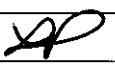


Subject: FY20 Operating Budget: Arts and Humanities Council NDA and Public Arts Trust Capital Improvement Project (CIP)	
Analyst: Linda Price, Legislative Analyst 	Committee: E&C
Keywords: #ArtsHumanities, #AHCMC, #PublicArtsTrust	

Name of Department, Division, or Program		
FY20 CE REC:	\$5,356,943	0.0 FTE
Increase/Decrease from FY19	\$0 (0%)	0.0 FTE (0%)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED CHANGES

- 1) Add a total of \$550,000 in 1 tranche of \$300,000 and one tranche of \$250,000 to increase funding for undesignated grants to arts nonprofits.
- 2) Adds up to \$16,216 to fund up to a 3% increase to nonprofit contracts.
- 3) Adds an additional \$25,000 to enhance funding to cover increases in personnel costs and operating expenses for AHCMC administration.

KEY CE CHANGES FROM FY19

- The Executive has recommended no change from FY19 for the Arts and Humanities NDA.
- The Executive has recommended no change from FY19 Approved CIP for the Public Arts Trust project.

OTHER ISSUES

The Committee will hold a worksession on July 22 to discuss a number of issues related to arts and humanities. Topics to be covered include arts in schools, equity in the arts, as well as the funding structure of the Arts & Humanities NDA budget. The Committee requested an update from the Executive branch on the status, structure, and objectives of the Executive Ball for the Arts. The Office of Legislative Oversight should conclude their review of the Strathmore in early FY20.

This report contains:

Staff Report to the Committee	Page 1-8
Arts & Humanities NDA FY20 Recommended Operating Budget	© 1
AHCMC - FY20 Budget Request Submission	© 3
AHCMC - FY20 Operating Budget Public Hearing Testimony	© 23
MCAA - FY20 Operating Budget Public Hearing Testimony	© 28
Lumina Studio Theatre - FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	© 34
Peerless Rockville - FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	© 35
Live Garra Theatre - FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	© 36
MCAA – FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	© 40
National Philharmonic – FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	© 42
AHCMC - FY20 Grants Awarded	© 45
Public Arts Trust PDF - Council Approved	© 66
OLO - Project #24-A - Strathmore Review Project Description	© 68
May 1 Memorandum from Councilmember Friedson	© 69

F:\PRICE\Arts\FY19\Op Bud\5-9 - FY20 Op Bud - Arts NDA & PAT.docx

Alternative format requests for people with disabilities. If you need assistance accessing this report you may submit alternative format requests to the ADA Compliance Manager. The ADA Compliance Manager can also be reached at 240-777-6197 (TTY 240-777-6196) or at adacompliance@montgomerycountymd.gov


E&C COMMITTEE #1-2
May 2, 2019

Worksession

MEMORANDUM

May 1, 2019

TO: Education & Culture (E&C) Committee

FROM: Linda Price,  Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: **Worksession** – FY20 Operating Budget: Arts and Humanities Council NDA and Public Arts Trust

PURPOSE: Vote on recommendations for the Council's consideration

Those expected to attend this worksession include:

- Suzan Jenkins, Chief Executive Officer, Arts and Humanities Council
- Deborah Lambert, Management and Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget
- Representatives, Arts and Humanities organizations

Budget Summary:

- For FY20 the Executive recommends a total of \$5,356,943 for the Arts and Humanities Council Non-Departmental Account (NDA), no change from the FY19 approved budget.

Council Staff Recommendation:

- Approve the FY20 Arts and Humanities Council NDA with the following items added to the Reconciliation List:
 - Add a total of \$550,000 in 1 tranche of \$250,000 and two tranches of \$150,000 for re-granting across all categories; and
 - Add up to \$41,216 to Administration for increases in operating expenses.

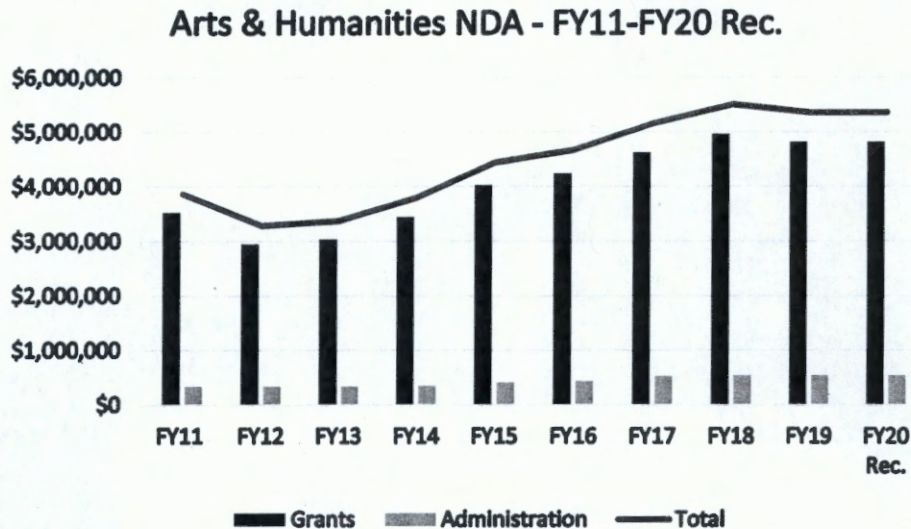
Relevant pages from the FY20 Recommended Operating Budget are attached on © 1-2.

BACKGROUND

This NDA provides funding for the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHC MC), the County's designated local arts and humanities agency. The FY20 Operating Budget from the AHC MC NDA includes general operating grants to arts and humanities organizations; program grants to arts and humanities organizations not receiving general operating support; project grants to individuals, scholars, groups, or small organizations; technical assistance and other support services for individuals and other organizations in the County; and operating expenses for AHC MC. Additionally, matching funds for awardees designated to match private donations, such as the Executive Ball for the Arts Committee or through power2give are included in the NDA. The County's contribution is implemented by a contract between the Department of Recreation and AHC MC.

OVERVIEW

The following graph illustrates the appropriation for the AHC MC from FY11-FY20 for Administration and dollars for re-granting.



For FY20, the Executive recommends a total operating budget of \$5,356,943 for the AHC MC NDA, no change from FY19. The following table provides greater detail regarding the appropriation from FY15-FY19.

Breakout of Arts and Humanities Funding, FY15-FY19

	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	\$ Incrs	% Incrs
Operating Support (Large Org)	2,876,763	3,004,852	3,308,202	3,374,941	3,374,941	0	0.00%
Grants and Programs (Mid/Small)	616,557	698,883	778,861	854,574	854,574	0	0.00%
Advancement Grants	250,050	250,050	250,050	295,094	295,094	0	0.00%
Administration	409,330	429,830	529,830	540,519	540,519	0	0.00%
Arts and Humanities Matching Funds	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	0	0.00%
Grants to Support Wheaton A&E District	90,000	90,000	90,000	91,815	91,815	0	0.00%
Grants to National Philharmonic			150,000	150,000	0	-150,000	-100.00%
Total Arts NDA	4,442,700	4,673,615	5,306,943	5,506,943	5,356,943	-150,000	-2.72%

On March 26, Suzan Jenkins transmitted the AHCMC FY20 Operating Budget request to the Council (see © 3-22). Additionally, the Council received public hearing testimony from AHCMC reiterating their support of the recommended budget request to increase the appropriation by \$550,000 for grantmaking (see © 23- 27).

EXPENDITURE ISSUES

The Executive's budget does not provide any recommendation for how funds within the Arts and Humanities NDA be allocated. Over the years, increases for funding have been distributed amongst the various categories based on prior year funding. The following table illustrates how the appropriation for operating support grants, grants and programs, advancement grants, grants to the Wheaton Arts and Entertainment District, and administration were divided in FY19:

Category	FY19 Approved
Operating Support (Large Organizations)	65.4%
Grants and Programs (Mid/Small/Individuals)	16.6%
Advancement Grants	5.7%
Wheaton	1.8%
Administration	10.5%

Based on increases in demand from applicants and a 17% increase in budget sizes, AHCMC recommends that the Council increase the appropriation by \$550,000 and allow them to grant without the conditions set forth in the budget resolution. Also, a minimum of 10% of all funds provided for regranteeing, which includes Cost Sharing grants, has been requested for administration. The following table compares the FY19 Approved Operating Budget with the AHCMC FY20 recommendation.

Grant Category	FY19 Approved	FY20 AHCMC Rec.	Change from Approved
Operating Support (Large Org)	\$3,374,941	\$5,366,424	\$550,000
Grants and Programs (Mid/Small)	\$854,574		
Advancement Grants	\$295,094		
Grants to Support Wheaton A&E District	\$91,815		
Arts and Humanities Matching Funds	\$200,000		
Administration	\$540,519	\$581,642	\$41,123
Total Arts NDA	\$5,356,943	\$5,948,066	\$591,123

The Montgomery County Arts Advocates (MCAA) testified in support of the NDA and requested a \$500,000 increase over the FY19 Operating Budget (see © 28 - 33). MCAA requested that additional funds be allocated as follows.

	FY19 Approved	MCAA Request	Increase Amount
Operating Support (Large Org)	\$3,374,941	\$3,775,000	\$400,059
Grants and Programs (Mid/Small)	\$854,574	\$950,000	\$95,426
Advancement Grants	\$295,094	\$300,000	\$4,906
Wheaton	\$91,815	\$100,000	\$8,185
Matching Funds	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
Total Arts NDA	\$4,816,424	\$5,325,000	\$508,576

Both AHCMC and MCAA have requested an increase in the funding available for re-granting in FY20, **which has remained unchanged since FY18**. Additionally, a number of organizations have submitted correspondence and testimony in favor of increasing resources available for grants (see © 34-39). MCAA submitted an April 26 memo in favor of AHCMC's request for a budget increase, but not in support of having FY20 grantmaking funds made available without any conditions (see © 40-41). Correspondence was also submitted by the National Philharmonic requesting operating support, as well as residency support at Strathmore (see © 42-44).

1. Operating, Program, and Individual Re-Granting Funds

In FY20, Council staff recommends that additional funds be made available for re-granting that will provide continued operating support for organizations, as well as provide funding to support the growth that AHCMC is seeing in emerging and historically underserved sectors. **Council staff recommends that a total of \$550,000 be placed on the Reconciliation List in three tranches to increase funds available for grantmaking. The additional funds would not go towards increasing funds for Administration or the matching funds. The breakout for reconciliation list items is as follows.**

- **\$250,000 - Undesignated Grants**
- **\$150,000 - Undesignated Grants**
- **\$150,000 - Undesignated Grants**

Council staff does not recommend that AHCMC be given full autonomy to award all re-granting dollars without condition in the FY20 budget. **Council staff recommends that any additional funds be made available in an undesignated category to allow AHCMC to have the flexibility to respond to changes in need and demand. Council staff recommends that the Committee review the history of the AHCMC funding paradigm, at a later date, and determine if any changes should be made to the budget appropriation structure in future fiscal years.**

2. Administration

The County Executive has not recommended any increase in funding for the NDA, which would leave funds in Administration at the FY18 level of \$540,519. To align administrative oversight with increases in workload, AHCMC requests administrative resources equal 10% of overall funds available for re-granting, which includes operating grants and arts capital grants in the Cost Sharing: MCG project, which AHCMC administers. For instance, based on the FY19 appropriation for re-granting, \$4,816,424 in the NDA and \$922,414 in the Cost Sharing project, a 10% Administration appropriation would be \$573,884, which is (\$33,365) less than the approved amount.

Costs for administrative oversight of grants have increased, as well as costs for AHCMC's accounting and annual audit, grant-making and record-keeping software, and other operating expenses and personnel costs. However, no additional resources have been added since FY18. The Health and Human Services Committee has recommended a 3% increase for non-profit service providers for inflationary adjustments. **Council staff recommends adding a total of \$41,216 to the Reconciliation List for Administration. The first item would add \$16,216 for a 3% inflationary adjustment. The second item would add \$25,000 to cover additional costs for increasing operating expenses and personnel costs.**

3. Arts and Humanities Matching Funds

A total of \$200,000 has been made available for Arts and Humanities Matching funds each year since FY14. These funds provide matching grants on behalf of the County for private funds raised from businesses and individuals to awardees of the Executive Ball for the Arts Committee and power2give. **It is Council staff's understanding that the Executive's Ball will continue to take place in FY20, though it may be on a smaller scale than previous years. Therefore, Council staff recommends that the matching funds continue to be made available.** Once funds for the Ball are dispersed, the remaining balance would be made available to the AHCMC for the power2give matching fund.

The following table summarizes Council staff's recommendation for the Arts and Humanities NDA in FY20.

Grant Category	FY20 Rec.
Operating Support (Large Org)	\$3,374,941
Grants and Programs (Mid/Small)	\$854,574
Advancement Grants	\$295,094
Grants to Support Wheaton A&E District	\$91,815
Arts and Humanities Matching Funds	\$200,000
Undesignated Grants	\$550,000
Administration	\$581,735
Total	\$5,948,159

4. Public Arts Trust

The Public Arts Trust was established in 1995, under County Code Chapter 8, Article VI., Works of Art in Public Architecture. The purpose of the Public Arts Trust (PAT) is to incorporate art into public facilities and sponsor privately-funded temporary or permanent displays of art on public property. By law the CAO or a designee must administer the Trust in consultation with the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHCMC), MCPS, Montgomery College, and M-NCPPC. The Public Arts Trust is administered through a contract with the AHCMC that is managed by the Department of Recreation.

The law also suggests that the County Council consider appropriating funds for the next fiscal year to the Public Arts Trust in an amount equal to 0.05% of the combined total approved programmed capital expenditures for the then current fiscal year for County Government, Public Schools, Montgomery

College, and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Based on FY19 appropriations, the FY20 appropriation would be around \$300,000 in the PAT. However, this language is a guideline and the Council is permitted to appropriate any amount. The source of funding for this project is Current Revenue.

