient information provided in their applications.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Arts Commission approve \$9,000 in March 2020 Equity Grant recommendations as presented.



James Lam, Manager
CRD Arts & Culture Support Service

ATTACHMENTS

Summary Pages

2020 March EQUITY Recommendations

		Request	Revenue Cash & Inkind	Revenue cash only	Grant Recm.d
Sponsor Society	Broken Rhythms Victoria	5,000	6,450	5,000	0
Community	persons with disabilities, mental illness, LGBTQ2				
Project Lead	Cuffe				
Event Location	Victoria, Oak Bay				
Sponsor Society	Community Micro-Lending	4,000	6,360	5,660	4,000
Community	LGBTQ2+, physical disability, mental illness				
Project Lead	Shrumm				
Event Location	Victoria				
Sponsor Society	Ptarmigan Art Society	5,000	5,600	5,000	5,000
Community	Indigenous, LGBTQ2				
Project Lead	Aitken				
Event Location	SGI				
Sponsor Society	Sooke Arts Council	5,000	16,150	16,150	0
Community	Low-income senior				
Project Lead	Brooke				
Event Location	Sooke				
Total		19,000	34,560	31,810	9,000

2020 March Equity Recommendation Summary

Society/Sponsor Broken Rhythms Victoria Society
Project Lead Joanne Cuffe
Community persons with disabilities, mental illness,
Project Staging Accessibility: A Performing Arts Physical
Proj. Start Date June 15, 2020
Event takes place in Various

Previous Project Lead Funding:
2018, \$5000

Request	Total Rev. Cash & Inkind	Req. as % of Total Rev.	Rev. Cash Only	Req. as % Cash	Grant
5,000	6,450	78%	5,000	100%	0

Project Lead(s)

The InterdepenDance Collective, a group of dance artists who experience disability, mental health challenges, and other barriers in the arts in the CRD; Joanne Cuffe (project coordinator); Broken Rhythms Dance and Dyana Sonik-Henderson (project administrator);

The InterdepenDance Collective is passionate about access, equity and disability leadership in the arts in the CRD. We are a peer group of artists who are active in cross-disability and interabled dance in the ancestral land of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We experience disability in relation to physical, mobility, sensory, neurological, cognitive, mental health, and learning capabilities. Recent events that we have organized are an Integrated Dance Forum and film event to raise local awareness of mixed-ability dance, and workshops on inclusive choreography and cross-disability dance with visiting teachers.

Broken Rhythms is a Victoria-based, registered not-for-profit dance company founded in 2011 under the artistic direction of Dyana Sonik-Henderson. Broken Rhythms works with many local companies and schools to create original works, accessible art and a vibrant community. Joanne Cuffe is a dance artist and event organizer who facilitates programs and projects full time and has invisible disabilities. They lead all abilities dance programs in the homelands of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples, with 200 dancers in the CRD. Joanne has trained in dance for 25+ years, has a Master's of Education in community leadership, is a professional member of the Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists – West Chapter, and has been co-facilitating collective projects for 22 years.

Project Description

We are wondering where in Victoria in Lkwungen Homelands, is it possible for our dance collective to: actually get into the building
get on stage and have space to move around,
use a washroom backstage,
have at least 10 friends who are wheelchair users be in the audience and have access to a gender-inclusive audience washroom?

Main activities:

- 1) June-December 2020: research and create resources
 - a) a collaborative document for artists about local stages and performance venues' physical access basics;
 - b) a report for arts organizations and local governments with examples of barrier-free stages and accessible venues in other cities.
- 2) March 2021: go "on tour" to the local stages that InterdepenDance artists are most excited about
 - a) invite venues to provide the collective with a tour of their venue,
 - b) followed by an hour on stage with lighting (if we can actually get on stage), for the group to have a dance photoshoot.
3. April 2021: host a celebration for International Dance Day:

2020 March Equity Recommendation Summary

- a) share what has been learned,
 - b) and hold a dance party, with social distance, at a venue that is a viable option for future InterdepenDance Collective performances.
4. May-June 2021: Create a photo installation of the tour, and have the photos go on tour to arts organizations, including to locations that are not physically accessible.

Comments on the recommendation

The assessment of this proposal was below the satisfactory level. The information contained in it provided insufficient detail to determine the focus of the project and the expected outcomes. Greater clarity was required to distinguish it from a simple accessibility audit that would be documented photographically.

2020 March Equity Recommendation Summary

Society/Sponsor **Community Micro-Lending**
Project Lead Regan Shrumm
Community LGBTQ2+, physical disability, mental
Project Chronically Queer Embroidery Workshops
Proj. Start Date June 2020
Event takes place in Victoria

Previous Project Lead Funding:

New

Request	Total Rev. Cash & Inkind	Req. as % of Total Rev.	Rev. Cash Only	Req. as % Cash	Grant
4,000	6,360	63%	5,660	71%	4,000

Project Lead(s)

Chronically Queer Embroidery Workshops will be a series of open studio workshops focusing on bringing individuals from the LGBTQ2+ and/or disabled communities.

Regan Shrumm will be the artist teaching the workshops. Shrumm is a queer and disabled artist, who has been embroidering since she was ten years old. She has had the opportunity to teach embroidery through the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria and through the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre, but has also facilitated other artistic workshops through Open Space, the Salt Spring Arts Council, the University of Victoria, and the Museum of Northwest Art in Washington State. She has been a part of the online Victoria-based group, Queer Stitch-Craft for the past year, which creates a community network to promote embroidery and other textile arts amongst queer artists.

The Chronically Queer Embroidery Workshops will begin in conjunction with Shrumm's first solo exhibition at the fifty-fifty arts collective, Trade Show. This social practice exhibition focuses on DIY, queer, and non-capitalist ways of sharing. Trade Show will start with a series of Shrumm's artworks, mostly embroidered textiles on display. Visitors to the gallery can take home as many of these items that they would like, but they need to leave something they feel is of the same value to what they took. By at first holding the workshops in relation to the exhibition, Shrumm hopes to inspire artists in the LGBTQ2+ and disabled communities to think through entrepreneurial ways of displaying and selling their art.

If COVID-19 is still underway, Shrumm can also complete the workshops via the video conferencing Zoom.

Project Description

Chronically Queer Embroidery Workshops will focus on teaching embroidery skills to those identifying from the LGBTQ2+ and/or disabled community. Shrumm will build in lesson plans to teach both basic and advance stitches and create projects such as badges, adding embellishments to clothing, and combining painting with embroidery. During the workshops, participants will have access to free embroidery supplies so that for those who already know how to embroider, they can use the time to be creative, meet other artists, and collaborate on group projects. The workshops will be held twice a month for four months. If the workshops prove to be popular, Shrumm will look for other streams of revenue to continue the workshops into the fall and winter.

Textiles in general have had a long history as a particularly queer artistic medium due to its campness, subculture, and the association of a feminine culture. There has been a more recent revival of queer embroidery due to artists such as Mary Tremonte and Oliva Mew. Both of these artists are reclaiming and reimagine embroidery in its relationship to gender as well as thinking through general power connotation. Tremonte, Mew, and hundreds of other queer artists are particularly using embroidery to express their disabilities. While this type of exploration of queerness and disability is occurring in isolation in Victoria, it would be impactful if the individuals connected into a group.

