

MEETING DATE: December 5, 2011

AGENDA ITEM: **Allocation of Funds for the 2012 Performing Arts Grant Program as Recommended by the Cultural Affairs Commission.**

ATTACHMENTS

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ATTACHMENT 1

City of Culver City
Cultural Affairs
Performing Arts Grants Applications
2012 Grant Year
December 5, 2011
Complete Summary Sheet PAG Applications 2012 Grant Year.xls

		Previous	Total	2011					2012	2012	2012	2012
		Grants	Previous	Grant Amount				% of	Panel	Grant Amount	Grant Amount	Grant Amount
		Received	Cash Grant	Recommended	2012	2012	Project	Project	Total	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended
Applicant	Discipline	(# of Years)	Rec'd	Received	Request	Budget	Budget	Budget	Score	by Panel	By Ad Hoc	by CAC
											Subcommittee	
Actors' Gang (The)	Theatre	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	10%	95.25	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
Collage Dance Theatre	Dance	10	\$ 28,279.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 15,300.00	33%	87.75	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
CONTRA-TIEMPO	Dance	2	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	50%	80.75	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Culver City Public Theatre	Theatre	9	\$ 26,929.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 9,000.00	50%	84.50	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,375.00	\$ 3,375.00	\$ 3,375.00
										(New Score: 85.00)	(New Score: 85.00)	
CC Symphony Orchestra	Music	12	\$ 42,984.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 19,000.00	39%	85.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
Definiens Project (The)	Music	7	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,950.00	\$ 7,900.00	50%	87.00	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 2,960.00
Donna Sternberg & Dancers (Da	Dance	4	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 13,550.00	37%	84.50	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Invertigo Dance Theatre	Dance	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 14,394.00	35%	87.75	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 3,750.00
Jazz Bakery (The)	Music	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 13,250.00	38%	97.50	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
LA Doctors Symph. Orch.	Music	16	\$ 21,354.00	\$ 2,625.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 8,489.00	45%	80.50	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 1,900.00
LA Women's Theatre Festival	Theatre	1	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	50%	86.25	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 1,875.00
needtheater	Theatre	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 11,801.00	34%	84.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Regina Klenjoski Dance Compar	Dance	0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 14,340.00	35%	78.75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rogue Artists Ensemble	Theatre	1	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 17,180.00	29%	95.25	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
Vox Femina Los Angeles	Music	9	\$ 25,075.00	\$ 3,375.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 11,260.00	44%	96.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
We Tell Stories	Theatre	13	\$ 53,608.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	9,000	56%	94.75	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00
			\$ 237,329.00	\$ 25,250.00	\$ 76,250.00				\$ 49,285.00	\$ 50,410.00	\$ 50,410.00	\$ 50,410.00

ATTACHMENT 2

Due to the nature of Attachment 2, a binder of completed Performing Arts Grant applications is available at the City Clerk's office or by contacting Jeremy Green in Cultural Affairs: 310.253.5764 or jeremy.green@culvercity.org.

ATTACHMENT 3

2012 PERFORMING ARTS GRANT PROGRAM SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The following is an overview of the sixteen applicants (ranked from highest to lowest) with panel summary comments:

The Jazz Bakery

Proposed Project:	Concert featuring NEA Master and Grammy winner Hubert Laws, legendary guitarist Larry Koonse and three-time Grammy nominee Tierney Sutton.
Performance Venue:	Kirk Douglas Theatre
Proposed Date:	Saturday, June 16, 2012
Panel Score:	97.5
Grant Request \$5,000	Recommended Award \$4,500

The panelists praised the excellent reputation and unique attributes of the organization as well as the high quality of the performances. They were impressed that the proposal included such distinguished musicians. Further, they noted the clarity of the budget and marketing plan. The panelists surmised that the concert, which is priced affordably, would draw diverse audiences to Culver City.

Vox Femina Los Angeles

Proposed Project:	<i>From Shakespeare to Shamrocks</i> - choral performance featuring music from classical works to folk songs celebrating England's, Ireland's and Scotland's many traditions of old and new.
Performance Venue:	Culver City Presbyterian Church
Proposed Date:	Sunday, March 18, 2012 at 4pm
Panel Score:	96
Grant Request \$5,000	Recommended Award \$4,500

The panel praised the consistent and outstanding artistic quality of the choral group. They noted the ensemble's professionalism and its successful, targeted outreach efforts. The panel found the proposal clear and detailed. The panelists commented on the unique repertoire and its popularity during the St. Patrick's Day weekend.