The AHCMC has requested an FY20 appropriation of \$290,000, a \$100,000 increase over the approved amount, and a 4% increase over the previous year's budget in FY21-24. The Council approved the FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for the PAT during its review of the biennial CIP in May 2018. During this time, the PAT was increased by \$25,000 to \$215,000 in FY19 and by \$50,000 to \$190,000 in FY20-24. The approved PDF is available at © 66. The Council was able to provide an increase in FY19 by reprogramming a small amount of unspent appropriation that existed within the project. **No off-year amendments have been recommended in the PAT in FY20. The next review of this project will occur during the full review of the FY21-26 CIP.**

The AHCMC has also requested the following amendment to the law for the PAT.

Each year the County Council [should consider] **will** [appropriating] **appropriate** funds for the next fiscal year to the Public Arts Trust in an amount equal to **a minimum of .05%** of the combined total approved programmed capital expenditures for the then current fiscal year for County Government, Public Schools, Montgomery College, and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Any change made to the law requiring the Council to appropriate a minimum of .05% of CIP expenditures would require committing between \$300,000-\$400,000 each year. This may be challenging given Current Revenue is the source of funding for this project. Council staff does recommend strengthening the program when funding is available, but not making the change a requirement in the law.

PROGRAM UPDATES

In FY19, AHCMC gave out 139 awards for operating support grants, grants to mid- and small-size organizations, program and individual, advancement grants and grants to the Wheaton Arts and Entertainment District. The following sections provides an update on grants awards. The full report is available at © 45 - 65.

1. General Operating Support Grants for Large Arts and Humanities Organizations

The AHCMC provides general operating support to large organizations to provide support for the day-to-day operating costs, or to further the general purpose or work of an organization. These organizations have annual cash expenses of over \$150,000, employ full-time directors, and have an annual audit. In FY19, AHCMC provided 28 grant awards for the County's large arts and humanities organizations, a total of \$3,374,941. Additional information for FY19 award recipients is available at © 45-49.

2. Grants to Mid- and Small-Size Organizations, and Other Program and Individual Grants

Grants in the mid-size organization category provide general operating support to arts and humanities organizations with annual cash operating expenses from \$50,000 up to \$150,000. This grant is also available to organizations with more than \$150,000 in annual expenses if the organization is not applying for an operating support grant for large organizations. In FY19, AHCMC provided 28 grant awards, a total of \$590,540. Additional information for FY19 award recipients is available at © 53-56.

Additional grant groups in this category include small arts and humanities groups, grants to artists and scholars, and grants to individual teaching artists. Grants to small arts and humanities groups are available to organizations with annual cash operating expenses up to \$50,000 to support programs for the public. In FY19, AHCMC provided 19 organizations with funds, a total of \$86,858. Grants to artists and scholars provide support for the work of individuals and scholars who reside in the County. In FY19, AHCMC provided 36 artists with funds, a total of \$148,172. Additionally, the AHCMC provided five individual teaching artists with \$15,000 in FY19 funds. Additional information for FY19 award recipients is available at © 57-63.

3. Advancement Grants

Advancement Grants assist arts and humanities organizations in attaining fiscal stability and long-term viability. These grants specifically focus on long-term planning and technology improvements critical to an organization's arts and humanities mission. In FY19, \$295,094 was awarded to nine organizations. Additional information for FY19 award recipients is available at © 50-51.

4. Wheaton Cultural Project Grants

Wheaton Cultural project grants are flexible awards for projects that create impact in the Wheaton community, and provide cultural opportunities for artists and schools in Wheaton. In FY19, AHCMC provided 10 organizations and individuals with \$91,815 in grant awards. Additional information for FY19 award recipients is available at © 64-65.

ISSUES TO PURSUE AFTER BUDGET SEASON

In 2018, former Councilmember Leventhal requested a report from the Office of Legislative Oversight on Strathmore. The purpose of the report is to better understand the revenue structure of Strathmore and the Strathmore Hall Foundation, including data about annual rents and/or fees charged to its artistic partners. A full project description is available at © 68. The report should be available in early FY20.

There is an E&C Committee worksession scheduled for July 22 to review a number of issues related to the Arts and Humanities. As mentioned earlier, the AHCMC has requested the ability to provide grants across all categories without the conditions the Council sets forth in the budget appropriation each fiscal year. While Council staff does not support this recommendation at this time, the Committee should review the history of the AHCMC funding paradigm and consider if any changes to its structure are warranted. If any changes are to be implemented, it should be done in a manner that provides as much notice and transparency as possible to grantees.

Current arts activities in schools, as well as creating connections between arts and schools will also be a focus of the meeting. Additionally, this meeting will begin to look at equity in County arts and humanities and activities that AHCMC has begun implementing to create a more equitable grant-making process.

This packet contains:

	©
FY20 CE Recommended Operating Budget Arts and Humanities NDA	1
AHCMC - FY20 Budget Request Submission	3
AHCMC - FY20 Operating Budget Public Hearing Testimony	23
MCAA - FY20 Operating Budget Public Hearing Testimony	28
Lumina Studio Theatre - FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	34
Peerless Rockville - FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	35
Live Garra Theatre - FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	36
MCAA – FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	40
National Philharmonic – FY20 Operating Budget Correspondence	42
AHCMC - FY20 Grants Awarded	45
Public Arts Trust PDF - Council Approved	66
OLO - Project #24-A - Strathmore Review Project Description	68

F:\PRICE\Arts\FY19\Op Bud\5-2 - FY20 Op Bud - Arts and Humanities NDA and Public Arts Trust.docx



Non-Departmental Accounts

RECOMMENDED FY20 BUDGET
\$336,267,232

FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS
6.38

MISSION STATEMENT

Non-Departmental Accounts (NDAs) contain expenditure items essential to the operation of the County government which do not fall within the functional assignment of any department or agency, or which provide for expenditures related to more than one department or agency. In FY20, 49 NDAs are funded. Three NDAs receive no new funding: Public Election Fund, Inauguration and Transition Fund, and Montgomery County Employee Retirement Plans and two new NDAs are established: Innovation Fund and Early Childhood Fund.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The total recommended FY20 Operating Budget for the Non-Departmental Accounts is \$336,267,232, an increase of \$12,687,416 or 3.92 percent from the FY19 Approved Budget of \$323,579,816. Personnel Costs comprise 0.89 percent of the budget for 20 full-time position(s) and no part-time position(s), and a total of 6.38 FTEs. Total FTEs may include seasonal or temporary positions and may also reflect workforce charged to or from other departments or funds. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 99.11 percent of the FY20 budget.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Lindsay Lucas of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2788 for more information regarding the operating budget for the Non-Departmental Accounts.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

☼ Arts and Humanities Council

This NDA provides funding for the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHC MC), the County's designated local arts agency. Taxpayer support of the AHC MC includes general operating grants to arts and humanities organizations; program grants to arts and humanities organizations not receiving general operating support; project grants to individuals, scholars, groups, or small organizations; technical assistance and other support services for individuals and other organizations in the County; matching funds for awardees designated to match private donations, such as through power2give; and operating expenses for AHC MC. The County's contribution is implemented by a contract between the Department of Recreation and AHC MC.

Since 1976, AHC MC has been the County's designated local arts agency. The AHC MC, in partnership with the community, cultivates and supports excellence in the arts and humanities, expands access to cultural expression, and contributes to economic vitality in the region. AHC MC provides leadership that sustains arts and humanities organizations, artists and scholars, and inspires participation in our County's cultural assets. Through its programs and services, AHC MC provides the infrastructure and support necessary to maintain a robust creative community that includes over 500 cultural organizations and 2,000 artists and scholars. AHC MC annually distributes grants to organizations and individuals to help fund enriching cultural activities in our County (www.creativemoco.com/grants/grants-awarded).

AHC MC is headquartered in Silver Spring and receives support from the Maryland State Arts Council, corporations, organizations and individuals.

Funding for maintenance of public art is allocated in the Public Arts Trust Capital Improvements Program (CIP) project.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY19 Approved	5,356,943	0.00
FY20 Recommended	5,356,943	0.00

☀ **Boards, Committees and Commissions**

There are approximately 75 boards, committees, and commissions, created by law or resolution, which serve the County for a variety of purposes. These funds provide for the reimbursement of certain expenses incurred by eligible members of boards, committees, or commissions while on official business and/or for expenses related to the establishment of any new boards, committees, or commissions.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY19 Approved	22,950	0.00
FY20 Recommended	22,950	0.00

☀ **Charter Review Commission**

Section 509 of the County Charter requires that a Charter Review Commission be appointed by the County Council every four years, within six months of the Council assuming office, for the purpose of reviewing the Charter for notetial amendments. The Commission shall report at least once to the Council on the Commission's activities within one year after appointment. Commission reports shall be submitted no later than May 1 of every even-numbered year. The reports shall contain recommendations concerning proposed Charter amendments, if any. This NDA provides for the expenses of the Commission.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY19 Approved	150	0.00
Increase Cost: Charter Review Commission - Biennial Workload Adjustment	1,000	0.00
FY20 Recommended	1,150	0.00

☀ **Children's Opportunity Fund**

The Children's Opportunity Fund (COF) NDA was established in partnership with the Greater Washington Community Foundation in May 2016. COF provides funding to support policy priorities that address the social determinants that impact the achievement gap for vulnerable children and the barriers faced by their families.

The Fund is supported by a Leadership Working Group made up of the County Executive, the Montgomery County Public School (MCPS) Superintendent, a member of the Board of Education, and a member of the County Council. This Leadership Working Group is staffed by the Executive Director/Consultant of COF and will advise the Fund's Steering Committee as to the policy priorities relating to children at risk of not succeeding in school, for the purpose of advising and guiding the Steering Committee in making recommendations for the Fund. The Steering Committee makes the award decisions.

The Steering Committee is comprised of the Director of the Department of Recreation, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, the MCPS Chief Academic Officer, the Executive Director of the Collaboration Council, the Executive Director of the Greater Washington Community Foundation, and the Director/Consultant to the Fund who was hired by the Greater Washington Community Foundation and serves as an ex-officio member. Evaluation and data driven decision-making is critical to the work of the Fund. The Fund will direct resources to County inter-agency and cross system collaborations, promote public-private partnerships, and identify new funding sources in collaboration with the Community Foundation to aggressively close the achievement gap in Montgomery County and impact the social-economic determinants that affect outcomes for children and their families.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY19 Approved	375,000	0.00
FY20 Recommended	375,000	0.00

☀ **Community Grants: County Executive**

This NDA provides one-time grants directly to organizations in the community. These community organizations are critical to an effective

March 26, 2019

**board of
directors**

Regina L. Oldak, Esq.
Board Chair
Chair, Executive Committee

Rose Garvin Aquilino
Montgomery College
Board Vice Chair
Chair, Grants Committee

Elaine Robnett Moore
Elaine Robnett Moore Collection
Board Secretary

Fred M. Gober
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Board Treasurer
Chair, Finance Committee

Erin E. Girard, Esq.
Linowes and Blocher LLP
Chair, Audit Committee

Eric L. Siegel
Henrichsen Siegel, P.L.L.C.
Chair, Advocacy Committee
Chair, Nominating Committee

Barry Carty
East Coast Acquisitions,
Federal Realty
Chair, Public Arts Trust
Steering Committee

Marilyn Baicombe
Gaithersburg-Germantown
Chamber of Commerce

Ruby Lopez Harper
Americans for the Arts

Emmanuel Olajoye
Montgomery County Economic
Development Corporation

Suraya Mohamed
NPR Music

Dana Pauley
Leadership Montgomery

Denise Saunders Thompson
The International Association
of Blacks in Dance

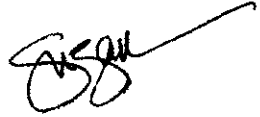
Eleanor Choi
Bell Architects

ex officio

Suzan E. Jenkins, MBA
Chief Executive Officer

Kenneth A. Lechter, Esq.
Legal Counsel

TO: Councilmember Craig Rice, Chair, Education and Culture Committee
Cc: Robin Riley, Director, Montgomery County Recreation Department
Linda Price, Legislative Analyst, Montgomery County Council
FROM: Suzan Jenkins, CEO, Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County
SUBJECT: **AHCMC FY19 Overview and FY20 Budget Request Submission**



Thank you for the opportunity to present the Arts and Humanities Council's (AHCMC) FY20 budget request. This request for grant funds to re-grant to arts and humanities organizations is based first on providing support for arts and humanities organizations, and second to individual artists and scholars. The County Executive has recommend flat funding for AHCMC for FY20 over that from FY19.

As Montgomery County's population increases, the demand for AHCMC to provide multifaceted professional development, technical assistance, and capacity building support for a sector that is rapidly expanding countywide also continues to increase. Montgomery County is multicultural, growing more so, and is now home to many organizations and individual artists who reflect the county's diverse populace. It is AHCMC's goal to provide outreach and funding that reflects this diversity and to inform a deep understanding of the county's cultural diversity that supports and empowers our transnational constituent base.

Economic realities within Montgomery County highlight the importance of AHCMC's grantmaking. Growth in the number and budgets of eligible organizations has brought more competition for public funding, and there is not a strong base of private funding to sustain the arts and humanities in Montgomery County. AHCMC's research, in line with the findings and preliminary recommendations of the County-commissioned September 2018 Arts & Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study by Victor Gotesman Performing Arts Facilities Planning, demonstrates that the growth of many nascent, seasoned and legacy organizations, artists and scholars practicing their art across the county requires increased investment in traditionally under resourced communities financial and human resources, increased technical and capacity building assistance, relationship building, and professional development opportunities.

To meet this growing demand, AHCMC is requesting additional funds for re-granting, for the Public Arts Trust and for administration in FY20.

Recent studies illustrate that four of the top ten ethnically diverse cities in the United States are located here in the county and as such, AHCMC remains committed to supporting a vibrant cultural landscape county-wide.