Chronically Queer Embroidery Workshops will be as accessible as possible to support individuals from the LGBTQ2+ and/or disabled communities. This includes:

- Free embroidery materials
- Providing bus tickets (can be mailed in advance)
- Providing light snacks and refreshments that are nut-free, gluten-free, and vegetarian
- ASL interpreters and other language interpreters (if requested at least two weeks in advance)
- Transcribers (if requested at least two weeks in advance)

2020 March Equity Recommendation Summary

- Large print instructions
 - Scent-reduced space
 - street level accessibility
 - Gender-neutral bathrooms that include a chair lift and baby changing area
- I can also complete the workshops via Zoom to include the accessibility features of:
- Captioning
 - Transcription
 - ASL interpreters and other language interpreters
 - Mailing out art supplies to participants for each workshop

Because accessibility accommodations can be expensive, they are often not done in the Victoria-based arts programming. By having the CRD's financial support through an Equity grant, accessibility will be the number one priority for these workshops.

Comments on the recommendation

This application received the highest score of all applications received. The information was clear, the project description is focused, and there were strong links established to the target communities as well as a historical context that form the basis of the activities. There is some question about how many participants can be managed but this will depend on the level of disability on the part of participants.

2020 March Equity Recommendation Summary

Society/Sponsor Ptarmigan Art Society

Project Lead John Aitken

Community Indigenous, LGBTQ2

Project Walking Art Installation

Proj. Start Date Aug 1, 2020

Event takes place in Southern Gulf Islands

Previous Project Lead Funding:

2018, \$0; 2019, \$5000

Request	Total Rev. Cash & Inkind	Req. as % of Total Rev.	Rev. Cash Only	Req. as % Cash	Grant
5,000	5,600	89%	5,000	100%	5,000

Project Lead(s)

My name is John Aitken and I am the creator of the concept and the project lead for an art installation and community dialogue work titled "Walking Art Installation" I am also the organizer for the Southern Gulf Island's ReDress (red dress) Events. I am an actor, carver, filmmaker, photographer, and educator, and identify as a two-spirit, Indigenous person with mixed ancestry of Coast Salish, Haida and Scottish lineage. I have been living in and working with the Mayne Island community for 15 years and grew up on Mayne Island. I moved away when I was eighteen years old.

The communities who will be directly impacted by this project are, Mayne Island, Pender Island and Galiano Island.

Project Description

This project is a continuation of the Southern Gulf Islands ReDress project, inspired by Manitoba Metis Artist Jaime Black which John has been following since 2015. The Southern Gulf Islands Red Dress Events was begun as a way to heighten awareness on the disproportionate number of Indigenous women, girls, trans and two-spirit individuals that go missing or have been killed across Canada. ReDress refers both to the Red dresses hung as a nonconfrontational way of raising awareness of the issue and a subtle play on words bringing the idea of redressing the issues and effects of colonialism on members of the Indigenous communities in Canada.

"Walking Art Installation" refers to the concept of John Aitken walking to pre-booked venues on Mayne, Pender and Galiano Islands in October of 2020. During these walks, John will hang red dresses which he will have collected prior to the projects start date and will carry with him in a backpack. An invitation will be sent out in advance of the walk to interested community members to join him on the walk. They will be invited to bring their own dresses and they will assist him with the hanging of the dresses. A discussion (walk and talk) will be a natural part of this portion of the project. When John arrives at the destination, he will screen the film he created in 2019, "Washed up!". This viewing will act as a provocation piece to continue the conversation begun during the walk. The discussion will be carried out in a "talking circle" and will have a focus of the "why?". Why do so many go missing and are murdered from this specific marginalized group in Canada? One of the outcomes of this discussion is the exploration of what actions we can take to decrease these numbers.

Comments on the recommendation

This application was assessed to be above the satisfactory level. Its score reflects a sufficient level of clarity and detail to understand the project and its intended impacts and outcomes. The project has a strong and relevant message that is connected to the local community, has a history of success and has the backing of a respected local arts organization.

2020 March Equity Recommendation Summary

Society/Sponsor **Sooke Arts Council**
Project Lead Mary Brooke
Community Low-income senior
Project Art Book - lives changed by art; viewers and
Proj. Start Date June 15, 2020
Event takes place in Sooke

Previous Project Lead Funding:

New

Request	Total Rev. Cash & Inkind	Req. as % of Total Rev.	Rev. Cash Only	Req. as % Cash	Grant
5,000	16,150	31%	16,150	31%	0

Project Lead(s)

Lead: Mary Brooke – writer/photographer/publisher. Key personnel: Mary, and Chelsea Kirkpatrick age 22 who is a photojournalist in Sooke. Identified communities: artists themselves, senior women who supplement income through their artistic works.

Project Description

Creation of a new book about how art affects both artist and viewer, and how that builds an unseen but palpable relationship between the two. Content to developed by way of interviews and photo-visits with artists around the Sooke region, and an online survey of west coast residents who have been impacted by viewing/experiencing art. Support for some research costs, but mostly printing/digitizing of the book and associated online/website costs.

Comments on the recommendation

This application was the lowest ranked proposal. It's score fell below the 50% level making it difficult to support for lack of clarity and specific information about purpose and impact. Especially unclear was why the creation of this book would have such a particular importance for the local community and why it was needed.

REPORT TO THE ARTS COMMISSION MEETING OF TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2020

SUBJECT **March 2020 Incubator Grant Recommendations**

ISSUE SUMMARY

The March 2020 Incubator Grant recommendations are presented for Arts Commission review and approval.

BACKGROUND

March 2020 was the third year extension of the Incubator Grant two-year pilot. Incubator Grants are intended to enhance sustainability and resiliency in the arts by funding short-term staffing, mentoring, workspace, training or other resources that assist in the acceleration of organizational development or, in the development of new arts projects. They are aimed at emerging or established organizations with an arts mandate.

Total requests were \$10,000 on budgets totaling \$29,000. The same jury, comprised of two Arts Advisory Council members and a member from the arts community, assessed both Equity and Incubator Grants. The Incubator Grant program received two applications. This compares to two applications in the first year, and four in the second.

The jurors assessed each of the Incubator applications using a scoring matrix that reflected the desired outcomes of the program related to:

- The thoroughness of the project description
- Key personnel
- The development of capacity within the organization as a result of the project
- Skills or development for personnel
- The creation of partnerships
- Impacts for the art form and the community
- The clarity of the proposed budget

Jurors' scores are compiled and averaged resulting in a comparative assessment of each organization's proposal. "Outlier" scores were reconciled each application was discussed to ensure its final score was an accurate reflection of the information provided. The jury's recommendations were then considered by the Arts Advisory Council in a plenary discussion following which they were ratified for the consideration of the Arts Commission.

Both applications were recommended for funding having provided clear information in support of developmental initiatives that will fulfill the intent of the program.

See attached summary pages for specific comments on each application.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Arts Commission approve \$10,000 in March 2020 Incubator Grant recommendations as presented.

Alternative 2

The Arts Commission revise and approve the March 2020 Incubator Grant recommendations.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

\$25,000 was available for Incubator Grants. A total of \$10,000 in Incubator funding is recommended. The unspent funds were reallocated to augment funding in the IDEA grant program as approved by the Arts Commission at their meeting of April 22, 2020.

CONCLUSIONS

Both applications received are recommended for funding at the full amount of their request.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Arts Commission approve \$10,000 in March 2020 Incubator Grant recommendations as presented.



