

MEETING DATE: December 6, 2010

AGENDA ITEM: **Allocation of Funds for the 2011 Performing Arts Grant Program as Recommended by the Cultural Affairs Commission.**

ATTACHMENTS

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1. Overview of 2011 Performing Arts Grant Requests.	1
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ATTACHMENT 1

City of Culver City

Cultural Affairs

Performing Arts Grants Applications

2011 Grant Year

		Previous	Total					2011	2011	2011
		Grants	Previous	2011	2011	% of	Panel	Grant Amount	Grant Amount	Grant Amount
		Received	Cash Grant	Grant	Project	Project	Total	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended
<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Discipline</u>	<u>(# of Years)</u>	<u>Rec'd</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>by Panel</u>	<u>by CAC</u>	
Benita Bike	Dance	3	\$ 7,900.00	\$ 3,325.00	\$ 6,650.00	50%	67.8	\$ -		
Collage Dance Theatre	Dance	9	\$ 24,529.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	50%	90.6	\$ 3,750.00		
Concert Singers, The	Music	0	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,375.00	30%	70.4	\$ -		
Culver City Public Theatre	Theatre	8	\$ 25,429.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 13,800.00	36%	83.4	\$ 1,500.00		
CC Symphony Orchestra	Music	11	\$ 39,234.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 21,500.00	23%	91.6	\$ 3,750.00		
Definiens Project	Music	6	\$ 18,250.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 7,600.00	39%	91	\$ 2,250.00		
Donna Sternberg And Dancers (L	Dance	3	\$ 8,600.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 13,350.00	37%	87.2	\$ 1,500.00		
Great Leap	Theatre	2	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	50%	79	\$ -		
Keith Glassman Dance & Perf.	Dance	1	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,885.00	35%	74.4	\$ -		
LA Doctors Symph.	Music	15	\$ 18,729.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 8,188.00	43%	94	\$ 2,625.00		
LA Women's Theatre Festival	Theatre	0	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	50%	81.2	\$ 1,500.00		
SASSAS	Music	0	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 20,365.00	25%	90.2	\$ 3,750.00		
Vox Femina	Music	8	\$ 21,700.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 10,055.00	45%	90.8	\$ 3,375.00		
We Tell Stories	Theatre	12	\$ 48,608.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	56%	97.2	\$ 5,000.00		
		TOTALS	\$ 221,979.00	\$ 56,325.00				\$ 29,000.00	\$	-

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

OVERVIEW OF 2011 PERFORMING ARTS GRANT APPLICATIONS

We Tell Stories

Proposed Project: Seven performances of original 45-minute story-plays for the Library's free Summer Reading Program

Performance Venue: Culver City Julian Dixon Library

Proposed Dates: June 29, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and August 5, 2011

Panel Score: 97.2

Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$5,000

Panelists were impressed with the application and the location for the performances. They felt that the organization had done an excellent job targeting its audience of families with young children and providing outreach and multiple cultural opportunities for them. The panel noted the strong partnerships the organization had formed and found the proposed work relevant and linked to the Visual And Performing Arts (VAPA) Standards adopted by the California State Board of Education.

Los Angeles Doctors Symphony Orchestra

Proposed Project: Annual concert featuring winners of the Robert Turner Piano Concerto Competition

Performance Venue: Veterans Memorial Auditorium

Proposed Date: March 6, 2011

Panel Score: 94

Grant Request \$3,500 **Recommended Award** \$2,625

Panelists remarked on the difficult repertoire and high quality of the submitted artistic sample. The application was found to be proactive with clearly stated goals for the orchestra's future. The panel noted the opportunity the concert presents for young musicians and encouraged the organization to develop new outreach programs to the Culver City Unified School District. Further, the panel supported the efforts of the organization to reach a broader audience for this concert through social networking and other electronic marketing techniques.

Culver City Symphony Orchestra

Proposed Project: Concert titled *The American Beat - Women Composers*

Performance Venue: Veterans Memorial Auditorium

Proposed Date: January 29, 2011

Panel Score: 91.6

Grant Request \$5,000

Recommended Award \$3,750

The panel agreed that the music on the artistic sample was excellent and affirmed that this community orchestra is important to the city. The panel commended the group on its proposal to present an ambitious concert featuring the work of composers who are women. Further, they were impressed with the concept of a business expo as an outreach idea. The panel had questions concerning the budget supplied in the application and more budget notes would have been beneficial.

The Definiens Project

Proposed Project: *Musical Adventures* series – four interactive, musical stories for children

Performance Venue: Culver City Julian Dixon Library

Proposed Dates: March, April, May, August and November, 2011

Panel Score: 91

Grant Request \$3,000

Recommended Award \$2,250

Panelists supported the proposal for the *Musical Adventures* concerts. They found this proposal to be creative and an example of high level music-making and original story-telling. It was noted that the application conveyed the passion of the organization's mission to be experimental and innovative. The panel encouraged the group to focus on audience outreach for the program and promote to local schools. Further, the panel felt that future applications would benefit from more explanation of the performance content and by the inclusion of a DVD.

Vox Femina Los Angeles

Proposed Project:

Intercultural Conversations – a choral performance to encourage the audience to appreciate and see beyond our cultural identities to our common humanity.

Performance Venue:

Culver City Presbyterian Church

Proposed Date:

April 30, 2011

Panel Score:

90.8

Grant Request \$4,500

Recommended Award \$3,375

Panelists noted the prominence of the group and the quality of its work. The panel found its mission statement to be fulfilled in the work the organization presents. The proposed choral concert would celebrate diversity and bring different audiences together. The panel noted that the application lacked marketing detail and encouraged the company to create a targeted publicity plan to ensure that the concert was well attended.