FY19 Grant Funding

The Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHC MC) is Montgomery County's designated local arts agency under County Code Chapter 5A, notably *"...a nonpartisan Arts and Humanities Council; ...designated as the County arts and humanities organization formed to...develop, promote, advocate, and coordinate efforts to support, investigate, encourage and present arts and humanities in the county..."*

Under the County Code, AHC MC is charged with *"...adopting and applying policies and procedures to ensure that its actions are fair, unbiased and nonpartisan..."* and *"...provide and coordinate funding for the arts and humanities in the county."* and *"...avoiding duplication in arts and humanities activities by coordinating AHC MC activities with other existing and planned governmental activities..."*

In FY19 AHC MC received an allocation of \$5,816,424 which represents \$4,861,424 for re-granting general operating and project support grants and \$1,000,000 for re-granting Capital Improvement Project grants. Funds for re-granting general operating support and project grants represent a 3% decrease over the FY18 budget. In FY19 AHC MC was able to fund 139 grant awards which represents only 78% of requests from eligible applicants. In FY19 AHC MC received \$540,519 for administration which represents just 9% overhead for grant administration. Despite our increased workload, AHC MC's administrative allotment has been flat since FY18.

FY19 General Operating Awards for Large and Mid-Size Organizations

According to The National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy, *"General Operating Support (or core support) is integral for nonprofits' sustainability, impact and growth. It provides flexibility to meet pressing community needs and achieve impact."* General Operating awards help grantees build capacity by providing comprehensive, rather than fragmented support. Studies also indicate that General Operating Support eases administrative burdens for the grantmaker and grantee alike; contributes to nonprofit sustainability and capacity building; signals trust between the funder and grantee without sacrificing accountability; and shifts attention from limited program outcomes to broader organizational and social impact.

- AHC MC received 28 FY19 *General Operating Support Grants for Large Arts and Humanities Organizations* (GOS LO) applications. In FY19, the number of GOS LO eligible applicants rose by almost 17%, and budgets in this category rose by 4.3%. Due to these increases, AHC MC was able to fund only 5.5% of eligible budgets for base awards in this category in FY19 vs the 6% of eligible budgets for base awards in this category funded in FY18. Grant awards for each organization were based on the organization's share of the appropriated funds, calculated in proportion to its most recently completed past three fiscal years' actual cash operating expenses or income, whichever was lower. In addition to General Operating Support awards, Large Organizations also have access to increased funding by applying for Advancement Grants and/or Capital Improvement Project funds.
 - **this category represents 20% of eligible applicants**
 - **AHC MC was able to approve funding for 100% of eligible projects in this category**
 - **funding for this category represents 70% of AHC MC's overall budget for regranting to all eligible arts and humanities organizations, artists and scholars**
- AHC MC received 33 FY19 *General Operating Support Grants for Mid-Size Arts and Humanities Organizations* applications. AHC MC was able to fund 88% of eligible organizations in this category.
- AHC MC received 13 FY19 Advancement Grant applications. AHC MC was able to approve funding for 71% of eligible projects in this category.

FY19 Diversity and Equity Initiatives - The benefits of providing project awards for small arts and humanities organizations, groups, and the Wheaton funding opportunity

In order to properly serve Montgomery County's constituents, AHCMC aims for fairness and balance within the context of available cultural funding. To support our understanding of the effects of historical inequities in grant funding, inform our policy making and proactively understand and address racial inequities in communities throughout the county, the entire AHCMC Board and staff underwent racial equity training in FY19 conducted by the Racial Equity Institute (REI).

AHCMC acknowledges that effective grant programs encourage and help sustain our cultural ecosystem by supporting both emerging and legacy organizations. Community-based arts and humanities organizations that bring qualified artists and scholars to arts venues, social service organizations, libraries, neighborhood associations, summer schools, summer camp programs, and offer other similar community-based activities are vital initiatives that serve our multicultural county.

AHCMC funds community-based activities by offering awards for project grants for arts or humanities activities to Small Organizations or groups of artists, scholars or other individuals that are not receiving operating support grants, or program grants. This grant category also benefits the county's diverse folk, traditional, and ethnic arts and humanities initiatives.

- AHCMC received 24 FY19 *Small Arts and Humanities Organizations and Groups Project Grant* applications. AHCMC was able to approve funding for 76% of eligible projects in this category.
- AHCMC received 52 FY19 Artists and Scholars grant applications. AHCMC was able to approve funding for 65% of eligible projects in this category.
- AHCMC received 13 FY19 Wheaton Cultural Grant applications. AHCMC was able to approve funding for 71% of eligible projects in this category.
- **funding for these categories represents 80% of all eligible applicants, overall. Due to funding conditions placed on AHCMC by County Council funding for these categories reflects only 30% of AHCMC's overall budget for regranting to all eligible arts and humanities organizations, artists and scholars**

AHCMC staff strives to meet the growing demand for technical assistance, professional development, and grants management by providing workshops and webinars for applicants and grantees and in FY19 have conducted more than 200 one-on-one meetings with applicants and grantees that support and encourage Montgomery's County's innovative cultural sector thrive. And our efforts to diversify our funding portfolio have been successful. In FY19 AHCMC witnessed an increase in the number of first-time applicants for the Wheaton funding opportunity, the Individual Artists and Scholars opportunity and our funding category for Small Organizations and groups. First-time applicants and grantees within all three categories reflect Montgomery County's ethnic and cultural diversity and grant funding in these categories directly address issues of equity, access and need. Increased financial and human resources will allow AHCMC to increase technical and capacity building assistance, relationship building, and professional development opportunities.

FY19 AHCMC Administration

In FY19 AHCMC received \$540,519 for administration which represents 9% overhead for administration. Despite our increased workload, AHCMC's administrative allotment has been flat since FY18. AHCMC staff consists of eight full-time employees and two part-time consultants in key program areas that support over 500 arts and humanities organizations and over 2,000 individual artists and scholars in Montgomery County. All AHCMC management staff have secondary (Masters) degrees and contribute significantly to our mission by providing technical assistance and professional development opportunities for individuals and organizations. Staff also provide cooperative marketing services; serve as arts advocates at the state, regional, and local levels and serve as arts education and cultural information resources for legislators and the public. AHCMC staff routinely offer valuable resources to local organizations through panels designed to provide key information about the grant application process, technical assistance, and professional development workshops, as well as online tools and community collaboration efforts. Considering the size and population of Montgomery County, AHCMC operates much like that of a state arts agency, with similar challenges in providing equitable support to organizations, artists and scholars in our rural, urban and suburban regions. AHCMC's workforce has created opportunities for heightened outreach to the field. Applicants appreciate and have become successful in applications to the county and other funders as a result of the guidance that AHCMC provides, as proven by 2017 AHCMC Constituent Survey results. Increased financial and human resources will allow AHCMC to increase technical and capacity building assistance, relationship building, and professional development opportunities.

FY19 Public Arts Trust Budget

Background

The Arts and Humanities Council for Montgomery County (AHCMC), Montgomery County's designated local arts agency, administers the Montgomery County Public Art Trust – the county's central program for managing and commissioning all public art on county-owned property. AHCMC also manages and curates the county's cultural facility, the Betty Mae Kramer Gallery and Music Room .

The mission of the Public Arts Trust is to build and inspire communities through place-making, to nurture artists engaged in public art, and care for the county's extensive collection of public art. Montgomery County's public art collection includes over 900 works of art, including over 600 works on paper and over 300 sculpture/murals. Were the Public Arts Trust to receive full funding under the county's public art ordinance, funding would amount to \$300,000 to \$400,000 a year. In FY19 the Public Arts Trust budget was reduced by 10%.

FY19 Public Art Trust Activities

The Major initiatives of the Public Art Trust activities for FY19 are:

- Completion or initiation of four (4) assessments of public art in the public art collection and ; the conservation and maintenance on ten (10) public artworks in the public art collection
- The Framing and Exhibition of sixty-eight (68) newly artworks acquired for the Montgomery County Contemporary Works on Paper Program in the County Executives Offices and the Montgomery County Council Building.
- **Conservation & Maintenance – FY19**
 - Four Assessments
 - Ross J Boddy by Leonid Bodnia – Sandy Spring MD
 - A Fossil Record for Our Time by Jane Larson – Sandy Spring MD

- *Spirit of Freedom* by Muriel Castanis – Rockville, MD
- *Synchronicity III* by Peter King – Sandy Spring MD
- Ten Conservation Projects
 - *The Reading Bench* by Marcia Billig, – Sandy Spring MD
 - *The Juggler* by Marcia Billig, – Silver Spring MD
 - *Untitled* by Trove Johansen, – Gaithersburg, MD
 - *Joseph McDonnell* by Alba Rosa – Silver Spring MD
 - *Untitled* by Rosalie Sherman, – Dickerson, MD
 - *Chilkoot Totem Pole* by Chilkoot Tribe, – Bethesda, MD
 - *Untitled* by Julio Teich, – Wheaton, MD
 - *G. Byron Peck* by Silver Pass Phase I, – Silver Spring, MD
 - *Untitled* by Julio Teich, – Wheaton, MD
 - *G. Byron Peck* by Silver Pass Phase I, – Silver Spring, MD
 - *Ever Learning Many Things* by Hazel Rebold – Damascus, MD
 - *A Historical Commitment to the Future* by Norman Greene – Potomac, MD
- **Reactivation of The Contemporary Works on Paper Collection- FY19**

The Works on Paper Collection, part of the county's Public Art Collection, consists of more than 550 prints, drawings and watercolors. This project received its impetus with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, DC, a Federal agency.

Beginning with prints in 1975, the intent of the Works on Paper Collection was to encourage and support the visual arts in Montgomery County both by the purchase and exhibition of local artists' works. To put these works into a broader context, works by such important American printmakers as Josef Albers, Richard Anuskiewicz, Milton Avery, Leonard Baskin, Jack Beal, Ilya Bolotowsky, Jim Dine, Ellsworth Kelly and Peter Milton were acquired. Major prints by members of the Washington Color School including Thomas Downing, Howard Mehring and Sam Gilliam were added, as well as works in the minimalist tradition by Daniel Brush; thus placing area artists within the perspective of artists of national reputation. For the first thirty years, the office of the County Executive, the County Council and the Recreation Department gave continuous support to the project.

In the early 2000s, however, the budget was cut and the project moved from the supervision of Facilities and Services to the Arts and Humanities Council. Without staffing and funding, the AHCMC was not able to acquire new works and instead turned its focus to maintaining and conserving the county's investment of over \$4M in public art. As a result, much of the work prominently displayed in county facilities began to deteriorate.

In FY18, Montgomery County provided a special appropriation of \$50,000 to reactivate the county's Works on Paper collection. With these funds, AHCMC managed a call for art process from individual artists around the region. After reviewing more than 500 submissions, a panel of county staff and local professionals selected 68 new works of art to be accepted into the County's Contemporary Works on Paper Collection. With this increased appropriation, AHCMC has framed and will exhibit these works in the County Executives Offices and three floors of the County Office Buildings in FY19.

AHCMC FY20 Budget Request for Re-granting and Administration

Montgomery County is multicultural, growing more so, and is now home to many organizations and individual artists who reflect the county's diverse populace. It AHCMC's goal to provide outreach and funding that reflects this diversity and to continue to develop a deep understanding of the county's cultural diversity that supports our transnational constituent base. In the past, legislative analysts have recommended the conditions which dictate AHCMC's funding allotments for each category it funds, following historical patterns rather than responding to demonstrated demand. AHCMC will continue to support its legacy organizations, artists and scholars while advancing our strategic goals aimed to diversify our funding portfolio by supporting the growth of multicultural and multinational geographic locations and by tailoring our offerings to the needs of many emerging and traditionally under resourced culturally-specific organizations, artists and scholars in our community.

Re-granting

We are thrilled by the Council resolution reinforcing AHCMC's position, specifically #8 in this document which says:

"Non-profit agencies seeking funds for arts and humanities should apply directly to the Arts and Humanities Council, and those seeking funds for literacy, including ESOL, should apply directly to MCAEL, the Montgomery Coalition for Adult English Literacy. If any Council Grant applications fall into these categories, the organization will be referred to the appropriate organization; such applications will not be reviewed by the Grants Advisory Group. The Council will make final funding decisions for the Arts and Humanities Council and MCAEL as a part of its overall budget process. For FY 2020, the Council intends that grant awards to community-based non-profits for arts and humanities or literacy and ESOL programs will be made through grant programs administered by the Arts and Humanities Council and MCAEL, respectively."

- Given that the resolution above intends that grant awards to community-based non-profits for arts and humanities programs will be made through grant programs administered by AHCMC, and to address historical inequities in grant funding for small and mid-sized organizations and individual artists and scholars, **AHCMC is requesting the autonomy to allocate grant funds without condition**. This ability is vital to the equitable distribution of funding, alleviates favoritism and entitlement, supports legacy institutions and accelerates the growth of small and midsize arts groups that reflect changing community interests and demographics. As the designated local arts agency, AHCMC has the experience and expertise to understand, respond and equalize support for the entire community that:
 - reflects Montgomery County's rapidly changing demographics,
 - serves the needs of historically under-resourced communities,
 - supports organizations that are engaging the interests of younger and more diverse audiences with more participatory, community-based cultural experiences and
 - addresses the needs of individual artists and scholars to ensure that they can continue to be a part of their evolving communities.
- **AHCMC is requesting a FY20 budget increase of \$550,000 over the FY19 appropriation for regranting for general operating support and project based grants for a total regranting pool of \$5,366,424, not including Capitol Improvement Grants.** Funding at this level will appropriately address the 17% increase in budget sizes and number of applicants in the General Operating Support for Large Organizations and the fact that in FY19 AHCMC approved funding for the most competitive categories at only approximately 74%.

- **AHCMC also requests a FY20 budget appropriation of \$1,000,000 for Capitol Improvement Grants.** *Capital Improvement Project Grants* assist arts and humanities organizations related to an existing structure or physical plant repairs that are critical to an organization's arts or humanities mission. Grants are not intended for facilities in which capital projects are otherwise the responsibility of the landlord. Capital Improvement Project Grants are contracted directly through Montgomery County Government's Department of General Services through Montgomery County Government's Department of General Services.