James Lam, Manager
CRD Arts & Culture Support Service

ATTACHMENTS

Summary Pages

2020 March INCUBATOR Recommendations

			Request	Revenue Cash & In kind	Cash Only Revenue	Grant Recmd
Saanich	Space Blanket Society	New	5,000	36,500	24,000	5,000
Saanich	Starry Starry Skies	New	5,000	7,000	5,500	5,000

Total	10,000	43,500	29,500	10,000
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March 2020 Incubator Recommendation Summary

Space Blanket Society

Org. Location Saanich

Project Title Space Blanket Society Workspace Access Development

Proj. Start Date Sept 2020

Event Location Victoria

Previous Funding

New

Request	Total Rev. cash & inkind	Req. as % of Total Rev.	Rev. Cash Only	Req. as % of Cash	Grant
5,000	36,500	14%	24,000	21%	5,000

Who is Leading the Project

The Space Blanket Society (Board of Directors: Kathryn Calder, Musician and Victoria's Artist in Residence; Emily Goodden, Artist and Educator; and Doug Jarvis, Artist, Curator, Administrator, and Sessional Instructor) will be working as an in-kind volunteer board to mentor youth (aged 14 - 24) through the process of establishing and maintaining a youth-led/artist-run collective in downtown Victoria. With the society's support, youth members will be assisted in developing a sustainable working model of an arts space for youth to meet, make, curate, exhibit, and perform.

Project Description

We are seeking start-up funding to obtain a centralized workspace in downtown Victoria. This workspace will be a gathering place for creative youth to develop arts programming and to initiate community art activities. Grant money will be allocated to paying for rent so that we have a space to grow our operations, fundraise, and begin outreach activities.

Comments on Recommendation

New applicant. The application scored above the satisfactory level providing a good description of the intended project and plan which focussed on a youth-directed artist-run centre. As a start up there is some uncertainty around sustainability however this was considered to be an inherent risk with the program. There is a significant level of confirmed in-kind support for materials, equipment and mentorship, with CRD funding providing 21% of cash support.

March 2020 Incubator Recommendation Summary

Starry Starry Skies

Org. Location Saanich

Project Title Tragic Animal Stories

Previous Funding

New

Proj. Start Date Fall 2020

Event Location Oak Bay

Request	Total Rev. cash & inkind	Req. as % of Total Rev.	Rev. Cash Only	Req. as % of Cash	Grant
5,000	7,000	71%	5,500	91%	5,000

Who is Leading the Project

Starry Starry Skies was founded in 2015. In the past four years, we have presented six productions and two (now annual) showcases of original works. Our original works often tell the stories of those on the margins of society. We create stories we feel are worth sharing.

Our website offers professionals a chance to submit to be part of each project we do. This has led to some discoveries of talent we would have not otherwise made, and offered emerging creators a chance to work on a professional production.

Project Description

Starry Starry Skies seeks support for mentorship with Theatre SKAM. This project formalizes ad hoc mentorship that has taken place between the two leaders of each company. We seek to bring the core members of Starry Starry Skies together with Theatre SKAM core staff. As well, our members will work alongside project staff, both artistic and administrative, as Theatre SKAM realizes a workshop production of a new professional musical, Tragic Animal Stories.

Five artists from our company will work part-time for a period of three months in the planning of the project, and then for one week full-time for the execution of the workshop.

The project builds upon the existing relationship between our companies, providing continued mentorship for our core team, while propelling the careers of our administrators and artists. The project generates employment opportunities for our company members who will participate in the planning of rehearsals, scheduling of production work, and the collective creation of a new musical.

Tragic Animal Stories tells the story of Cowguy, whose sense of isolation and his overwhelming need for love and acceptance come from a sense of being an outcast because of his mixed lineage. He belongs both to the human race and to the animal kingdom, yet neither group really knows how to accept him. Until he meets Fishman. This play explores the impossibility of inter-species love in all its surreal, absurd and moving glory. Love, and our ideas and projections surrounding those we love, can carry us through many things, but ultimately reality will set in and point out the impossible.

Comments on Recommendation

New applicant. This application scored above the satisfactory level and provided sufficient information to provide a clear understanding of the project and intended outcomes. There is a strong mentoring from an experienced company as well as a history of success with previous productions. The project lead has a strong background and the proposal will pay emerging artists.

**REPORT TO THE ARTS COMMISSION
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020**

SUBJECT **March 2020 IDEA Grant Recommendations**

ISSUE SUMMARY

The March 2020 IDEA (Innovate, Develop, Experiment, Access) Grant recommendations are presented for Arts Commission review and approval.

BACKGROUND

The IDEA Grant program supports and encourages initiatives in the arts by non-arts mandated organizations (all other Arts Service programs are focused on organizations with arts as the central purpose). Eighteen applications were received at the March deadline and were assessed by a jury that met via videoconference.

A four member jury of Arts Advisory Council members assessed 18 applications. Thirteen applicants were returning applicants, twelve of which had received previous funding. Five applicants were new to the program. Final Reports from previously funded projects were reviewed where applicable.

A total of \$53,000 in requests was received on cash budgets totaling \$403,605. The budget for IDEA grants was \$30,000 however unspent funds from the Equity and Incubator programs were reallocated for use if necessary.

The jury assessed each of the applications using a scoring matrix that reflected the desired outcomes of the program related to:

- The thoroughness of the project description
- An understanding of how the need for the project was determined
- Key personnel
- Fulfillment of one or more of the goals of the IDEA program
- Knowledge of the target audience
- The clarity of the proposed budget

Jurors' scores are compiled and averaged resulting in a comparative assessment of each organization's proposal. "Outlier" scores were reconciled each application was discussed to ensure its final score was an accurate reflection of the information provided. The jury's recommendations were then considered by the Arts Advisory Council in a plenary discussion following which they were ratified for the consideration of the Arts Commission.

Thirteen applications that scored at or above the satisfactory level are recommended for funding. Five applications scored below the 50% level and are not recommended for support.

An application receiving a score of less than 50% is difficult to support. It broadly reflects an application that has failed to provide sufficient and clear information on what is being proposed

and the activities that will take place making it difficult to determine if the project will achieve the intended goals of the program.

See attached summary pages for each application for specific comments.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Arts Commission approve \$38,000 in 2020 March IDEA Grant recommendations as presented.

Alternative 2

The Arts Commission revise and approve the March 2020 Equity Grant recommendations.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

A total of \$53,000 in requests was received for proposals with cash budgets totaling \$403,605. The Advisory Council recommends total funding of \$38,000 to 13 organizations. This would fully allocate the 2020 IDEA Grant budget in addition to \$8000 reallocated from unspent funds from the Incubator program.

CONCLUSION

Thirteen applications, or 72% of applicants are recommended for funding for the full amount of their request. Five applicants are not recommended for funding due to less than complete information in their applications.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Arts Commission approve \$38,000 in 2020 March IDEA Grant recommendations as presented.