The Actors' Gang

Proposed Project: *The Merchant of Tennis* (an adaptation of *The Merchant of Venice*) - the 7th annual free summer show for families
Performance Venue: Media Park
Proposed Dates: August 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, and 26, 2012
Panel Score: 95.25
Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$4,500

Panelists were impressed with the idea of readapting Shakespeare plays for family audiences and presenting the free performances at Media Park. The organization was praised for its excellent artistic work and its community service through after-school programs, student residencies and other enrichment programs. Panelists noted that Culver City funding would support the fees of the actors.

Rogue Theatre Artists

Proposed Project: Premiere performance of *Zen Shorts*, adapted from the NY Times best selling, Caldecott award-winning book.
Performance Venue: Ivy Substation
Proposed Dates: May 12-13, 2012
Panel Score: 95.25
Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$4,500

The Panel found the company and this project engaging. They were impressed by the idea of adapting this popular children's book. They supported the theatre company's plan to reach out to the Culver City Unified School District and its plans to tour. Panelists remarked on the importance of design as well as storytelling to this company and felt that this performance would introduce students to other forms of expression. There were additional comments on the continued growth of the company and its increased recognition.

We Tell Stories

Proposed Project: Seven performances of original 45-minute story-plays for the Library's free Summer Reading Program *Dream Big*
Performance Venue: Culver City Julian Dixon Library
Proposed Dates: June 27, July 11, 25, 28, and August 1, 8, and 15, 2012
Panel Score: 94.75
Grant Request \$4,500 **Recommended Award** \$4,050

Members of the panel commented on the exceptional work of this organization in the library, in schools and in the community. They remarked on how effectively the multi-ethnic troupe persuades children to join the actors on the stage. The panelists noted that the request was for more than 50% of the proposal costs and recommended that the organization continue to seek other funders for this program.

Collage Dance Theatre

Proposed Project: *Laundromatinee* – a site-specific dance performance that celebrates the local coin-op as a community gathering place
Performance Venue: Washing Day Coin Laundry
Proposed Dates: Open Rehearsal TBD
Performance – April 28-29, 2012
Panel Score: 87.75
Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$3,750

Members of the panel remarked on the innovative qualities of the proposed production. They were impressed with the company's objectives to create a community experience and to demystify dance performance. Panelists commended the company on its commitment to including dancers in the production from the Culver City High School Academy of Visual and Performing Arts and responded favorably to the idea of open rehearsals to attract as many people as possible to the performance. The panel encouraged a specific marketing campaign aimed at the Culver City community.

Invertigo Dance Theatre

Proposed Project: *100% Locally Grown, Free Range Dance* - A series of performances which connects the audience to Los Angeles dance-makers and their artistic processes.
Performance Venue: Brasil Brasil Cultural Center

Proposed Dates: Three Sundays in May/June, 2012
Panel Score: 87.75
Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$3,750

Members of the panel praised the artistic work of this young company and noted its rising success. They appreciated the ambition of this proposal in which Invertigo will perform and act as a presenter of multiple dance companies. Panelists found the proposed budget realistic and recommended that the marketing plan be further customized to serve the Culver City community.

The Definiens Project

Proposed Project: Four *Musical Adventures* - interactive, musical stories for children - and one chamber music concert
Musical Adventures
Performance Venue: Culver City Julian Dixon Library

Musical Adventures
Proposed Dates: February, May, June, October, November 2012

Chamber Music Concert Ivy Substation
Performance Venue:
Chamber Music
Proposed Date: March 2012

Panel Score: 87
Grant Request \$3,950 **Recommended Award** \$2,960

The panel expressed support for both proposed programs. Panelists found the educational benefits of the family program appealing as well as the company's objective of introducing the public to more adventurous music through its chamber music program. The panel noted that separate budget information for each program was not included in the original application and recommended that it should be in the future.

Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival

Proposed Project: **Encore! The Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival** – performances of select solo performers from their annual Theatre Festival.

Performance Venue: Ivy Substation
Proposed Dates: March 28, 2012

Panel Score: 86.25
Grant Request \$2,500 **Recommended Award** \$1,875

Panel Members were receptive to this project which will occur during Women's History Month. They praised the multi-disciplinary quality of the production and the longevity of the organization. Panelists encouraged the organization to develop a more specific outreach plan for the Culver City community and recommended that the organization create a marketing plan, which will attract younger audiences.