Administration

- Research demonstrates that the many nascent, seasoned and legacy organizations, artists and scholars practicing their art across the county require increased grantee technical assistance, relationship building, and professional development opportunities. Despite our increased workload, AHCMC's administrative allotment has been flat since FY18. As the county's agent for the dissemination of resources to the arts and humanities community and to meet that administrative need, **AHCMC requests a minimum of 10% of all of the funds AHCMC is provided for re-granting. Specifically that percentage would be derived from allocations for all General Operating, Program and Capital Improvement grant allocations.**

Montgomery County Arts Advocates (MCAA) FY20 Budget Request

While Montgomery County Arts Advocates (MCAA) have asked the County Executive to support a \$500,000 increase in grants to arts and humanities organizations to be distributed "equitably". AHCMC understands MCAA's use of the word "equitable" to mean "in the same manner as AHCMC's current grant distribution paradigm." However, the past conditions which have dictated AHCMC's funding allotments for each category it funds has followed historical patterns rather than responding to demonstrated demand. While AHCMC supports MCAA's request of additional funds, **AHCMC is requesting the autonomy to allocate grant funds without condition** to address historical inequities in grant funding for small and midsize organizations and individual artists and scholars.

AHCMC FY20 Budget Request for the Public Arts Trust

We know that arts and cultural organizations are inextricably linked to their communities and that arts and culture also play a vital role in a city's livability and its social cohesion. The County Executive has recommended a 12% decrease in funding for the Public Arts Trust in FY20. **Sec. 8-45 Appropriation for art states:**

Each year the County Council should consider appropriating funds for the next fiscal year to the Public Arts Trust in an amount equal to .05% of the combined total approved programmed capital expenditures for the then current fiscal year for County Government, Public Schools, Montgomery College, and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. (1984 L.M.C., ch. 1, § 1; 1988 L.M.C., ch. 43, §§ 1--3; 1990 L.M.C., ch. 43, § 1; CY 1991 L.M.C., ch. 9, § 1; 1992 L.M.C., ch. 9, § 1; 1995 L.M.C., ch. 12, §§ 1, 2.)

- **AHCMC is requesting an Amendment to Section 8-45 Appropriation for art as follows:**
 - **Sec. 8-45 Recommended Amendment to the Appropriation for art:**

Each year the County Council **will appropriate** funds for the next fiscal year to the Public Arts Trust in an amount equal to a **minimum of .05%** of the combined total approved programmed capital expenditures for the then current fiscal year for County Government, Public Schools, Montgomery College, and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. (1984 L.M.C., ch. 1, § 1; 1988 L.M.C., ch. 43, §§ 1--3; 1990 L.M.C., ch. 43, § 1; CY 1991 L.M.C., ch. 9, § 1; 1992 L.M.C., ch. 9, § 1; 1995 L.M.C., ch. 12, §§ 1, 2.)

- **AHCMC requests an FY20 appropriation of \$290,000 for the Public Arts Trust** to address the recommended funding level, to appropriately maintain and care for the county's extensive collection of public art and to purchase \$50,000 of additional works on paper as we reactivate the County's collection to enhance public buildings
- Additionally, **the Public Art Trust requests annual 4% increases to the budget over the previous year's budget, FY21 through FY24** to bring the overall budget closer to recommended funding levels and recognize expenses related to inflation.

Councilmember Rice, thank you once again for your stalwart support of the arts and humanities during your tenure on the County Council. Our sector has benefitted greatly from your vision. On behalf of the Board, staff and community served by the Arts and Humanity Council, we sincerely appreciate your consistent and sustained support and look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead to bolster the growth of the creative sector, foster an innovative workforce, promote equity and sustain the quality of life and economic growth in Montgomery County.



FY19 Board of Directors

Regina 'Reggie' L. Oldak, Esq.

Board Chair; Chair, Executive Committee

Advocate

Reggie Oldak is a tax attorney focusing on nonprofit organizations at the IRS and in private practice. She served on the staff of the 2005 Panel on the Nonprofit Sector convened by Independent Sector to help strengthen transparency, governance, and accountability of charitable organizations. Prior to practicing law, she coordinated exhibitions for the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and worked in the legal offices of the National Gallery of Art and the American Institute of Architects. Oldak has held leadership roles on numerous nonprofit boards and commissions, including the Alexandria (VA) Commission for the Arts and the Montgomery County (MD) Commission for Women. She is currently president of Montgomery Women, an organization whose mission is to advance women to leadership positions in all sectors. She is a graduate of Smith College and the Georgetown University Law Center.

Eleanor Park Choi, AIA, LEEDap BD+C

Public Art Trust Steering Committee

Senior Project Architect and Project Manager

BELL Architects

Eleanor Park Choi is Senior Project Architect and Project Manager at BELL Architects. Through her work on award winning, LEED certified, historic and institutional projects- both locally and nationally, she promotes sustainable design and place-making. By engaging the public through every stage of each project and continuing to build relationships even after project completion, she has seen the positive impact that these buildings have had on their communities. Most recently, as Project Manager of Kenilworth Recreation Center in Washington, DC, she had the honor of working directly with local artists to elevate the architecture of the building with the installation of their meaningful, authentic works of art. Combining her passion for music and architecture, Eleanor played the violin and presented a lecture titled "Architecture as Frozen Music," with three of her colleagues. Born and educated in Montgomery County, a proud graduate of University of Maryland at College Park with a Masters of Architecture, and most recently serving on the Friends of White Flint Board, Eleanor is committed to supporting local artists and encouraging opportunities for diverse cultural expression.

Rose Garvin Aquilino

Grants Committee

Director of Grants and Sponsored Programs

Montgomery College

Rose Garvin Aquilino is the Director of Grants and Sponsored Programs for Montgomery College and former Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at the College. Garvin Aquilino has held senior development positions with St. Coletta of Great Washington and the National Breast Cancer Coalition Fund and formerly worked for several for-profit, arts-related companies in sales and operations, and as a curator and director of collections for the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation. Garvin Aquilino holds a B.A. in Anthropology and History from the University of Rochester, and a M.A. in Anthropology and Certificate in Museum Studies from New York University.





Marilyn Balcombe

President and CEO

Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce

Marilyn Balcombe is the President of the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce; co-chair of the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation Committee and she serves on the Board of the Germantown Alliance and Asbury Methodist Village. Prior to the Chamber, Balcombe was the Executive Director of BlackRock Center for the Arts and she served as staff at the Upcounty Regional Services Center. Prior to her work in the community, Balcombe was an Organizational Psychologist with the U.S. Department of Energy. She holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Psychology from the University of Tennessee.

Barry Carty

Finance Committee

Vice President

East Coast Acquisitions, Federal Realty

Barry Carty presently serves as Vice President of East Coast Acquisitions for Federal Realty Investment Trust (FRIT), and is responsible for sourcing and closing FRIT's shopping center investments in its targeted markets including South Florida and Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, New York, and Boston. Formerly a Senior Financial Analyst at FRIT, Carty has been involved in various aspects of financial underwriting, market research, and due diligence for FRIT's acquisition, disposition, and financing efforts. Carty has 22 years of commercial real estate industry experience involving transactions valued at over \$3 billion. He received a B.S. Degree in Economics from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in 1994 and is from Miami, Florida.

Erin E. Girard, Esq.

Chair, Audit Committee

Partner

Linowes and Blocher LLP

Erin E. Girard is a partner in the firm's Land Use group. She has experience assisting a diverse group of clients, including local, regional and national developers, institutional users, non-profits, and individual and corporate property owners, on a wide range of real estate, land use, zoning, development and administrative issues. These matters have included due diligence review, zoning entitlements, rezoning, subdivision approvals, annexations, special exceptions, variances, master plan development and implementation, historic preservation, administrative appeals, condemnation, and all aspects of the regulatory permitting and licensing process. Girard has represented clients on these matters before various administrative boards, agencies and legislative bodies in Montgomery County, Gaithersburg and Rockville, as well as in state courts.

Fred M. Gober

Board Treasurer; Chair, Finance Committee

Executive Director and Financial Advisor

Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

Fred M. Gober is a Financial Advisor at Morgan Stanley Wealth Management. Formerly the Director at Barclays Wealth and a Principal at Bernstein Global Wealth Management, Gober was a Partner at Transwestern Carey Winston where he served as a commercial real estate advisor representing national



corporations and local entrepreneurial investors for over 12 years. Gober received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland in 1982. He currently serves as an Executive on the Board of Directors for Hearts and Homes for Youth in Maryland.

Ruby Lopez Harper

Director of Local Arts Services

Americans for the Arts

Ruby Lopez Harper is the Director of Local Arts Services for Americans for the Arts. She is the Co-chair for the National Coalition on Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response, serves as Co-chair on the Support for Individual Artist Steering Committee for Grantmakers in the Arts and serves on the WETA Community Advisory Council. Prior to joining AFTA, Ruby was the Director of Grants and Services at the Greater Columbus Arts Council in Columbus, OH where she focused on grantmaking, community development, economic development and tourism, and public art. She has a varied background that includes corporate affairs, marketing, and business administration. Ruby has an associate degree from Cerritos College, a certificate in Corporate Community Involvement from Boston College, and is a trained meeting facilitator.

Suraya Mohamed

Producer, Programming & Partnerships

NPR Music

Suraya Mohamed is a three-time Peabody Award-winning producer, sound designer and editor. As NPR Music's Producer of Programming & Partnerships, she serves as the Project Manager for Jazz Night In America, a multi-platform cooperative between NPR Music, WBGO and Jazz At Lincoln Center. She is also the Project Manager for Slingshot – a new artist initiative designed to boost public radio music station collaboration, develop and diversify digital content to incorporate new methods of storytelling and accelerate the careers of multi-genre, exceptional, emerging artists. She works on a variety of NPR Music projects including the Tiny Desk Concert series and also produces the NPR holiday specials package that includes *Tinsel Tales*, *Hanukkah Lights*, *Toast Of The Nation*, *Hamilton: A Story Of US* and others.

Elaine Robnett Moore

Artist and CEO

Elaine Robnett Moore Collection

Elaine Robnett Moore is a jewelry artist, international business consultant, teacher, and author. As an artist/international development consultant, she works through governments, foundations, NGOs and private companies - assisting artists, artisans, and women's coops in developing skills, establishing cottage industries, and refining products for export to western markets. Robnett Moore's work has been published and exhibited internationally and she was recently commissioned by the Rwandan government to write their first "how to" book "Professional Jewelry Making With Beads", an initiative being used to provide an income stream for women and girls throughout the country. Her second book, "The Art of Bead Stringing: Artist to Entrepreneur", was published in November of 2014.

Emmanuel Olaoye

Business Development Specialist

Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation

Emmanuel Olaoye is a Business Development Specialist on the business expansion team, with plans to help bring new companies to Montgomery County as well as contribute to strategic initiatives for MCEDC. He brings an international perspective and an eagle-eye for detail from his days working as a financial journalist. A graduate of the University of Essex, England with a bachelor's degree in Economics, he combines his interests for business, finance and economics in work with MCEDC. Emmanuel is passionate about helping small and medium size businesses grow. He recognizes the unique attributes of Montgomery County for success, with its highly-educated and diverse workforce, and proximity to Congress and federal agencies.

Dana Pauley

Vice President, Philanthropic Investments

Leadership Montgomery

Dana Pauley is Vice President of Philanthropic Investments for Leadership Montgomery. She has experience in relationship management, marketing, special events, grants management, board relations, major gifts, and annual fund across small and large nonprofits. Pauley holds a B.S. in Human Services with a concentration in counseling and is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE). She currently serves on the board of the Association of Fundraising Professionals Western Maryland Chapter and is on an Advisory Committee for Sheppard Pratt Health System.

Eric L. Siegel

Chair, Advocacy Committee; Chair Nominating Committee

Of Counsel

Kalbman Hagerty, LLP

Eric L. Siegel, who serves as Of Counsel at the law firm of Kalbman Hagerty, LLP, is a trial and litigation attorney whose principal practices areas include commercial litigation, employment and civil rights disputes, disability rights matters and whistleblower protection. He works with businesses and individuals to solve their legal problems through counsel, business advice and litigation assistance. He spent the last twelve years in the real estate industry in development and acquisition. He interacts frequently with various stakeholder groups, including government officials.

Denise Saunders Thompson

President and CEO

The International Association of Blacks in Dance

Denise Saunders Thompson is the President and CEO of The International Association of Blacks in Dance, a non-profit dance service organization. She also the founder of D.d.Saunders & Associates, Inc., a comprehensive fine arts advisory firm offering artist management/representation, arts producing, consulting, and production services. Denise's nonprofit/for-profit management and philanthropic career spans over 20 years of executive and program director experience. She has advised organizations on administrative, programmatic and fundraising issues including strategic plans, policy and procedures, communications programs, budgeting and contracts. She has pioneered top-ranked courses on the collegiate level in artistic development, entrepreneurship, fundraising, grant writing, leadership, management, and production.

The Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHCMC)
 801 Ellsworth Drive
 Silver Spring, MD 20910
 (301) 565-3805

Hours of Operation for *The Arts & Humanities Council & Kramer Gallery*: Monday- Friday 9AM - 6PM
 Saturday & Sunday Closed

The Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHCMC)
 Local Presence and Description of Services for FY 2018:

Target Populations:

- (1) 2,000+ artists and scholars and 500+ arts and humanities organizations of Montgomery County (see Grantmaking and Outreach Services)
- (2) 1,040,116 residents of Montgomery County (see Services to the Community)
- (3) Visitors to Montgomery County (see Services to the Community)

Specialized Target Populations:

- (1) At-risk Children, Youth and Families (see Education and Youth Development)
- (2) Schools (see Education Services and Services to the Community)
- (3) Folk and traditional artists/artisans, fine artists, arts professionals, museum professionals, humanities professionals (see Grantmaking and Outreach Services)

1. GRANTMAKING:				
1.1 Grants				
AHCMC is a non-profit, local arts agency designated by law to disburse Montgomery County funds in support of the arts and humanities in the form of competitive grants. AHCMC relies on Advisory Review Panels to evaluate grant applications.	In FY 2018, 151 grants totaling \$5,506,943 were awarded to 98 organizations, schools, community organizations, and 35 individual artists and scholars	Grants to Large Arts and Humanities Organizations – 24 grants totaling \$3,374,941 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Dance – North Bethesda, MD (\$86,160) • Imagination Stage – Bethesda, MD (\$301,957) • The Writer's Center. – Bethesda, MD (\$74,558) 	Grants disbursed for Montgomery County individuals and organizations only from our headquarters in Silver Spring,	Year-Round

15

<p>GRANTMAKING</p> <p>AHCMC requires grantees to serve Montgomery County's diverse population of nearly 1 million residents.</p>		<p>Grants to Small Arts and Humanities Organizations – 29 grants totaling \$109,436</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambodian Buddhist Society – Silver Spring, MD (\$4,000) • Orfeia Vocal Ensemble. – Silver Spring, MD (\$2,520) • Tayitu Cultural & Educational Center – Silver Spring, MD (\$3,500) <p>Grants to Support Arts Education – 11 grants totaling \$28,804</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Lake Elementary School - Gaithersburg, MD (\$3,000) • Wheaton High School (\$2,700) • Strathmore Elementary School. – Silver Spring, MD (\$2,100) <p>Grants to Support Community Programs – 4 grants totaling \$6,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCPL – Montgomery County , MD (\$1,500) • Montgomery County Correctional Facility – Boyds , MD (\$1,500) • Springvale Terrace, Inc. – Silver Spring, MD (\$3,000) <p>Grants to Mid-Sized Arts and Humanities Organizations – 31 grants totaling \$580,658</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chevy Chase Historical Society – Chevy Chase, MD (\$8,058) • Kalanidhi Dance – Bethesda, MD (\$20,208) • Lumina Studio Theatre – Silver Spring, MD (\$20,208) 		
---	--	--	--	--

		<p>Advancement grants—4 totaling \$295,094</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts for the Aging, Inc. – Rockville, MD (\$13,788) • Round House Theatre – Silver Spring, MD (\$152,108) • Levine School of Music – North Bethesda, MD (\$117,807) <p>Capital Improvement grants—2 totaling \$192,283</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture – Glen Echo, MD (\$98,161) • Montgomery Community Media – Rockville, MD (\$94,122) <p>Grants to Artists and Scholars – 35 grants totaling \$120,030</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christopher K. Morgan – North Bethesda, MD (\$4,787) • Krisa Calballero– Takoma, MD (\$4,211) • Laurie Breen – Silver Spring, MD (\$3,360) <p>Wheaton Cultural Grants – 10 grants totaling \$91,815</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ClancyWorks – Silver Spring, MD (\$9,100) • Wheaton Film Festival – Wheaton, MD (\$8,600) • InterAct Story Theatre Education Association – Wheaton, MD (\$9,615) 		
--	--	---	--	--

GRANTMAKING 1.2 Grant Preparation Workshops Prospective grant applicants are introduced to the grant application process and requirements in free grant preparation workshops led by our Grants Officer.	AHCMC produced 19 grant preparation workshops either in-person or by webinar. Participants included artists, scholars, arts and humanities organizations, civic organizations, schools.	Workshop participants met with AHCMC's Grants Program Officer to learn about submitting a grant application.	Our Silver Spring headquarters or by webinar	Year-Round
Service, Program or Benefit	Who	What	Where	When
2. OUTREACH SERVICES				
2.1 Advocacy AHCMC advocates at a state, regional and local level for the arts and humanities. Our work impacts strategic planning and increased funding support for grants and policy development. Through AHCMC's social media platforms, we inform a broad audience on important arts advocacy related issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500+ arts and humanities organizations • 2,000+ artists and scholars in Montgomery County. • 40 participants in Advocacy Potluck + Public Hearing with County Council 	Community Grants Kick-Off Maryland Arts Day Community Advocacy Phone-In Advocacy Pot-Luck Community Advocacy Phone In	Silver Spring Annapolis Virtual Rockville Virtual	9/7/17 2/22/18 3/15/18 4/12/18 6/27/18
OUTREACH SERVICES 2.2 E-Communications and Social Media	20,000+ e-mail subscribers that self-identify as artists or arts and humanities professionals, 3,006 Twitter followers on 2 Twitter platforms. 2,737 Facebook followers on 2 Facebook platforms.	Bi-monthly on-line publication that features career opportunities (i.e., job bank, professional development) for artists and scholars, grant opportunities, marketing opportunities and more. Free to subscribers.	via email Twitter Facebook	Bi-monthly Daily weekly
OUTREACH SERVICES 2.3 Marketing Services through MarketPower AHCMC provides marketing services to its constituency through our new marketing	MarketPower Services are available to any arts or humanities group or organization offering public events, classes, programs, festivals, tours, etc. 86 organizations participated in MarketPower in FY18.	Market Power Services include: Unlimited access and posting to <u>www.CultureSpotMC.Com</u> , an online calendar of cultural events that automatically populate 6 other media online events calendars.	Silver Spring	All year – daily

18

suite, MarketPower. MarketPower raises the visibility of and participation in the arts and humanities of Montgomery County.		<p>Culture Spotlight media blast, a promotional tool that leverages a dedicated mailing list, television advertising and social media outreach to promote featured events from CultureSpotMC.Com</p> <p>Cooperative Advertising: MarketPower subscribers are (con't) able to purchase discounted advertisement in Bethesda Magazine, the Washington Post and the Montgomery County Gazette. These services save participant organizations over \$78,000 in total.</p> <p>Professional Development: MarketPower coordinates 8 different workshops, forums and seminars related to marketing and communications. (see section 3.3)</p>		<p>Weekly</p> <p>Monthly</p> <p>Monthly</p>
3. COORDINATED TECHNOLOGY SERVICES				
<p>3.1 On-line Calendar of Events</p> <p>AHCMC's website www.CultureSpotMC.com is an interactive, on-line calendar of events highlighting arts and humanities related activities taking place in Montgomery County.</p>	<p>Web Visitors: # 71,217 Unique Visitors: # 50,212 Page Views: # 147,758 Page Views per Visit: # 2.07</p>	<p>On-line calendar of events that are searchable by day, region, type of event. Six events calendars for the work of one. Events are listed on CultureSpotMC.com, and are also listed on VisitMontgomery.com, BethesdaMagazine.com, The Washington Examiner, Washington City Paper and AParentInSilverSpring.com. On-line calendar events also includes Stories on CultureSpot, and online Publication featuring articles covering the region's arts and humanities related news and events.</p>	<p>Represents only activities happening in Montgomery County.</p>	<p>All year – daily</p>

61

<p>3.2 Websites/Blogs AHC MC maintains five websites: www.culturespotmc.com (see above) Creativemoco.com http://blog.creativemoco.com/ http://power2give.org/montgomerycountymd/</p>	<p>These internet sites serve a broad constituency including: artists, scholars, arts and humanities organizations, legislators, potential and existing grantees, educators, the general public, donors, and sponsors.</p>	<p>Maintains five internet sites that allow different constituents to access various information including programs, opportunities, deadlines, grant guidelines, and more.</p>	<p>On the web; managed from our Silver Spring office.</p>	<p>AHCMC Websites and Blogs are updated on a weekly basis.</p>
<p>3.3 Technical Assistance, Capacity-Building Consultancy Through MarketPower</p>	<p>AHCMC staff provides workshops and seminars to its constituency as well as providing one-on-one consultation.</p> <p>Attendance: 213</p>	<p>Outreach & Technical Assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY18 Marketing Committee Kickoff Meeting! • Making Content Marketing Easy, Effective, and Fun! • Marketing Forum: Tips & Tricks From NAMP • Marketing Webinar: Facebook Advertising a Step-by-Step Guide • Marketing Committee 2018 Kickstarter • Building Ambassadors, Leveraging Influencers, and Harnessing Mavens to Grow Audiences and Increase Engagement • Marketing Seminar: Audience Engagement - Make Exciting Experiences that Create Fans and Superfans • June Marketing Committee Meeting - Brown Bag Lunch 		<p>9/12/17 9/21/17</p> <p>1/10/17</p> <p>1/18/18</p> <p>1/25/218</p> <p>5/2/18</p> <p>5/30/18</p> <p>6/14/18</p>

4. EDUCATION & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT				
4.1 Services to Schools K -12 Working with MCPS, AHCMC developed an arts integration program that infuses the arts in the academic curriculum. To do this, AHCMC developed the Arts Integrated Residency grant program which uses arts integration certified teaching artists to provide residencies.	11 Arts Integration Residency Grants supported teaching artists from AHCMC's Teaching Artist Roster. Approximately 1,200 K-12 students were served.	Some sample residencies: • ESOL and creative drama • Literature-based creative drama instruction Integrated world cultures, languages art and life studies course with mosaic glass making	10 schools in Rockville, Silver Spring, Gaithersburg, Montgomery Village, Wheaton, Kensington, Germantown and Bethesda	July 2017 - June 2018
4.3 Guide To Children's Art Activities	For K-12: Approximately 30 arts and humanities organizations, participate and 90,000 MCPS elementary students receive the guide twice a year, in English and Spanish.	<i>The Guide to Children's Art Activities</i> (published twice a year) in English and Spanish, includes up to 30 organizations offering after-school, summer and weekend arts programs.	Montgomery County	<i>The Guide</i> was delivered to 131 schools and libraries in August 2017 and made available online all year round.
5. CREATIVE PLACEMAKING AND ARTIST SERVICES				
5.1 Public Art Montgomery County's public art program, administered by AHCMC, seeks to build and inspire community identity and placemaking and to nurture artists engaged in public art. We strongly believe that public art enhances the quality of life in Montgomery County.	Residents of and visitors to Montgomery County who come in contact with the over 350 pieces of public art and over 500 pieces of works on paper.	The AHCMC managed Public Arts Trust managed a FY18 Conservation and maintenance plan, comprising approximately a \$50,000 fund for the acquisition of 68 new works on paper and \$90,000 in conservation to artworks in the county's public art collection listed in endangered or poor condition. In total, the Public Art Trust has supported the conservation of 16 significant works of public art.	Montgomery County, MD	July 2017- June 2018

<p>5.2 Betty Mae Kramer Gallery and Music Room</p> <p>The 1,200 square foot gallery located in the Silver Spring Civic Center is the first and only art gallery dedicated specifically to showcasing Montgomery County's professional visual artists. www.bettymaekramergallery.com</p>	<p>Serves visual artists in Montgomery County and County visitors and residents wishing to see visual arts. Artists served: 13 Reception Attendees: 250</p>	<p>The Kramer Gallery hosts three to four exhibits each year.</p> <p>FY18 Exhibitions included:</p> <p><i>A Birds Eye View</i> <i>Dis/figure</i> <i>Off the Grid: Contemporary Fiber + Textile Art</i> <i>MCPS Student Art and Creative Writing Exhibition</i></p>	<p>Silver Spring, MD</p>	<p>6/20/17– 9/20/17 9/22/17 – 12/22/18 1/26/18– 4/1/18 4/18/18 – 6/30/18</p>
--	---	--	--------------------------	--

Monday, April 8, 2019
Written Testimony for the Proposed
FY20 Arts and Humanities Council Budget
to Montgomery City Council

Good Afternoon Council President Navarro and esteemed members of the Montgomery County Council. Thank you for allowing me to testify this afternoon. My name is Suzan Jenkins and I am the CEO of the Arts and Humanities Council (AHC MC), Montgomery County's designated local arts agency.

I begin my testimony today by thanking you for your past support of Montgomery County's arts and humanities sector. Montgomery County's combined overall investment of \$8.8M in our cultural community has contributed greatly to the county's overall economic health by generating \$86.2M in local salaries, providing over 3,800 full time jobs and producing \$70M in cultural patron spending for a total economic impact of over \$181M¹. Your past appropriations have helped provide 3.1M cultural experiences for residents and visitors, over 580,000 of which engage children and youth. The vibrancy created throughout the county is something that residents and visitors have come to enjoy and expect; this year's appropriation will be vital to ensuring AHC MC will be able to sustain this progress.

On behalf of the region's cultural institutions, individual artists and scholars, I am requesting your support of the County Executive's proposed budget for the Arts and Humanities Council and ask that you consider a budget increase for re-granting, for administration and a legislative change and for funding increase for the Public Arts Trust in FY20. As Montgomery County's population increases, the demand for AHC MC to provide multifaceted funding, professional development, technical assistance, and capacity building support for culturally diverse emerging and established organizations, individual artists and scholars in an equitable manner also continues to grow. Recent studies illustrate that four of the top ten ethnically diverse cities in the United States are located here in the county and as

¹ Jenkins, S. (2019). The Strength of the Creative Economy. Silver Spring MD: Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County. Retrieved from:
https://www.creativemoco.com/sites/default/myfiles/Final_030119_AHCMC-EcoImpact.pdf

Monday, April 8, 2019
Written Testimony for the Proposed
FY20 Arts and Humanities Council Budget
to Montgomery City Council

such, AHCMC remains committed to supporting a dynamic cultural landscape reflecting our diverse populace county-wide.

To address issues of equity, access and need regarding the distribution of funding in our cultural sector, AHCMC strives to abide by fair and equitable re-granting policies and practices. It is to this end that **our agency is requesting autonomy to allocate grant funds without condition**. In the past, while not law, legislative analysts have recommended the conditions which dictate AHCMC's funding allotments for each funding category. This process encouraged grant awards to follow historical patterns rather than respond to current demands. While we will continue to support legacy organizations, artists and scholars, the ability to re-grant without condition is vital to alleviate favoritism and entitlement; allowing us to better respond to need by supporting the growth of traditionally under resourced small and mid-sized culturally-specific organizations, artists and scholars who reflect Montgomery County's changing community interests and demographics.

According to the county-commissioned 2018 Arts & Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study, the growth of many organizations, artists and scholars practicing their art across the county requires increased investment in traditionally under resourced communities, specifically regarding financial and human resources and technical capacity building assistance. It also stated the need to expand relationship building and professional development opportunities for legacy, nascent, and traditionally under resourced organizations, artists and scholars. These findings align with AHCMC's research, as well as what we are currently experiencing in the field. Through the FY19 budget, AHCMC awarded 139 grants across nine funding categories. This funding represents only 78% of requests from eligible applicants. In our most competitive funding categories, we saw a rise in the number of eligible applications, but our funding only provided support at approximately 74%. The number of first-time applicants for the Wheaton Cultural Grant, the individual artists and scholars funding opportunity, and the funding category

Monday, April 8, 2019
Written Testimony for the Proposed
FY20 Arts and Humanities Council Budget
to Montgomery City Council

for small arts organizations also grew as a result of our efforts to diversify our funding portfolio. These first-time applicants are a direct reflection of Montgomery County's growing ethnic and cultural diversity. It is critical that our agency is equipped with both the appropriate fiscal and physical resources to keep pace with our burgeoning cultural landscape so that we can meet the growing demands of our field in an equitable manner.