James Lam, Manager
CRD Arts & Culture Support Service

ATTACHMENTS

Summary Pages



Making a difference...together

March 2020 IDEA Recommendations				REQUEST	Revenue (cash & inkind)	Revenue cash only	GRANT Rec'd
Sooke	Amber Academy Youth Fine Arts			\$3,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$3,000
Victoria	Burnside Gorge Community Assn.	New		\$3,000	\$4,665	\$3,000	\$3,000
Victoria	Congregation Emanu-El			\$3,000	\$65,482	\$63,850	\$3,000
Victoria	Creatively United for the Planet Society			\$3,000	\$15,700	\$15,700	\$0
Esquimalt	Esquimalt Farmers Market Society	New		\$3,000	\$14,815	\$10,504	\$3,000
Victoria	Friends of Bowker Creek Society			\$3,000	\$7,900	\$6,000	\$3,000
Victoria	Friends of Music Society			\$3,000	\$4,020	\$3,300	\$0
Sooke	Harmony Project Sooke			\$3,000	\$77,000	\$77,000	\$3,000
Esquimalt	Inclusive Leadership Co-operative	New		\$3,000	\$4,050	\$3,200	\$0
Victoria	Inter-Cultural Assn of Greater Victoria			\$3,000	\$53,600	\$53,600	\$0
Saanich	Jewish Community Centre of Victoria			\$3,000	\$46,410	\$36,350	\$3,000
Victoria	Pacific Peoples' Partnership Assn			\$3,000	\$114,300	\$75,000	\$3,000
Victoria	ProArt Alliance	New		\$3,000	\$3,300	\$3,000	\$0
SGI	Salish Sea Inter-Island Transportation			\$3,000	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$3,000
Victoria	Victoria Brain Injury Society			\$2,000	\$5,932	\$5,332	\$2,000
Vic/Saanich	Victoria Hospice Society			\$3,000	\$9,500	\$9,500	\$3,000
Victoria	Victoria Society for Blind Arts	New		\$3,000	\$7,900	\$3,200	\$3,000
Victoria	Victoria Women's Transition House			\$3,000	\$19,569	\$16,069	\$3,000
Totals:				\$53,000	\$473,143	\$403,605	\$38,000

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Amber Academy Youth Fine Arts

Municipality Sooke
Project Theatre Classes for Teens
Proj. start date Sep 1, 2020
Project location Sooke

Previous Funding:

Mar 2019 \$0

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$5,000	60.0	5,000	60.0	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

Our mission is to empower youth in grades K-12 through artistic education, collaboration and expression, and through volunteerism and community service. By engaging youth in pro-social activities focused on the fine arts we aim to encourage positive youth development that may aid in the prevention of high-risk problem behaviours and help young people become strong, confident individuals.

Project description

Amber Academy encourages positive youth development by engaging students in pro-social activities through a variety of artistic avenues. Classes include acting, choir, costumes & fashion design, and technical theatre, as well as visual arts such as painting, sculpting, and more. Since launching our after-school program in September 2017 more than 250 students have participated in our classes. However, only a handful of kids beyond grade 8 have participated in our program.

After speaking with our older students and other teens in our community, we have heard from the youth that kids in this particular age are more likely to attend weekend program activities over after-school weekday activities because of homework and school-related commitments during the week.

We are requesting funding to allow us to expand our current program to include a weekend theatre class specifically for students in grades 8 and up. We have already spoken with our active students who are currently in grades 7 & 8 to gauge their interest in our idea and we have received very positive feedback. Currently, these students attend acting classes with students in grades 6+. The teens we spoke with were very excited about the idea of having a program of their own and feel strongly that a class specifically for teens would draw a number of other kids who enjoy acting but don't want to attend classes with younger children.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application scored above the satisfactory level providing clear information on the purpose and impact of the proposed activities on its target audience. The successful implementation of the project assumes the resumption of school in the fall of 2020.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Burnside Gorge Community Assn.

Municipality Victoria
Project All Abilities Dance
Proj. start date Oct 1, 2020
Project location Victoria

Previous Funding:

New

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$4,665	64.3	3,000	100.0	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

The purpose of the Burnside Gorge Community Association is to lead, promote and support initiatives which encourage healthy, inclusive, and socially just living. This is accomplished through:

- Engaging with our communities concerning issues and developments important to community members and businesses
 - Providing a continuum of high quality programs and supports that strengthen the lives of children, youth and families in Greater Victoria
 - Establishing, promoting and operating facilities that provide public amenities to benefit the community
 - Cultivating community connections and a sense of pride through neighbourhood celebrations and initiatives
 - Advocating in the best interest of community members and businesses
 - Fostering work place practices that support employees and strengthen our efforts to be a model employer
- Supporting the provision of housing for low and moderate income households

Project description

All Abilities Dance creates an opportunity for community members of diverse abilities and identities to come together to connect, collaborate, and celebrate movement and physical expression. In order to make this program accessible to those with diverse abilities, All Abilities Dance will also incorporate sign language interpretation as well as verbal descriptions to support those with visual or hearing challenges.

Held over eight sessions, participants will explore inclusive dance concepts and group improvisation while delving into different approaches to creating dance as an ensemble. The program is geared towards adults (ages 18 to 90+) of all abilities, disabilities, backgrounds, genders, and levels of experience with dance.

The Burnside Gorge Community Association has a strong reputation for providing innovative and accessible programming to meet community need. There are currently no accessible dance programs available in the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood or the surrounding areas. BGCA also provides a continuum of programming for all ages and stages of life. Many of the people served through BGCA face barriers related to finances as well as physical and/or mental health. There is a need for programs that help to instill a sense of inclusion and connectedness within the community.

Comments on the Recommendation

This new applicant scored well above the satisfactory level. It provided clear information on the purpose and impact of the proposed activities on its target audience, demonstrated a high level of demographic inclusivity reflective of the neighbourhood context, and provided an alternate implementation should COVID19 remain an issue at the project's commencement in the fall of 2020.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Congregation Emanu-El

Municipality Victoria
Project The Survivors Project
Proj. start date Oct 19, 2020
Project location Various

Previous Funding:

May 2012, \$1500; May 2014, \$2000; May 2015, \$1200, May 2016, \$1000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$65,482	4.6	63,850	4.7	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

The Congregation Emanu-El of Victoria, Vancouver Island" came into being in 1862; members purchased the present site of the synagogue just after that. The cornerstone-laying ceremony took place June 2, 1863. This was a gala celebration and was attended by the mayor, town council, Chief Justice, the Freemasons, Hebrew Benevolent, French Benevolent and St. Andrews Societies, bands and choirs. The synagogue today is the oldest house of worship in British Columbia, and the oldest synagogue in continuous use in Canada.

Since its founding the has been committed to uniting the Jewish community and the larger community in Victoria. It has a strong tradition of education not only for the members of the congregation but also to educating the great population to the stories from Jewish history and traditions. Bema production has been an active part of this interaction since its founding in 2014 bring theatrical production to Victoria audiences with a Jewish perspective and often addresses issues relevant to the experiences of the Jewish community which often speak to larger global issue such as Racism, Hate Crimes, 'otherness', and social justice.

Project description

Survivors is a Pilot Project to bring a professional theatrical performance about the experience of Jewish Youth during the Holocaust for Middle and High Schools in the Greater Victoria region. Directed by Zelda Dean the show will feature local theatre professionals including actors, creative team and administration. Survivors would be presented in the fall of 2020 with up to 10 shows at schools predominantly in the CRD municipalities.

Inspired by the Lives and Words of Ten Holocaust Survivors it is a cautionary tale about the risks of normalized hate. This inspirational and uplifting play ensures that the voices of Survivors will never be silenced. Zelda, director and founder of Bema Productions began working to bring this play to local schools. After meeting with Minister of Education Rob Fleming to endorse the project, it was apparent that this is an important project not only for Artistic elements but also for the social and educational content so needed during times of rising hate-crimes around the world and across our digital landscape. Live theatre provides valuable experiences in empathy and an understanding of history within a larger context.

There are few Professional theatre companies bringing this demographic programming especially created locally. Also, through the interaction with the Ministry of Education, it is clear that the topic of the Holocaust has limited Arts-based content available to schools. This Pilot would offer this play and content at no cost to audiences.