Collage Dance Theatre

Proposed Project:

In the Sect – a site-specific dance performance created in collaboration with SPF: architects Judit Meda Fekete and Zoltan Pali

Performance Venue:

SPF:a Gallery Space

Proposed Date:

Open Rehearsals
Performance - February 12, 2011

Panel Score:

90.6

Grant Request \$5,000

Recommended Award \$3,750

The panel agreed that this long-standing, professional company's work was consistently strong and evolving with a dedicated audience. Panelists found the proposed project regarding ecological awareness to be interesting without being condescending. They praised the dance company's proposed effort to establish a connection with Culver City High School Academy of Visual and Performing Arts. The panel supported the intention to open the rehearsals to the public but encouraged the company to make a concerted effort to market those rehearsals since the culminating performance would be short in duration.

The Society for the Activation of Social Space through Art and Sound (SASSAS)

Proposed Project: *Inuksuit* – a music performance by Alaska-based composer John Luther Adams

Performance Venue: Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook

Proposed Date: September, 2011

Panel Score: 90.2

Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$3,750

The panel favorably regarded the concept of the proposed project which features multiple percussionists performing outdoors and found it to be an interesting exploration of sound and space. Panelists noted that the organization has a following and is proficient at social networking. It was suggested that SASSAS develop a more detailed marketing plan specifically targeting the Culver City community.

Donna Sternberg & Dancers (Dancesence)

Proposed Project: A multimedia dance performance based on The Botany of Desire

Performance Venue: Royal T

Proposed Dates: Open Rehearsals and Performance
Fall 2011 (Dates to be determined.)

Panel Score: 87.2

Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$1,500

The panel noted that the application was well-prepared and that the concept was creative. The panel supported the proposed outreach effort to the Culver City High School Academy of Visual and Performing Arts. Panelists expressed interest in the company's collaborative work with a soundscaper and commended the company on its unique science focus which might attract audiences other than dance enthusiasts. Additionally, panelists encouraged the company to continue refreshing its artistic work.

Culver City Public Theatre

Proposed Project: Annual summer season of free theatre performances in Carlson Park

Performance Venue: Dr. Paul Carlson Memorial Park

Proposed Dates: July 16, 17, 23, 24, 30, 31, 2011 and August 1, 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 2011

Panel Score: 83.4

Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$1,500

The panel supported the efforts of this community-based theatre company and its offering of free performances each summer. Panelists commended the group on its endeavor to develop a diverse company of actors, improve its production elements and initiate new marketing techniques. Panelists were more favorably impressed with the DVD, featuring the performance for children, than with the classic selection provided.

Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival

Proposed Project: *Best of the Fest* – performances of select solo performers from their annual Theatre Festival.

Performance Venue: The Ivy Substation

Proposed Dates: March 30, 2011

Panel Score: 81.2

Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$1,500

The quality of the application, proposed performance and artistic sample were noted by the panel. The panelists were impressed by the variety of the programming as well as the diversity and caliber of the performers. Concerns were raised regarding the outreach and marketing plan and the panel urged the company to develop a targeted publicity campaign for the Culver City community.

Great Leap

Proposed Project: Multidisciplinary performance of *Mottainai* (the Japanese word for “wasteful”)

Performance Venue: Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook

Proposed Date: August, 2011 (Date to be determined)

Panel Score: 79

Grant Request \$5,000 **Recommended Award** \$0

Panelists noted the longevity of the organization, the talented artistic director and the specific process that Great Leap implements. They found the proposal to be creative and playful but considered the articulation of the performance difficult to comprehend. It was also noted that the application included budget errors and lacked a targeted marketing plan for Culver City.

Keith Glassman Dance & Performance

Proposed Project: *Coffeehouse Dances* – Modern dance solos and a duet presented in a cafe

Performance Venue: The Rumor Mill Coffeehouse

Proposed Date: September 30, 2011

Panel Score: 74.4

Grant Request \$1,000 **Recommended Award** \$0

The panel responded to the poetic, guerilla-style concept of patrons encountering a dance performance in a neighborhood cafe; however, the panelists felt that the performance would not create enough impact because of the size of the café, the brevity of the performance and the fact that all three proposed dances had previously been presented in Culver City.

The Concert Singers**Proposed Project:** *Love is in the Air* - A summer choral concert**Performance Venue:** Temple Akiba**Proposed Dates:** June 25, 2011**Panel Score:** 70.4**Grant Request** \$1,000 **Recommended Award** \$0

The longevity of this Westchester-based community chorus and its recent efforts to redevelop its business model as a non-profit organization were noted by the panel. Panelists found the proposal modest and without an articulated statement regarding the relevance of the performance or its connection to the Culver City community. Additionally, the panel encouraged the organization to continue to improve its work artistically.

Benita Bike's DanceArt, Inc.**Proposed Project:** Two dance performances with audience interaction**Performance Venue:** Culver City Senior Center
The Ivy Substation**Proposed Dates:** January 20, 2011
March 9, 2011**Panel Score:** 67.8**Grant Request** \$3,325 **Recommended Award** \$0

The panel noted with interest the organization's proposal to present a performance at the Ivy Substation in collaboration with another dance company and commended the company for consistently paying performers. The panel did not find the budgeted marketing costs to be realistic to attract audiences to both locations. Panelists noted that the format was familiar, that some of the dances had been previously performed in Culver City and that the choreography could be re-energized.