AHCMC is requesting a FY20 budget increase of \$550,000 over the FY19 appropriation for re-granting for general operating support and project-based grants for a total re-granting pool of \$5,366,424, not including Capitol Improvement Grants. Funding at this level will appropriately address the 17% increase in budget sizes and increased demand from applicants in the most competitive categories.

AHCMC also requests a FY20 budget appropriation of \$1,000,000 for Capitol Improvement Grants. *Capital Improvement Project Grants* assist arts and humanities organizations related to an existing structure or physical plant repairs that are critical to an organization's arts or humanities mission. Grants are not intended for facilities in which capital projects are otherwise the responsibility of the landlord. Capital Improvement Project Grants are contracted directly through Montgomery County Government's Department of General Services.

AHCMC's administrative allocation has been flat since FY17. Even though we are facing an increased workload, our agency's FY19 budget received \$540,519 for administration which represents 9% overhead of administrative costs. Our staff consists of eight full-time employees and two part-time consultants whose work supports over 500 arts and humanities organizations and over 2,000 individual artists and scholars in Montgomery County. In addition to re-granting, technical assistance and professional development, AHCMC employees also offer additional services such as online tools and community collaboration efforts, serve as arts

Monday, April 8, 2019
Written Testimony for the Proposed
FY20 Arts and Humanities Council Budget
to Montgomery City Council

advocates, provide business tools and business strategies, provide arts education and cultural information for legislators and the public, and through panels disseminate key information to the field regarding all resources provided by our agency. AHCMC has worked to create opportunities for heightened outreach to organizations, artists, and scholars in rural, urban and suburban regions. Our 2017 Constituent Survey results prove that these applicants have become successful in being awarded funding from the county as well as other funders. An increase in financial and human resources for our agency will allow us to strengthen these efforts and bolster our dynamic cultural industry county-wide.

- **AHCMC requests a minimum of 10% of all of the funds provided for re-granting -- including allocations for General Operating, Program and Capital Improvement grants - for the Arts and Humanities Council's administration.**

The Public Arts Trust is Montgomery County's central program for managing the county's public art collection of over 900 works of art, including over 600 works on paper and over 300 sculptures/murals. It is also responsible for commissioning all public art on county-owned property. In FY19 the Public Arts Trust was reduced by 10% and the County Executive's proposed FY20 recommendation would decrease funding by an additional 12%. If the program was to receive full funding it would amount to \$300,000 - \$400,000 a year, allowing for appropriate maintenance and care of the county's extensive collection. Communities are inextricably linked to public art in their neighborhoods. It plays a vital role in engaging the public, providing social cohesion and understanding, creating a community cultural identity, influencing how people connect with a space and place, and contributing to the overall economic growth and sustainability of an area. Your support of full funding for the Public Arts Trust will empower the program to fulfill its mission of continuing to nurture public artists and build and inspire communities through place-making.

Monday, April 8, 2019
Written Testimony for the Proposed
FY20 Arts and Humanities Council Budget
to Montgomery City Council

For FY20 **AHCMC is requesting an Amendment to Section 8-45 Appropriation for art as follows:**

- **Sec. 8-45 Recommended Amendment to the Appropriation for art:** Each year the County Council **should appropriate** funds for the next fiscal year to the Public Arts Trust in an amount equal to a **minimum of .05%** of the combined total approved programmed capital expenditures for the then current fiscal year for County Government, Public Schools, Montgomery College, and Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.
- Additionally, **the Public Art Trust requests annual 4% increases to the budget over the previous year's budget, FY21 through FY24** to bring the overall budget closer to recommended funding levels and recognize expenses related to inflation.

Esteemed members of the County Council, I urge you to augment the County Executive's proposed FY20 budget for the Arts and Humanities Council and Public Arts Trust by increasing the appropriation for re-granting, for administration, for the Trust and by addressing a legislative change. Considering that the arts and humanities sector contributes over \$181M in economic impact to our great county, these enhancements will help position our agency, our sector, and our county for even greater financial growth while delivering priceless quality of life factors that attract residents, visitors, and businesses alike.

Thank you

21

April 8, 2019 – 1:30 pm
Testimony on behalf of
Montgomery County Arts Advocates

Good afternoon, Council President Navarro and Council Members, and thank you for the opportunity to testify before you. My name is Paula Ross and I am the Executive Director of Metropolitan Ballet Theatre & Academy (MBT), which is proudly celebrating 30 years of arts education, performances, and arts outreach work. Our academy has locations in Gaithersburg and Clarksburg, and we have performed at the Robert E Parilla Performing Arts Center at MC-Rockville for all 30 of our annual ballet production seasons. I am speaking today also as Chair of the Montgomery County Arts Advocates, an all-volunteer organization directly representing the interests of 63 nonprofit organizations. We are proud to join with all our arts and humanities colleagues in testifying before you this week.

Montgomery County Arts Advocates would like to express our thanks for the Council's strong support of the arts and humanities community. We appreciate the \$5.4 million allocation to the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County included in the County Executive's budget.

The economic impact and employment data for our sector is well documented and has been submitted for your reference. However, the value of the arts and humanities goes far beyond the economics. Three weeks ago this evening, a car drove through the front window of MBT's studio in Gaithersburg. We are beyond grateful that all of our students are physically unharmed, and we are moving forward with repairs. I raise this story because of reactions we received after the accident. Many of our families, and including those of the 10-11 year olds who were in the studio at the time of the accident came to my team, thanking us for keeping their children safe, and acknowledging that their children were upset because they felt their home was violated. *Their home.*

Arts organizations like MBT, and arts programs across the county, become a home away from home for thousands of children, and people of all ages, as well as for the artist educators and staff who operate the programs. Our programs nurture the creative spirits of our county, offering a respite from stresses of academic life, or work, or perhaps a tough situation at home. Our programs enhance, support, and partner with educational and social service programs. For those arts organizations located in buildings where people come to us, we're not only maintaining our facilities for community participation, but also making successful efforts to reach community

members – youth through seniors – beyond our walls through myriad outreach programs.

As my colleagues and I administer arts programs throughout the community, we know a few things:

1. We know that the arts is an equalizer in racial equity as we work hard to reach every corner of our vast County. We hope you will allow us to be part of the conversation that you as a Council are having in that regard to achieve racial and socioeconomic equity in access. More children and adults in our community have access to the arts and humanities than ever before.
2. We know we are expanding the world-view of our children by offering them experiences beyond the classroom with artists from around the world.
3. We know we are engaging older adults in music, art, and writing programs, as well as cross-generational programs, which help prolong the vital functions of memory and dialogue.
4. We know we are accessible to children and adults with autism or disabilities.
5. We know we are supporting hundreds of local artists and investing in the creation of new work with over 3800 full-time jobs.
6. We know that in our diverse and creative county, every resident deserves meaningful experiences in the Arts, and we stand ready to serve. We will continue to meet the increasing demand for cultural opportunities in return for your modest investment, and we will continue to spur economic growth.
7. We know that for a modest investment, the arts and humanities industry provides substantial return to the County – and continues to energize and fuel positive economic growth. We are a \$181MM industry in the county.

To that end, with the County's support, we have made unprecedented progress in developing the economic heft and vibrancy of the sector. However, the funding need is still great: our organizations have continued to expand to meet demand and serve larger audiences; health care and labor costs are rising; and the arts and humanities sector is increasingly called upon to enhance and partner with educational and social services programs.

We appreciate and support the steady funding recommended, but Montgomery County Arts Advocates also remains dedicated to its proposed platform and asks that

you consider increasing grant funding for FY2020, so that it may recover fully and return funding to pre-Recession levels.

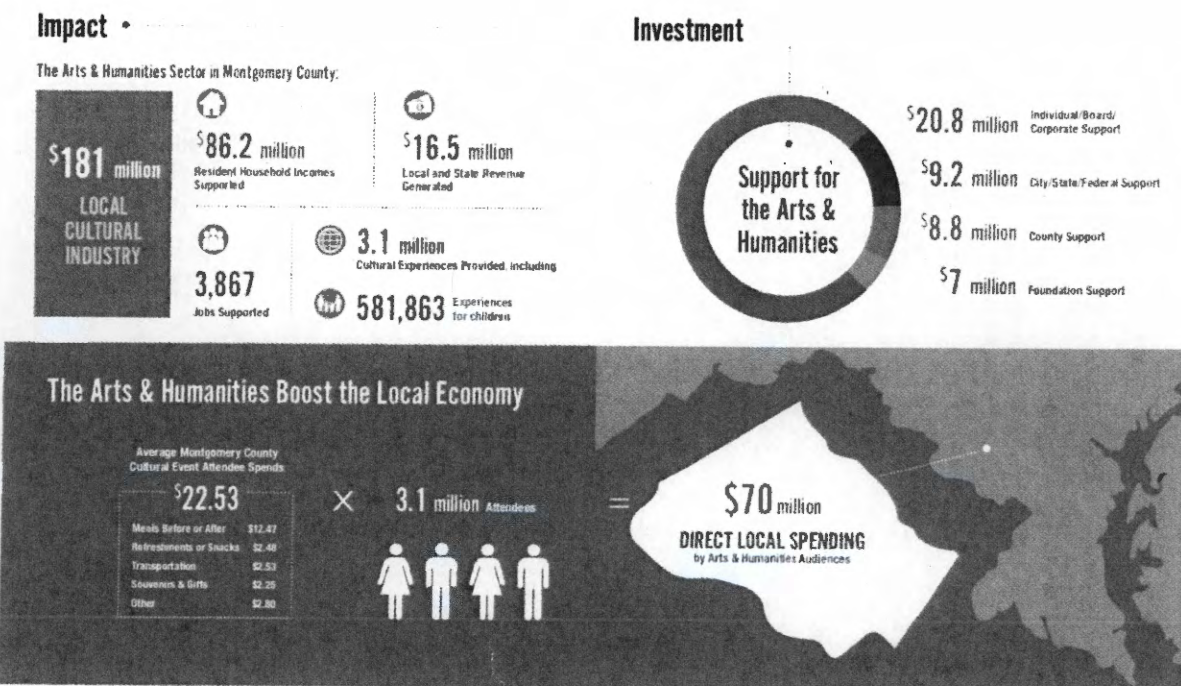
We ask for your support of the recommended appropriation and that you consider an increase in grant funding for arts and humanities organizations.

Thank you.

Attachments:

MCAA FY2020 Platform

MCAA Member List



(Impact image from the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County, creativemoco.com)

Montgomery County Arts Advocates

The MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARTS ADVOCATES (MCAA) is an organization established to advocate for support for the arts and humanities in Montgomery County. MCAA voting membership will consist of those organizations that have been recipients of Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County grants in any one of the last three (3) years. Nonvoting members may include others who seek to participate in the mission of MCAA.

Paula Ross (Metropolitan Ballet Theatre), Chair

Katey Boerner (Glen Echo Park), Vice Chair

Alice Nappy (VisArts), Secretary

Monica Jeffries (Strathmore), Immediate Past Chair, At Large

Allison Weiss (Sandy Spring Museum), At Large

James Modrick (Artivate), Past Chair

mocoartsadvocates@gmail.com

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARTS ADVOCATES AS OF 03/04/2019

Adventure Theatre-MTC	Marlow Guitar International (formerly
Afterschool Dance Fund	International Conservatory of Music)
Artivate	Maryland Youth Ballet
Arts for the Aging (AFTA)	Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras
Arts on the Block	Metropolitan Ballet Theatre &
Artstream Inc.	Academy
The Bach Sinfonia	Montgomery Community Media
Baltimore Symphony Orchestra	Montgomery History
Bel Cantanti Opera Company	National Capital Trolley Museum
BlackRock Center for the Arts	National Philharmonic Orchestra &
Cantate Chamber Singers	Chorale of Montgomery County
CityDance	Olney Theater Center
ClancyWorks	Peace Mountain Theatre Company
CREATE Arts Center	Photoworks
Damascus Theater Company	The Puppet Co.
Dance Exchange	The Rockville Bach Academy
Docs In Progress Inc.	Round House Theatre
F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference	Sandy Spring Museum
Flying V Theatre	Silver Spring Town Center, Inc
Friends of the Library,	Strathmore
Montgomery County	Symphony of the Potomac
Gandhi Brigade Youth Media	Tagore Music Group of Greater
Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts	Washington
and Culture, Inc.	Trinity Chamber Orchestra
Glen Echo Pottery	Victorian Lyric Opera Company
Imagination Stage	VisArts
Inscape Chamber Orchestra	Washington Conservatory of Music
Jewish Community Center of	Washington Revels Inc.
Greater Washington	Wheaton Film Festival
KID Museum	The Writer's Center
Levine Music	Yellow Barn Studio/Friends of the
Live Garra Theatre	Yellow Barn
Lumina Studio Theater	Young Artists of America at Strathmore
	Zemer Chai

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARTS ADVOCATES

FY20 ADVOCACY PLATFORM

The Montgomery County Arts Advocates (MCAA) has voted to adopt the following advocacy platform whose contents will be made clear to The County Executive and staff and The County Council. MCAA will actively petition both arms of the County government in furtherance of these goals. The arts and humanities organizations in Montgomery County serve more than 5 million attendees every year and provide nearly 1 million cultural experiences annually for our community's children. In addition, MCAA members partner with each other to provide programs that involve and positively influence the health and quality of life of our county's youth as well as older adults, supporting Montgomery County's commitment to be an age-friendly and dementia-friendly community. Our arts and humanities organizations today are providing access to arts programs across the county to diverse audiences, resulting in a great impact on the diversity and tolerance of our community.