Survivors would test the feasibility of future touring programs for this age group regionally and possibly provincially. Zelda and Bema working with oversight and guidance from Congregation Emanu-El Synagogue is the only local or provincial organization presenting theatre with strong ties to the Jewish Community that can offer this content in a culturally respectful and safe context.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application was the highest scoring application It will develop a new theatrical presentation focused on youth both as subject matter and audience. The need for the project was well described and the organization has a track record of successful production and presentation. It provided clear information on the purpose and impact of the proposed activities on its target audience.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Creatively United for the Planet Society

Municipality Victoria
Project Climate and the Arts
Proj. start date Nov 22, 2020
Project location CRD

Previous Funding:

March 2012, \$1500; Feb 2013, \$2000; Feb 2014, \$1500

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$15,700	19.1	15,700	19.1	\$0

Organization Mandate:

1. To use Creative Arts to inspire, promote and affect environmental awareness; and to build community through creativity, ie: organizing, sponsoring and/or promoting festivals, community arts events, education workshops and campaigns.
2. To use Creative Arts to bring together and collaborate with social and environmental-based organizations and groups to strengthen their community support and exposure to ensure the protection and preservation of life on the planet.
3. To organize and/or be involved in events and projects that promote the preservation of healthy environments.
4. To use Creative Arts to educate and encourage the public to be more conscientious and aware of their lifestyle choices and their impacts on the environment and to promote and encourage sustainable ways of living.
5. To use Creative Arts to educate and encourage the business sector, corporations and all levels of government to make more sustainable choices in their daily business practices.
6. To use Creative Arts to increase public awareness of environmental and social non-governmental organizations
7. To be an example of a sustainable organization, ie: to recycle; to use recycled and post-consumer products; to compost; to use energy-efficient methods of transportation and communication.

Project description

We are living in a time unlike any other. The COVID 19 pandemic is fundamentally changing how communities will adapt to a global health threat. Climate change is also a health crisis due to increased contamination of air and waters; spread of disease driven by the changing climate; potential clashes between closing borders and the need for people to migrate to safer havens. We are living through the early stages of climate change. This pandemic is teaching us the vital importance of early actions to mitigate its potential impacts on our health, social and economic systems.

In times of crises, public policy must be driven by science and evidence. Scientists are telling us that we have both to reduce our carbon footprints and adapt to changing climates by designing more resilient ecosystems. Actions to control future pandemics are identical to lowering our carbon footprints: less travel; more working from home; more use of local goods and services; more compassion and a greater sense of community. We need to start considering how we adapt on a personal, emotional and spiritual level.

We plan to align performances in the creative arts with telling stories of how audiences can change their behaviour to live healthy, meaningful, and even joyful lives with a lighter carbon footprint. We will encourage our audiences to consider making pledges to continue the new ways of living learnt as a result of the pandemic that align with climate change.

We will do so through a series of special performances, starting Nov. 22, 2020 in partnership with the Victoria Philharmonic Choir and professional orchestra presenting Handel's *Dixit Dominus*. We will be working with three teenage students who are currently being trained to present educational and inspirational stories during the performance.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application scored well below the 50% level in overall assessment. The application did not provide sufficient information enabled the jurors to fully understand the connection between the primary activities and the anticipated outcomes.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Esquimalt Farmers Market Society

Municipality Esquimalt
Project Music at the market
Proj. start date Jun 4, 2020
Project location Esquimalt

Previous Funding:

New

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$14,815	20.2	10,504	28.6	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

The purposes of the Esquimalt Farmers Market Society are to:

- a) carry on a farmers market in the Township of Esquimalt
- b) promote access to local, healthy food
- c) promote a sustainable local community
- d) stimulate and support the local economy

Project description

The Esquimalt Farmers Market Society is requesting support to provide live music at the market for the 2020 season. More than just a marketplace, we believe in building connections that create a sense of community through partnerships, collaborations, and building relationships with the community. We've found providing music at our markets directly correlates with the amount of time community members enjoy each market. This helps support local musician exposure, increases revenue for market vendors, and creates accessible live concerts for young families.

Comments on the Recommendation

New applicant. This application was assessed as being at the satisfactory level and provided sufficient information to fully understand the project. The description provided a good format for musical presentations. The application could have been stronger if the roster of artists had been provided however it is expected that an appropriate selection can be accomplished by the organizers of the event.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Friends of Bowker Creek Society

Municipality Victoria
Project Creekside Concerts
Proj. start date Jun 12, 2020
Project location Saanich, Oak Bay

Previous Funding:

Mar 2019, \$3000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$7,900	38.0	6,000	50.0	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

To support the restoration and enhancement of Bowker Creek and its watershed to a healthy state, guided by the vision and goals of the Bowker Creek Blueprint.

Project description

The project features a series of three Creekside Concerts, which will take place in various public spaces along Bowker Creek. The creek begins on the campus of the University of Victoria and runs through eleven different neighbourhoods and three CRD municipalities before emptying into the Salish Sea. Each concert will be free and open to the public and will feature performances by a local poet and musicians (amplified by a bicycle-powered sound system) as well as interactive visual art activities that attendees of all ages can participate in. This year we will host the concerts in different public spaces from last year, with one concert taking place in Oak Bay and two in Saanich.

After producing a very successful Creekside Concerts series during the summer of 2019, we are excited to continue to address the major lack of awareness that most residents of the CRD have of Bowker Creek. More than 60% of the waterway is covered over and many of the segments that are above ground are fenced off and hidden from view. We have found that music, poetry and visual art are excellent tools for bringing Bowker Creek into the consciousness of those who have never noticed it, and also to create an expanded awareness of the watershed in people who do know about it.

We received a large amount of positive feedback from residents who attended the series in 2019 and the warm reception that we experienced reinforced that using the arts to pursue our mandate and to reach a new and wider audience is an effective strategy.

We are excited that Brianna Bear from Songhees Nation has expressed interest in attending the series this year to welcome attendees to Lekwungen Territory and to share about Lekwungen people's relationship to the land and water.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application was one of the highest scoring proposals. Its purpose was well defined and its geographic scope spans two municipalities which is expected to attract audience from across the region.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Friends of Music Society

Municipality Victoria
Project World-Wide Music Traditions
Proj. start date Jul 1, 2020
Project location Victoria

Previous Funding:

May 2012, \$1500; Feb 2013, \$2000; Feb 2015, \$2000; May 2016, \$2000; March 2019, \$3000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$4,020	74.6	3,300	90.9	\$0

Organization Mandate:

We provide musical opportunities for people recovering from mental illness or addictions. We are inclusive and welcome anyone from the community who would like to make music in support of mental health.

Project description

FOM Music Society wants to present a weekly program called World-Wide Music Traditions. We would seek out musicians from various ethnic communities, to present their music traditions, in partnership with our current instructor. Mental Illness does not discriminate. By reaching out, through music, more communities, we be helping more people know about the benefits of Friends of Music. Since all activities take place in EMP, just down the hall from "Victoria Mental Health", the new participants will be introduced to Mental Health Services in Victoria.

Comments on the Recommendation

This organization has been funded previously however this particular application fill below 50% in the overall assessment. The description of the program was vague and implementation unclear.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Harmony Project Sooke

Municipality Sooke
Project Harmony Project Sooke
Proj. start date Sep 1, 2020
Project location Sooke

Previous Funding:

Mar 2019, \$2000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$77,000	3.9	77,000	3.9	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

Harmony Project Sooke's mission is:

- to promote the healthy growth and development of children through the study, practice, and performance of music;
- to build healthier communities by investing in the positive development of children through music; and
- to develop children as musical ambassadors of peace, hope, and understanding among people of diverse cultures, backgrounds, and beliefs.