Culver City Symphony Orchestra

Proposed Project:	A concert featuring winners of the Parness Young Artists Concerto Competition.
Performance Venue:	Veterans Memorial Auditorium
Proposed Date:	May 12, 2012
Panel Score:	85
Grant Request \$7,500	Recommended Award \$3,750

Members of the panel noted that this proposed performance serves a valuable purpose and presents a good opportunity for both young participants and young audiences. Panelists commented that musician fees were respectable and that those fees comprised the majority of the budget. They noted that the company's request exceeded the recommended request maximum for this year, which was \$5,000, and the panel based its proposed funding accordingly. Panelists urged the organization to further develop relationships within the Culver City School District in order to attract more families to its concerts.

Culver City Public Theatre

Proposed Project:	Annual summer season of 3 free theatre productions.
Performance Venue:	Dr. Paul Carlson Memorial Park
Proposed Dates:	July 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29, 2012 and August 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 2012
Panel Score:	84.5
Ad Hoc Subcommittee Score:	85
Grant Request \$4,500	Recommended Award By Panel \$2,250
	Recommended Award By Ad Hoc Subcommittee \$3,375

The panel commended the organization on its programming which includes adaptations of core literature for its family productions. Members of the panel

were impressed by the company's relationships with CCUSD and with the Culver City community at large. Subsequent to the panel's review, the Ad Hoc Subcommittee met and adjusted the score, which increased the funding recommendation in order to further nurture the growth of this Culver City-based theatre.

Donna Sternberg & Dancers (Dancesence)

Proposed Project:	<i>The Science of Beauty</i> – a dance exploring beauty from a scientific viewpoint
Performance Venue:	Brasil Brasil Cultural Center
Proposed Dates:	Fall 2012 (Dates to be determined.)
Panel Score:	84.5
Grant Request \$5,000	Recommended Award \$2,500

Members of the panel found the subject matter of the proposed project to be innovative and they were pleased that the new piece would also include a talk back with the audience. Panelists supported the ideas of the marketing plan and encouraged the company to create a campaign that would be more specific for Culver City.

needtheater

Proposed Project:	<i>Glint</i> - a stage adaptation of David Foster Wallace's short story "Good Old Neon"
Performance Venue:	Ivy Substation
Proposed Date:	February 16, 17, and 18, 2012
Panel Score:	84
Grant Request \$4,000	Recommended Award \$2,000

The panel noted that the theatre company was a first time applicant to this program and that it has grown considerably in the last few years. Panelists appreciated that the one-person play had been adapted from a short story and that the marketing plan would include free readings as well as targeted outreach to book clubs, libraries and English teachers in the Culver City community.

CONTRA-TIEMPO

Proposed Project:	<i>Free Salsa Sundays in Culver City</i> – four community performances and hands on dance classes
Performance Venue:	Helms Walk at Helms Bakery District
Proposed Dates:	June 26, July 29, August 26, and September 23, 2012
Panel Score:	80.75

Grant Request \$5,000

Recommended Award \$2,500

This interactive dance program was praised by the panel for its fusion of dance styles, commitment to community engagement, and use of open space. Panelists recommended that future applications include more information linking the organization's on-going educational programs with this community event. The panel encouraged the company to present the performance multiple times and suggested that the company create a plan for name capture at the each event.

Los Angeles Doctors Symphony Orchestra

Proposed Project: An orchestra concert

Performance Venue: Veterans Auditorium

Proposed Dates: November 18, 2012

Panel Score: 80.5

Grant Request \$3,800

Recommended Award \$1,900

The panel remarked on the strength and longevity of this organization and commended it for its goal of presenting free concerts once again in Culver City. Panelists noted that the application contained few details regarding the proposed concert and that the composer and composition has not yet been determined. Also the panel considered the marketing budget low, which raised concerns regarding outreach to the community.

Regina Klenjoski Dance Company

Proposed Project: *Serpent and the Mirror* –a new original dance theatre work

Performance Venue: Ivy Substation

Proposed Dates: April 12, 2012

Panel Score: 78.75

Grant Request \$5,000

Recommended Award \$0

This proposal was from a well-regarded Long Beach-based dance company, which is a first time applicant to this grants program. The dance project was personally inspired by the on-going debate over childhood vaccinations and included an interactive segment with the audience. The panel was concerned about the success of the organization's one-time performance in Culver City, considering the specific content, and the request that the audience provide feedback on the subject matter. The panel felt that the application lacked a viable marketing plan and that it was unclear what the target audience would be or how they would be identified in the Culver City community.