As you know, the arts and humanities community is a critical and robust partner in building the County's economic engine and in leveraging these funds to generate an economic impact that far exceeds the dollars granted. Montgomery County's arts and humanities organizations represent a \$183MM industry and support nearly 4,000 full time jobs in our community. Investing in the arts and humanities provides a return that is hard to match in any other effort. We are an integral part of the fabric of Montgomery County. We are thankful that Montgomery County has a long tradition of investment in the arts as a tool for economic development and increased quality of life. Most of our established organizations simply could not function without major government investment each year. Additionally, government support of all our programs ensures continued access across the County to all of our citizens by enabling us to provide innovative programs at affordable prices or to offer specialized support to enable access.

To protect and help develop a continually vibrant arts and humanities sector in Montgomery County, where residents of every age have both a right and access to arts and humanities programs, we support the following platform of investment for FY20:

1. Arts and Humanities Grant Programs

As advocates for the arts and humanities programs and organizations in the County we feel it is vital to increase funding for the grant funds that support large, mid and small sized organizations as well as individual artists. Special project funding is also included in the suggested breakdown of support below. We recommend increased funding in proportionally higher amounts to the two main funding categories –

operating (larger groups) and project/individual grants (small/mid/individual). We also support continued funding for the advancement grant opportunities and Wheaton Arts and Entertainment District (which is not included below). We ask that the leadership pay close attention to this breakdown to ensure that groups continue to receive proportional and equitable increases from any additional funding.

We propose the following breakdown of funding for FY20:

\$5,025,000 total grants awarded (a \$500,000 increase from \$4.525MM):

\$ 3,775,000 for Large Organization Grants (compared to \$3.375 MM FY19)

\$ 950,000 for Small, Midsize, and Individuals (compared to \$855k FY19)

\$ 4,725,000

\$ 300,000 for Advancement Grants (level funding)

\$5,025,000 Total grant funding to operating, program and individual artist grants

Additional funding recommended:

\$ 100,000 for Wheaton Arts and Entertainment District – special project separately allocated

2. MCAA supports a continued government initiative to spur private giving through a **match of up to \$200,000** to revenues earned from the private sector through the Executive's Ball which benefits the Arts and Humanities organizations in Montgomery County. These funds would be distributed in proportionate matching increments to grants allocated through the Executive's Ball fund to all established and funded arts organizations of all sizes throughout Montgomery County. The Arts and Humanities Council would conduct the distribution of matching dollars.
3. MCAA supports the contribution of 6 million dollars over a 6-year period which has been approved as part of the CIP (Capital Improvement Program Budget) through 2020 (\$1MM approved FY20). The purpose of the project is to support nonprofit arts organization's capital programs including matching funds for state and federal grants. We are encouraged that capital support over the long-term, above and beyond the annual non-capital grant pool will be available to address the many capital needs of our community in an orderly and planned fashion, investing county dollars to be matched by other funds multiple times.

Hello my name is Julie Reiner, the Managing Director of Lumina Studio Theatre, and I am also a founding member of the highly successful Consortium of Theatres managing the Silver Spring Black Box Theatre. I thank you for this opportunity to talk with you about critical funding for the Arts in Montgomery County during these changing times.

The County has always been a strong advocate for the arts and that support is greatly appreciated; however, our County's mid- and small-size organizations believe the time has come in a rapidly developing Montgomery County, to take a fresh look at the way funds are allocated by the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County – an opinion I believe that is shared by the leaders of the Arts Council...and others representatives who may testify today.

The mid- and small-size arts organizations in Montgomery County are the backbone of the arts preparing the youth of today to be the arts patrons of tomorrow. They offer a vast variety of opportunities for multi-cultural performances and art exhibitions at affordable prices and in the communities they serve. Studies have shown that young people who spend time in the arts learn to express themselves more articulately and can better think outside the box to solve problems in math and science. While our output and value given to our diverse communities – in Silver Spring for example – the differently challenged, youth, people of color – are great, we small arts organizations live on the tightest of margins and funding from our own local Arts Council can make the difference between meeting the needs of our communities, or sometimes just surviving.

SPEAKING FOR LUMINA, our doors have been open to anyone with an interest in acting, without auditions. **We have served 700+ families and provided financial scholarships to low income actors for the last 22 years.** Our productions of Shakespeare, Dickens and other language rich classics on a professional stage have given county youth positive, life changing experiences in rehearsals at the nearby "White House" Teddy Roosevelt era building on Pershing and onstage at the Silver Spring Black Box Theatre. Yet our funding has remained static for the last 6 years because of conditions that restrict the AHCMC from fairly allocating their budgeted Funds to smaller arts groups who serve in a variety of diverse communities where the demand is greatest.

We trust our Arts and Humanities Council and the leadership of Suzan Jenkins and ask that any pre-existing conditions or earmarks be removed so that the Arts Council may distribute funds in the most equitable manner to all local arts organizations and the Montgomery County communities they serve

Thank you for your support and willingness to take a new look at Arts Funding in these changing times.

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2019 3:21:48 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Peerless Rockville's Letter on Arts and Humanities Council Funding

From: Education & Outreach Manager [mailto:outreach@peerlessrockville.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2019 1:13 PM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Peerless Rockville's Letter on Arts and Humanities Council Funding

Dear Council President Navarro,

Thank you for your continued support of the arts and humanities in Montgomery County regranting funds included in the FY20 Montgomery County Operating Budget, for creative placemaking through the Public Arts Trust, and for capital improvements through the Arts CIP. Peerless Rockville appreciates your leadership and thoughtful consideration of Montgomery County's cultural community during this and past budget seasons.

I am writing today to ask that you support our request for increased funding for the Arts and Humanities Council (AHC MC) in FY20.

For FY20, the County Executive has proposed flat funding for AHC MC. While I am thankful for this proposed appropriation, our sector was held flat in FY19 and AHC MC's funding only provided support in the most competitive grant categories at approximately 74%.

In consideration of the numerous established, emerging and racially diverse artists, organizations and scholars in a county that serves rural, urban and suburban communities, I encourage you to support Montgomery County Arts Advocate's request of \$500,000 in increased funding. This additional funding will broaden the Arts and Humanities' capacity to invest in county-wide programs that equitably serve the many economically, culturally, and demographically diverse residents and organizations that make up the cultural fabric of our community.

Your support helps us expand our diverse educational components that make Montgomery County history accessible to the public. Peerless Rockville's programs are based on local history topics, prominent individuals with local connections, or topics and themes of contemporary cultural interest to the community. Our programs explore the history and development of Rockville, Montgomery County's legislative and judicial seat, its neighborhoods, surroundings, and the people, events, and stories of its past, including underrepresented groups

The arts and humanities sector in Montgomery County generates \$16.5 Million in local and state tax revenue, supports 3,867 full-time equivalent local jobs and \$86.2 Million in household income. Investing in the arts and humanities creates a measurable impact in the vibrancy, livability, and desirability of our community and strengthens our local economy.

Thank you for all that you do; I hope you will support increased funding for the Arts and Humanities Council, Peerless Rockville and the greater arts and humanities community in Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pickard
Executive Director

Miriam Bunow, Ph.D
Education & Outreach Manager
Peerless Rockville
301-762-0096

35

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

Attn: Nancy Navarro
Evan Glass
Tom Hucker
Will Jawando

Dear Council members,

Please accept this letter on behalf of Live Garra Theatre which is in residence at the Silver Spring Black Box Theater. I am Wanda Whiteside, the Artistic Director and a Board member of the Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring, managers of the Black Box Theatre. Live Garra Theatre is dedicated to engaging the cultural arts as a means of fostering cross-cultural understanding and reinforcing the value of diversity.

I'd like to thank you for this opportunity to address the current restrictions imposed on the Arts & Humanities Council's (AHCMC) guidelines and allowing greater flexibility, more freedom and control over how grant funds are distributed with special emphasis given to small and mid-sized theatre arts groups.

Live Garra Theatre has been evolving: the Company's earned revenue has increased 40% since 2014 that includes tickets sales and grant awards. We still derive a significant amount of our revenue from contributions. However, as a culturally specific, nascent theater group coming into its own, the current AHCMC guidelines cap funding for small-sized arts groups at \$5,000 for project grants only and don't allow for the submission of proposals for operating funds.

Removal of this restriction and an increase of at least \$15,000 to \$25,000 would enable a small-sized (501c3) organization such as Live Garra Theatre to continue to operate and produce quality theatre. This adjustment would cover our overhead costs, e.g., theatre rental fees and allow us to pay our performers – offering them a reasonable pay rate; and to attract and hire quality talent, such as musicians, technicians and designers.

The County Community Grants award initiatives steer theatre groups to apply for operating funds through AHCMC where there is a limited amount of funding awarded to all the arts organizations –large and small. It's very important that Live Garra move into the next tier of grant funding to allow us to thrive – survive.

The trend is that we're growing in ways that make for a strong, viable business model: aggressive marketing has increased our patronage. Enthusiasm about Live Garra's mission, vision and ability to produce programming that speaks to the artistic needs of such a culturally diverse and vibrant community is tangible.

AHCMC is positioned to create opportunities for emergent organizations to sustain their viability. Funds distributed based on the growth trajectory of an organization is the actuality of *a rising tide that lifts all boats*.

Our aim is to fill the void of culturally specific Theatre and preserve the unique legacy of the African-American heritage. *"May we be nourished, that we may nourish life."* ojai

I am hopeful that the County Council will address these very critical funding needs and support the AHCMC in its mission to continue advocacy for fiscal sustainability for groups producing theatre arts programming in the community – *the Theatre wing of Silver Spring*.

Please see the attached document for additional information about Live Garra Theatre programming produced over the last few years. Thank you for all the work you do on behalf of our awesome community! If you have any questions, please contact me at (240) 603-0798

(36)

Kindest regards,

Wanda Whiteside, Artistic Director

Live Garra Theatre

cell: (240) 603-0798

In residence at the Silver Spring Black Box Theatre

www.livegarratheatre.org

LIVE GARRA
Theatre 

Close

37

LIVE GARRA THEATRE

In 2014, the organization received a grant award from the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County to present "Waiting for Godot" which spoke to the issue of homelessness. The showcase of the play, by Samuel Becket; is a play about two drifters - homeless, full of yearning, accepting human perplexity was an outgrowth of a series of weekly workshops held at a 32-bed homeless shelter for men in transition, over a six-month period. The project reinforced the philosophy that theater is a healing balm. We served lunches and provided personal items to residents at the St. Luke's church and the Carroll House in Silver Spring.

In 2015, Live Garra Theatre's participation in the Women's Voices Theater festival with its production of "A Matter of Worth," received 5-star reviews; all of which have positively impacted on the vital living for community dwellers.

DC Metro Theatre Arts

"A Matter of Worth" --The play's director and Artistic Director of Live Garra, Wanda Whiteside, creates a painfully credible story-telling exchange between every character. Her direction essentializes every word and gesture down to its core. There are no frills. Just truth. Whiteside demonstrates an uncanny ability to let what is on the page resonate with the physicality of the actor."

DC Theatre Scene

"A Matter of Worth" - Director Wanda Whiteside incorporated inspirational spirituals, dances, and poetry to bridge the gap between slavery and African culture. The narrative was so profoundly poetic it bore a Shakespearian cadence. It takes a strong ensemble to pull off such eloquent words with ease and emotional conviction. Whiteside assembled a talented, collaborative, collection of actors who were deeply connected to the storyline and eager to engage the audience in a captivating manor."

In October 2016, the organization addressed the issue of racism with a new play, "A Matter of Perspective"- eight people deliberate the guilt or innocence of a young black man arrested by two white police officers. Their divergent perspectives uncovered deeply-rooted prejudices, exposing a broken American justice system.

"A Matter of Perspective is a provocative new work ... It is a stimulating work with the potential for greater accomplishment ... Kudos go to Live Garra Theatre, Artistic Director Wanda Whiteside and playwright C.G. Gardiner for bringing to the stage a timely look at today's racial tensions in law enforcement. The cast is also to be commended for providing interesting character portraits ..." Steven McKnight
-DC Theatre Scene (10/7/16)

In 2017, Live Garra Theatre received a grant award from the Arts & Humanities Council to produce the musical, "Fool in Love" -The Frankie Lymon Story.

In 2018, Maryland Humanities (NEA) awarded Live Garra Theatre a grant of \$8,000: Live Garra Theatre produced "Talking To America: One Dream at a Time." The production was a community circle that brought residents from Middle Eastern, Caribbean, Asian and South American backgrounds together to share personal stories. The project enriched societal relations and encouraged lasting relationships with newcomers. Through storytelling, "from many peoples strengths" comes our collective humaneness. The interactive presentation

incorporated a video montage of characters, cultures and costumes. Over a 4-month period, a series of workshops were conducted to develop the context of each story. **Live Garra Theatre partnered with the Gandhi Brigade Youth Media organization to film the workshop series, interviews of the participants' family-life and social interactions.** The documentary-film presentation was integrated as the back drop during the storytelling presentations and talk-back discussions. The Silver Spring Black Box Theatre served as the presentation venue and facilitated the workshops and rehearsals.

June 2019: "Shadowbox: no small voices" is scheduled to open June 20th and run through June 30th. The play is a stark look at the disturbing phenomenon of 'date rape'. The prose will include excerpts from the renowned poet, Sonia Sanchez: "If I had known, if I had known you, I would have left my love at home."

November 2019: NO EXIT (11/ 4 – 11/24) by Jean Paul Satre. Three damned souls, brought together to live out eternity in the same room -- in Hell. A conceptual look at heaven on earth or hell on earth. Each of us locked inside our tribal communities, petty lives, identity politics -forever. Misery loves company. A small circle of family and friends is the only world that exists, for some; never befriending anyone who lives outside of familiar boundaries – missing out on the compassion of community, the blessing of shared values and the universal bond of humanity.

In 2020: Presently in discussions to present "Iola's Letter: The Memphis Crusade of Ida B. Wells" by Michon Boston. Ida B. Wells was an African-American journalist and suffragist. The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the women's the right to vote. The production will be the centerpiece of a month-long celebration honoring this landmark occasion. The play has its own history; Iola's Letters: The Memphis Crusade of Ida. B. Wells is based on the real-life events that launched an unrelenting crusade against lynching and racial injustice in 1892.