Harmony Project Sooke provides the following benefits to participating youth:

- music instruction and rehearsals for multiple years;
- musical instruments to take home and use as their own for the duration of their involvement with the Harmony Project; and membership in children's orchestras with rehearsals and performances in their neighbourhoods.

Project description

Harmony Project Society of British Columbia (Harmony Project Sooke) provides out-of-school arts and culture activities in the form of music instruction and performance opportunities for children and youth in the Sooke region; particularly those from underserved families. Modelled after and recognized by the Los Angeles Harmony Project, three professional musicians/music educators from the Sooke Philharmonic Society founded the program after a needs assessment revealed that almost 30% of the Sooke population were living below the poverty line; that many children raised in low-income households had little support for academic achievement; that they lacked the financial resources for private music education; and, that there was a shortage of music programming in Sooke Region schools. Begun in 2016 as one String class and one Drumline class, it expanded to two classes each in 2018. In 2019, in response to community demand, and with the support of the CRD Ideas Grant and other grants, Harmony Project Sooke was able to add a third Strings class and expand the Drumline corps.

Harmony Project Sooke is requesting support for the continuation of the program expansion it began last year. Every student who commits to Strings or Drumline lessons with HPS commits to a minimum of two years of classes. The Board likewise, commits to sustaining students and often, to subsidizing the tuition of students for those two years. The current enrollment is forty-five students, up from thirty-six in 2018: ten in each of three HPS Strings classes and fifteen in the three-level Drumline class.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application was clear in its intent and purpose and provided enough information that its assessment was above the satisfactory level. The music focused project is aimed at underserved children with particular outreach to first Nations and low income. The recommendation of an IDEA grant provides support for a small portion of the overall budget.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Inclusive Leadership Co-operative

Municipality Esquimalt

Project Understanding Inclusive Leadership through Art

Proj. start date Nov 1, 2020

Project location Victoria

Previous Funding:

New

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$4,050	74.1	3,200	93.8	\$0

Organization Mandate:

Vision: Communities transformed by embracing the diversity in all living beings as gifts that enrich our world.

Mission: to bring people from diverse backgrounds together to nurture and mentor Inclusive Leadership development in ourselves, our communities and our world

Project description

Inclusive Leadership Co-operative (ILC) proposes to branch out in their diversity education to include an avenue of learning Inclusive Leadership skills through sharing art experiences and doing art activities in diverse groups. One of our members is affiliated with Threshold Housing Society and spoke to the need for community building among the young adult clients and the foreseeable benefits from having ILC engaged for such a project. In speaking with Rachel Skidmore and Jessica La of the Family Services Institute of BC we recognized that ILC has much to offer their volunteers and clients to discover their Inclusive Leadership potential within their families and communities. As an artist and art educator I have witnessed the unique transformations in community that can be facilitated by creative endeavors. I have also seen personal transformations through art exercises because the creative process is conducive to integrating information and finding personal relevance and emotional meaningfulness of information. Both of these organizations have clients who are vulnerable to discrimination and would greatly benefit from discovering / bolstering their leadership potential.

Comments on the Recommendation

This new applicant scored below the overall 50% level of assessment and did not provide clear information or specific detail for the jurors to understand exactly what the activities were that were being proposed.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Inter-Cultural Assn of Greater Victoria

Municipality Victoria
Project Im:print 2020
Proj. start date Nov 20, 2020
Project location Saanich

Previous Funding:

Mar 2011, \$700; Mar 2019, \$2000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$53,600	5.6	53,600	5.6	\$0

Organization Mandate:

ICA helps individuals and organizations connect across cultures. We provide information, support and tools to help refugees and immigrants reach their goals. By engaging people through networks, education and arts programming we create a welcoming community.

The Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria is a non-profit society which values inclusion and respect within a culturally diverse society. Our broad goals and objectives include the following:

- Encourage sensitivity, appreciation and respect for individuals of all cultures in our changing community
- Assist newcomers to settle in the Greater Victoria area and facilitates their inclusion and full participation
- Advocate for the human rights of people of all cultures, backgrounds, ancestries, ethnicities
- Animate cultural awareness by promoting public multicultural events

Project description

im:print is a multidisciplinary performance that weaves the personal stories of indigenous, settler, immigrant and refugee artists. It features spoken word, dance and songs about the complex journey of our inter-relationship to place and people. ICA will work with both local collectives and solo artists from diverse disciplines to present a poignant performance that utilizes the innovative use of space and lighting, live music, movement, monologues, and poems to engage, "unsettle" and provoke an audience into questioning its own relationship to community and the real implications of diversity, identity and inclusion.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application fell below the 50% level of overall assessment. The jurors felt the information was too general and the application lack specificity about what was being proposed and what the expected outcomes would be.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Jewish Community Centre of Victoria

Municipality Saanich
Project Victoria International Jewish Film Festival
Proj. start date Oct 18, 2020
Project location Victoria

Previous Funding:

May 2015, \$2000; Jan 2016, \$2000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$46,410	6.5	36,350	8.3	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

- to develop, maintain and operate a Jewish Community Centre in the city of Victoria, BC
- to provide a facility for the education of Jewish children and adults
- to provide educational and recreational programming for the surrounding Jewish community and the general public
- to provide and maintain an appropriate facility for a Jewish historical archives
- to provide facilities for Jewish religious observance within the Centre, and;
- to acquire appropriate real property for carrying out the purposes identified in purposes 1 to 5 above and to manage it on a non-profit basis for the benefit of the public.

Project description

The Jewish Community Centre of Victoria has sponsored a Jewish film festival since 2015. The Victoria International Jewish Film Festival (VIJFF) offers unique Jewish-themed movies in Greater Victoria theatres. We plan to screen eight to ten movies over four days in November, 2020. We screen them in Victoria at downtown Vic Theatre venue. The aim of the VIJFF is to enhance the capacity to enjoy films not just as a social event but as a cultural and education expression of universal themes. It aims to encourage a discriminating and intelligent attitude towards films as a medium of education and information.

As well, for the first time, we plan to host a free program launch event in October 2020 in order to show trailers of Jewish film festival choices, honour/highlight the donors and supporters, provide entertainment for families, and promote the film festival.

We see our film festival as an important agent of outreach in order to normalize the presence of the Jewish community in Greater Victoria and to highlight its contributions to the health, (in its broadest sense) arts and culture of the community.

B'Nai Brith Canada's "Annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidences, 2018" found that there was a 126.7% increase in anti-Semitic events(374) in British Columbia in 2018 compared to 2017. These uncertain times, with increased antisemitism throughout the world including Victoria, it is important to mount events that bring our broad Jewish community together for shared and supported experiences. In addition, we welcome the broader community to celebrate creative and independent Jewish-themed films from around the world.

Our VIJFF has proven over the last five years that it fulfills that important need.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application was rated well above the satisfactory level and overall assessment. The purpose of the project was clear and the underlying reasons for its development were backed up by statistics and specific information. The organization has a history of past success backed up by a supportive infrastructure.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Pacific Peoples' Partnership Assn

Municipality Victoria
Project One Wave Gathering 2020
Proj. start date Sep 5, 2020
Project location Victoria, Saanich

Previous Funding:

June 2011, \$1000; May 2012, \$1500; May 2014, \$2000; May 2015, \$2000; May 2016, \$2000; Mar 2019, \$2500

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$114,300	2.6	75,000	4.0	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

Pacific Peoples' Partnership (PPP) continues to build on a long history as Canada's only registered charity focused on supporting the endeavours of Indigenous people of the South Pacific Islands toward peace, social justice, sustainability, and community development. Our approach is to partner with South Pacific and local Indigenous peoples to make connections, support their goals, and educate the public on issues facing Pacific Indigenous peoples. We have worked as a guest on Lekwungen Territories in Victoria, BC for the past 45 years, collaborating with diverse local and international organizations, cultural leaders, artists, and educators on Indigenous knowledge exchanges, educational initiatives, art shows, and festivals.

Project description

One Wave Gathering is a multifaceted, award-winning annual gathering celebrating the arts and cultures of Indigenous peoples of Canada and the South Pacific Islands. Since 2008, One Wave events have served to advance understanding, dialogue, and respect for the cultures, arts, and experiences of Pacific Indigenous peoples. This yearly, multi-week gathering provides a welcoming, accessible, and creative space for our diverse local citizenry to engage with topics relevant to Pacific communities, including ecological stewardship, cultural preservation, and Indigenous rights. Pacific Peoples' Partnership collaborates on the design of this annual series of events with many long-standing local partners, elders, activists, artists, and community leaders. We work closely with local Esquimalt, Songhees, and South Pacific facilitators to guide cultural programming and protocols. Increasing public knowledge of local Indigenous teachings, culture, history, and lands is integral to the project.

Past years have included visual art showings, digital media and film screenings, educational talks, dance, and cultural presentations. One Wave Gathering has grown into an important event for the South Pacific diaspora and for local Indigenous people. Indigenous artists and participants have shared feedback that they love this event and see it as a safe and inspiring program to engage in building understanding, as we showcase and celebrate Pacific and Indigenous arts and cultures. We have fielded inquiries in recent years around organizing a whole bus for Native Friendship Centre members, we hosted a guest visit last year by Maori actress Rena Owens. We centre youth within the programming and are planning an Indigenous youth film element in partnership with MediaNet Flux Gallery.

We are committed to a process of in-depth community consultation that guides all events and programming. For example, we changed the name of our event in 2017 from One Wave Festival to One Wave Gathering as guided by Songhees Elder Skip Dick. He helped to reshape this from "entertainment" to what is now an award-winning Pacific celebration and gathering of friends and cousins. Last year, we also added a cultural ambassador component that we hope to build on this year, where local Indigenous leaders facilitated different spaces during the gathering for cultural sharing and learning opportunities for members of the public. We continue to maintain close contact with local Indigenous advisors and gather testimonials after each One Wave Gathering to ensure relevance, value, and accessibility of activities. We also plan to conduct surveys at this year's event to collect participants' input.

Comments on the Recommendation

This organization has been previously funded for its successful annual event. The projected program and activities are clearly stated. The overall application received a higher than satisfactory assessment. The event is scheduled for September 2020 and the proposal noted the development of alternative plans in the event of ongoing COVID19 issues related to public gatherings.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

ProArt Alliance

Municipality Victoria
Project Online Capital Check-up Conference
Proj. start date Jul 30, 2020
Project location Multiple

Previous Funding:

New

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$3,300	90.9	3,000	100.0	\$0

Organization Mandate:

The ProArt Alliance of Greater Victoria was formed to advance the important role the arts play in the life of our community, and to advocate for public sector support. ProArt believes that, by working in partnership with our legislators and government agencies, we can sustain and build our region's vibrant cultural sector for the benefit of all of our residents and visitors.

Project description

The project is an online regional conference for arts managers of independent performance companies.

The Project Purpose: To convene a meeting of independent arts managers and share strategies for coping with performance making in a time of social distancing. By the time the award is known, we'll be twelve weeks into life with social distancing. Some current data suggests this will not be the halfway point and that society may need to continue distancing for eight months.

What strategies have been developed, how are people finding ways to cope and create, what comes next?

Guest speakers will present a range of creative responses to the pandemic and how arts makers are coping and creating art.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application received an assessment well below the 50% level. It lacked sufficient information for the jurors to determine that it fulfilled one or more of the purposes of the IDEA grant in terms of its artistic objectives. The project, an online regional conference for arts managers to discuss strategies on coping with COVID19, was not seen as a priority for this grant program.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Salish Sea Inter-Island Transportation

Municipality SGI

Project Tour des Iles Presents

Proj. start date Jun 27, 2020

Project location SGI

Previous Funding:

Mar 2019, \$1000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$14,000	21.4	14,000	21.4	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

1. To develop, operate, manage and integrate programs, activities and services that reflect the diversity of local cultural, environmental and artistic expressions through movement and passage between and among all the Southern Gulf islands.
2. To foster, empower and increase education and economic development for the preservation and promotion of Arts, Inter-island Transportation, Culture, Values, History, Heritage and way of life within the Southern Gulf Islands (Salish Sea Area)
3. To engage the community through education, events, services, transportation and support in its use of and promotion of local talent, environmental conveyances and values for the benefit of all Southern Gulf Islands.

The principal way we have achieved this mandate over the past 5 years is to organize and run the annual Tour des Iles Festival www.tourdesiles.ca (Appendix 1)

Project description

As indicated above our Society has hosted the Tour des Iles Festival over the last 5 years. The Festival takes place on Pender, Saturna, Mayne, Galiano and Salt Spring Islands and has involved multiple events over a 3 day weekend. Our society has organized the transportation of people between islands as well as multiple individual events on these islands.

We are proposing a modified format for the 2020 Tour des Iles Festival.

For the 2020 Tour we will support a touring boat(s) that will bring a local dance band to each of the 5 islands over two days. The new format will be called "Tour Des Iles Presents" and we have tentatively contracted with Jack Garton and the Demon Squadron to be the featured performers. They will touch down at appropriate venues on each of the 5 islands for 3-4 hours. Each island will have a local musician opener plus one musician from a different island that will join them with short sets at venues close to the docks. The 2020 Tour Des Iles format will focus on shining a spotlight on Southern Gulf Island Musicians, and provide an avenue to encourage cross-pollination between the island artists. As the boat heads to another island, they will bring one solo artist to the next island to perform. Logistically, we will have one boat to bring the band around for two days, and another smaller one that can bring the roving musicians back home after their show. Jack Garton and Demon Squadron are an upbeat, danceable band, with accordion/trumpet/vocals, drums, bass and guitar. There are a plethora of talented musicians on the Islands who will join the touring group.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application fell slightly below the overall satisfactory rating but still contain sufficient information to understand the purpose and impact of the proposed activities. It was seen as an interesting community variation on dealing with restrictions on public gatherings, bringing artists communities rather than audience coming to performers. Jurors noted that a funding recommendation assumes that public health requirements will be maintained in transporting artists from island to island and in the production of performances.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Victoria Brain Injury Society

Municipality Victoria
Project Forget-Me-Notes CD and Performances
Proj. start date Jul 1, 2020
Project location Victoria

Previous Funding:

May 2015, \$2000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$2,000	\$5,932	33.7	5,332	37.5	\$2000

Organization Mandate:

To support, educate, and advocate for adults with acquired brain injuries and their families; and to increase community awareness about acquired brain injuries.

Project description

Victoria Brain Injury Society has been successfully running a music therapy program. Participants within this program have now formed a band - The Forget-me-notes. The Forget-me-notes would like to take their music to the next level. They wish to write, perform and record their own original works about their brain injuries. This grant would pay for the costs of a trained musical facilitator to help them advance their playing skills as well as some of costs associated with recording their music. CDs would be distributed free of charge at VBIS events in order to promote awareness of brain injury. The band also hopes to play at community events.

Comments on the Recommendation

This application provided enough detail and clarity on purpose and impact to give it a high assessment. The organization has a history of successful programming and has identified qualified personnel to work with the target cohort who will produce new work as well as artistic output for the public.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Victoria Hospice Society

Municipality Vic/Saanich

Project Music Therapy - Bereavement Choir

Proj. start date

Project location Saanich

Previous Funding:

March 2019, \$3000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$9,500	31.6	9,500	31.6	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

Victoria Hospice's mandate is to provide inpatient and community palliative care and bereavement programs and services for individuals and families faced with death, dying and bereavement. We promote the belief that all persons have the right to receive consistent physical, emotional, and spiritual support necessary to maintain individuality and dignity while facing death and bereavement; that those caring for the dying must themselves receive consistent, planned, emotional and spiritual support; and that support for the dying and their families should be provided by a multidisciplinary team of professionals and volunteers.

Project description

Victoria Hospice is seeking support for our 2020-2021 Music Therapy Bereavement Choirs. This program will bring bereaved family members and caregivers of recently deceased persons together to take part in a series of weekly choral sessions, overseen by our trained music therapist, Kirsten Davis. Each choir will take place over eight weeks, with each session lasting for 90 minutes, and will include twenty members per group; funding from the CRD Arts Council would cover a total of four choir periods.

Music therapy has an established evidence base demonstrating its effectiveness in pain management, supporting patient and family psychosocial needs, and improving quality of life. In addition, studies have shown that bringing bereaved people together in a shared activity helps them to bond and find comfort above and beyond their direct therapeutic benefits. This will also offer beneficial continuity for family members and loved ones who have been interacting with Victoria Hospice, and help introduce our bereavement services to bereaved persons who would not have otherwise known that they could seek counselling and support despite not having had a loved one die at our unit.

Victoria Hospice resumed our landmark music therapy program for palliative care patients last year to tremendous success, due in part to the support of a previous CRD IDEA Grant, and this program would serve to expand and provide the benefits of music therapy to a wider Victoria-based audience.

Comments on the Recommendation

This organization received a high assessment. Its project description was clear and the project personnel are qualified.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Victoria Society for Blind Arts

Municipality Victoria
Project VIP Singers Choir Performance
Proj. start date Jul 1, 2020
Project location Victoria

Previous Funding:

New

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$7,900	38.0	3,200	93.8	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

The purpose of the Society (Victoria Society for Blind Arts & Culture) is to facilitate access to, and participation in, arts and cultural activities and events for persons with vision limitations.

To this end, the Society shall serve blind and low vision individuals in the following ways:

- (a) Facilitate access to information about arts and cultural activities and events;
- (b) Promote participation in creative outlets and opportunities; and
- (c) Provide financial assistance for such participation.

Project description

One of the Victoria Society for Blind Arts & Culture (VSBAC) projects is the VIP Singers. This is a choir for blind and vision-impaired participants with an average membership of 10 – 12 members. The choir has 32 practices a year between September and June and gives 5-6 free performances a year. A practice room with piano is provided by the James Bay New Horizons, free of charge. Performance venues have included seniors' facilities such as the Renaissance, Beckley Farm Lodge and Parry Place, and public venues such as the James Bay New Horizons and Skampede.

The VIP Singers' director and pianist are also blind. For the past five years, they have provided their services for free. Unlike community choirs, the director and pianist are not paid as most of the choir members are on very low fixed incomes and could not afford the registration fee normally charged to participants in other choirs. A voluntary nominal drop-in fee (\$1 or \$2) is collected each week, which enables the choir to pay a small honorarium (\$50) to the director and pianist twice a year.

For four years the choir was fortunate to have a sighted member who volunteered her services, acting as the choir Manager. This individual left the choir last spring and since that time the choir has been without a Manager, struggling to fill this role as best it can. Several of the managerial tasks including making and distributing practice recordings to choir members and transporting and setting up of amplification equipment at performances require the Manager to have specific skills and capabilities which none of the remaining choir members possess.

In order to continue providing public performances when requested, the VSBAC is seeking funding to pay the choir director and pianist for 15 practices and 5 performances as well as contract a choir manager for 5 practices and 5 performances to take place during the next 12 months.

Comments on the Recommendation

This was a new application that scored above the satisfactory level. It provided clear information on the purpose and impact of the proposal on its target audience.

IDEA Grants March 2020 - Recommendation Summary

Victoria Women's Transition House

Municipality Victoria
Project Healing through the Arts: Multidisciplinary Arts
Proj. start date Nov 1, 2020
Project location Victoria

Previous Funding:

Feb 2016, \$2000; Mar 2019, \$2000

Request	Total Rev. cash & in kind	Req as % of Total Rev.	Rev. cash only	Req as % of cash	Grant
\$3,000	\$19,569	15.3	16,069	18.7	\$3000

Organization Mandate:

Victoria Women's Transition House collaborates, advocates and educates to address and prevent intimate partner violence and abuse of women and children through supportive shelter, housing, counselling and other community-based services.

Project description

Victoria Women's Transition House (VWTH) would like to support the unique needs of older women survivors of intimate partner violence and abuse through collaborating with multidisciplinary artist Marie Specht, ceramics artist Mary Loria, the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill Recreation and a skilled VWTH older women's counsellor. This innovative project is called Healing Through the Arts: Multidisciplinary Arts and Ceramics for Older Women and will operate in two groups: Group #1 will run once-per-week for eight weeks, October 16, 2020 – December 4, 2021 and will focus on visual arts, journaling and poetry and spoken word sessions. Group #2 will run once-per-week for eight weeks, January 22-March 19, 2021 and will focus on ceramics. All sessions will last for two hours (plus prep and clean-up) and each of the sessions will culminate with a Wrap-Up and Celebration on the final, 8th class. With participants' permission, art will be displayed on-site at the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill. We anticipate that this program will impact 16-20 women survivors of intimate partner violence. The program will be evaluated at the conclusion of each of the two eight-week sessions through analysis of group attendance, exit surveys from participants, as well as artist and counsellor feedback.

The Healing Through the Arts: Multidisciplinary Arts and Ceramics for Older Women project will allow VWTH to reach out to older women survivors of abuse—an underserved demographic in Victoria. VWTH clients have advocated for art programs and counsellors have seen significant benefits in delivering arts programming to survivors of intimate partner violence. Facilitators will provide a positive framework and helpful resources to assist participants to discover greater self-expression. Using clay, paint, poetry, storytelling and other artistic mediums, this program will help to build participants' self-esteem, engage them in their community, and increase their awareness of themselves, others and community resources. This will have a significant impact on participants as they use their new skills and confidence to engage with others in shared interests, partake in community-based activities and develop time for quiet, safe reflection as they continue to heal from intimate partnership violence and abuse.

***NOTE: Should the COVID-19 outbreak still limit face-to-face interaction, this project can be adapted to online delivery with each session offering group and individual video/ digital support from the VWTH older women's counsellor as well as instruction and artistic guidance from each of the professional artists. Within careful safety guidelines, a package of art materials can be delivered to each participant along with instructions regarding the digital program and times of online delivery. We are still working out the details of this proposed alternative program delivery. However, we continue to be committed to providing support and engagement for each of our participating clients in either an in-person or digital

Comments on the Recommendation

This application scored well above the satisfactory level. It provided clear information on the purpose and impact of the proposed activities on its target audience. Although the project is several months in the future the proposal provided alternative implementation strategies should COVID19 remain an issue.