What you should know about the state of Black Theatre Companies in America: During an interview with *Keli Goff of the Root*, Sade Lythcott, CEO of the National Black Theatre in Harlem, which recently celebrated its 50th season called black theater companies "an endangered species ... and unless drastic measures are taken, companies like NBT may not be in existence 45 years from now." In the same article, Michael Dinwiddie, president of the Black Theatre Network, also asserted black theater is in a state of emergency, he explained "because of the perverse notion we have in this country that people are being reverse racist by creating their own cultural institutions...fundors would rather give money to a white theater doing a black play than a black theater doing a multiracial play."

Lythcott said that "funding has always been a challenge for minority-focused artistic institutions, funding is the No. 1 issue that has always plagued black theaters. We have always gotten less than 1 percent of budgets allocated to the arts across the board, and same in New York."

Lythcott underscores the point; "Theaters are like little economic engines, all of the jobs theaters create, including actors, set designers, costume designers and ushers. Our black theaters are the building blocks of our culture. They become the life force of how we're seen in the world. It balances out that energy and information you get from the media that still polarizes and marginalizes what it is to be black in this country."

LP
CC

April 26, 2019

2019 APR 26 PM 9:04

The Honorable Will Jawando
The Honorable Nancy Navarro
The Honorable Craig Rice
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

RECEIVED
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Dear Councilmembers of the Education and Culture Committee:

We write as the leaders of some of Montgomery County's longest-serving and most established arts organizations on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of artists, students, employees, and audience members whom we represent, and as organizational members of Montgomery County Arts Advocates (MCAA), an organization established in 2012 to advocate for County support of the arts. MCAA is the only organization that directly represents the interests of 63 small, mid-sized, and large Montgomery County nonprofit arts organizations.

We are grateful for the generous support that Montgomery County provides to our organizations through the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHC MC). In today's philanthropic climate, the General Operating Support provided by government funders is vital to our organizational stability and our continued success.

The MCAA platform calls for an increase of \$500,000 in FY20 arts grant funding to meet the continued growth of arts organization budgets. As MCAA members, we all support this request, which was endorsed by AHC MC CEO Suzan Jenkins' testimony requesting a \$550,000 increase. We are not supportive, however, of Suzan Jenkins' assertion in her testimony that AHC MC needs, "the autonomy to allocate grant funds without condition."

The current allocation of grant funds between operating support for large organizations and project grants for small and mid-sized organizations is the result of a long, carefully negotiated history. Allowing the AHC MC to change that allocation at its own discretion threatens this delicate balance and inappropriately abdicates fiduciary responsibility for the allocation of taxpayer revenue from elected officials to unaccountable private citizens.

An historical analysis of grant allocation over the past 10 years in fact illustrates that the Council has already increased grants to small and mid-sized arts organizations at a much higher rate than those of larger organizations.

- From FY10 to FY19, Montgomery County increased its overall allocation to arts funding from \$3,564,438 to \$5,536,943. That is an increase of 35% and we are very grateful for that generosity.
- In that period of time, while funding for Operating Grants to large organizations grew by 9.4%, the percentage of grant funds allocated to Operating Grants decreased from 86.6% in FY10 to 74.6% in FY19.
- Over that same period, funding for small and mid-sized organizations more than doubled (124% to be exact) with an average annual increase of 15.1%.

(continued)

April 25, 2019

Page 2

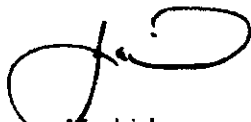
On the issue of grant allocation and any other future issues, we believe it is vital that MCAA is included and consulted in any discussion before any changes are made to the grants process and the distribution of County arts funding. It is important that Council hear directly from MCAA as the sole representative of Montgomery County arts organizations instead of having those views filtered through AHCMC. MCAA is in a unique position to articulate the organizational needs that general operating grants have supported for more than four decades and to speak honestly about the needs of our companies and the audiences we serve.

Neither MCAA nor any of our individual organizations have been consulted about the changes currently being discussed with Councilmembers, despite the serious implications these changes could have on our ability to serve the County. We strongly encourage the Committee to consider transparent communication directly with the arts community as you consider changes to any matters related to arts funding.

We also believe that if any significant changes are made to the allocation that they should be implemented gradually to allow affected organizations to accommodate the change without the necessity of major budget cuts.

We strongly urge the Committee to include MCAA in any and all discussions regarding the allocation of arts funding in the County. We also recommend that the Council maintain the current allocation of grant funds and retain its proper authority over the allocation. We would be happy to meet with you to discuss these issues further and to answer any questions.

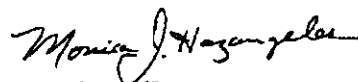
Sincerely,



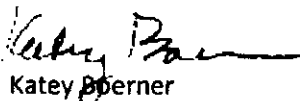
James Modrick
Executive Director
Artivate



Paula Ross
Executive Director
Metropolitan Ballet



Monica Jeffries Hazangeles
President and CEO
Strathmore Hall Foundation



Katey Boerner
Executive Director
Glen Echo Park



Debbie Ellinghaus
Managing Director
Olney Theatre Center



Alice Nappy
Executive Director
VisArts

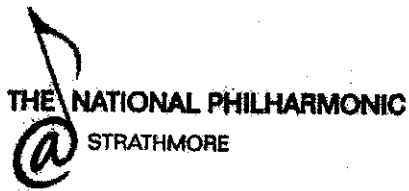


Bonnie Fogel
Executive Director
Imagination Stage



Ed Zakreski
Managing Director
Round House Theatre

cc: Montgomery County Councilmembers



Memorandum

To: Councilmember Craig Rice, Montgomery County

From: Leanne Ferfolia, National Philharmonic President

Date: March 25, 2019

Subject: NP Support request

Please find the attached FY2020 NP support request. NP is available to assist in a detailed discussion should more information be needed.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Leanne Ferfolia

President

National Philharmonic

301-493-9283 ext.114

National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale

FY 2020 Budget Request: \$200,000 annual gap funding for FY2020, 2021, 2022 and residency assistance at The Music Center at Strathmore

National Philharmonic ("NP") is the largest Montgomery County-based performance orchestra & chorale, puts more local residents as performers on the stage, and is the most frequent user of office and rehearsal space at the Montgomery County-built Music Center at Strathmore (the "Music Center").

Without immediate strategic funding and on-going residency assistance, NP will not be able to continue in its present form.

As NP promised in response to County Council directions in prior fundings, NP has made significant changes since 2016, revamping Board and executive leadership, restructuring concerts and expanding community outreach under a new 5-year strategic reorganization plan.

➤ NP emphasized self-help by increasing private fundraising by 38% in two years.	➤ Reducing NP operations is reducing audiences and donor pools.
➤ Reduction in NP operations through staff reductions (from 11 to 8) and concert reductions (from 21 to 14, plus related reductions from 73 rehearsals to 49) has resulted in losses of \$1.6M in wages annually.	➤ Reductions decreased NP usage of Strathmore by 31 times.

Despite NP's significant improvements and restructurings, declining County AHCMC support and increasing costs have occurred at a faster rate, overwhelming improvements.

➤ In FY2017, the County Council provided only one-third of NP total 5-year reorganization funding plan.	➤ AHCMC funding declined from \$350K in FY2007 to \$107K in FY2019.
➤ Average concert costs doubled at the Music Center from approximately \$200K in FY2007 to \$400K in FY2019.	➤ Total costs at the Music Center in FY2019 are higher than FY2016 costs, despite 3 fewer concerts (12 uses).
➤ NP has been unable to qualify for AHCMC Advancement grants despite artistic and other excellence noted by the <i>Washington Post</i> and National Endowment for the Arts in past few years, and despite the significant improvements and restructuring.	➤ Construction by WMATA at parking garage and construction at the Music Center has substantially decreased patronage of the Music Center, resulting in FY2019 revenue losses (tickets and donations) in excess of \$200,000.

By receiving County Council support, NP will:

- Fulfill its 5-year strategic reorganization plan developed with County Council assistance.
- Increase Music Center patronage and classical music experiences by 5,000 more County residents and by 1,000 more Kids Free participants.
- Increase Music Center usage by 22 times (5 concerts and 17 rehearsals annually).
- Increase employment services by \$1M+ in wages for personnel and contribute \$2M in economic activity.
- Continue growth of private contributions to reach strategic plan level of 55% contributed (10% increase).

Request to Montgomery County to assist:

- Provide direct annual funding to NP in the amount of \$200,000 for FY20, FY21 and FY22.
- Provide annual residency assistance for NP in the amount of \$200,000. Assistance could be provided through:
 - direct grant to NP.
 - direct grant or other assistance to Music Center.
 - repurposing CIP program to allow residency assistance support for NP at Music Center (NP is currently not eligible to receive CIP funds despite Resident Partner status at Music Center).

Strathmore will assist by:

- Improving cooperation with NP in the Music Center to include regular meetings and strategic coordination in Music Center programs.
- Continuing NP \$150,000 working line of credit and restructure current FY2019 \$150,000 balance.

National Philharmonic is the largest presenter of classical music experiences at the Music Center for 35,000+

Montgomery County residents annually and most frequent user of the Music Center. Within the Music Center, NP annually holds in FY2019, 15 concerts and 60 concert rehearsals, 104 weekly chorale rehearsals, and 9 daily office and operations spaces. NP has an annual budget of \$2.2 million and employs 8 staff, 120 musicians, and 150 volunteer singers, 154 of which are County residents. NP's programs are embedded in the community since its beginnings as a Montgomery County community musical performance entity in 1977.

In FY2018, 15,763 kids attend NP concerts through the Strathmore Foundation & MCPS second-graders concerts (where NP is the performing orchestra, program and curriculum developer) and through NP's unique-in-the-DC area "All Kids, All Free, All the Time" ticket policy. Other kids-centered programing included our FY2018 collaboration with NASA Goddard and Lockheed Martin, to present two award-winning performances of Holst's *The Planets* & Debussy's *La Mer* (with 900 kids in attendance) and our 5-week STEAM curriculum at Takoma Park MCPS.

NP shares the Music Center with the Baltimore-based Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, which is also facing financial difficulties. Such difficulties jeopardize the success of the Music Center which is viewed as the jewel in the musical crown of Montgomery County. NP wishes to continue serving as the local Resident Partner of Strathmore and the primary classical music provider to the County community and schools.



Fiscal Year 2019 Grants Awarded

FY19 General Operating Support Grants for Large Arts and Humanities Organizations \$3,374,941 for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

General Operating Support Grants for Large Arts and Humanities Organizations provide support to nonprofit organizations in Montgomery County that have annual cash operating expenses of over \$150,000, full-time paid directors, and an annual audit. Twenty-eight organizations received awards within this category.

- **Adventure Theatre MTC**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$126,351) – Adventure Theatre MTC (ATMTC) educates and inspires new generations of theatre artists and audiences with exceptional theatrical experiences. ATMTC is a leading arts organization in the DC region, focused on youth and family theatre performances and high-quality pre-professional training. Serving nearly 40,000 constituents in the last year, ATMTC's award-winning professional productions and technique-based training inspire young people's imagination and creativity, cultivating new generations of artists and life-long audiences.
- **Artivate**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$48,541) – Artivate engages communities to create interactive arts experiences that inspire learning. The organization sees the transformative power of the arts as an essential part of community life, enhancing education and creating connections that transcend language, culture and individual circumstances to cultivate awareness and a broader world perspective.
- **ArtStream, Inc.**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$30,115) – Through collaborative performance and lifelong learning opportunities, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain the skills and confidence to engage with the world. ArtStream's Inclusive Theatre Companies (ITCs), Cabaret, and classes serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- **Baltimore Symphony Orchestra**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$275,216) – Since 1916, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) has performed the highest quality symphonic music of all eras that nurture the human spirit, with an organizational mission to engage, inspire, and educate its audiences in a fiscally responsible manner. The BSO is Maryland's largest arts and cultural organization, and serves as a cultural center of vitality and importance.
- **Bender Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington**, Rockville, Maryland (\$60,390) – The Bender JCC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-sectarian, community service agency serving the Greater DC-metro area with affordable and accessible programs and services. Open to everyone, the organization's mission is to cultivate communities in a warm and inclusive environment to celebrate Jewish life and values. The Bender JCC's comprehensive arts and culture program provides high quality, value-added arts programming, under the Gildenhorn/Speisman Center for the Arts.

**General Operating Support Awards are displayed in whole dollar amounts. Actual awards may vary by no more than 99 cents.*

- **CityDance**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$85,198) – CityDance is an arts and education leader with a mission to transform lives and communities through dance. The organization meets this mission through three programmatic areas: CityDance School & Conservatory in Montgomery County, MD; CityDance DREAM in the District; and CityDance Presents serving the greater metro area. The CityDance School & Conservatory, with a goal to prepare youth for professional dance careers, provides dance training in ballet, contemporary and world dance forms taught by world-renowned faculty; personalized coaching; guest artist residencies; master classes; summer intensives with professional companies and artists; and professional performances.
- **Dance Exchange**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$22,829) – The mission of Dance Exchange is to ignite inquiry, inspire change, and connect people of all ages more deeply to the questions at the heart of our lives through dancemaking and creative practices. Dance Exchange collaborates across generations, disciplines, and communities to channel the power of performance as a means for dialogue, a source of critical reflection, and a creative engine for thought and action.
- **Friends of the Library, Montgomery County (FOLMC)**, Rockville, Maryland (\$47,659) – The mission of FOLMC is to strengthen, promote, and champion Montgomery County's public library system as it responds to the changing needs of our diverse communities. FOLMC's goal is to raise funds for and awareness of library resources and services by developing educational programs and launching new initiatives.
- **Germantown Cultural Arts Center dba BlackRock Center for the Arts**, Germantown, Maryland (\$84,582) – BlackRock, is a gem in Upper Montgomery County. The organization is both a cultural and community institution, widely acknowledged as the leading performing and visual arts center in this region. Together with their partner organizations, they help to create stronger bonds among residents by providing a unique array of opportunities to explore, experience and celebrate world-class artistry.
- **Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$102,725) – The Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture (GEPPAC)'s mission is to present vibrant artistic, cultural, and educational offerings at Glen Echo Park and promote the Park as a unique destination for our region's diverse population. The Partnership nurtures a dynamic community of artists and performers while preserving and managing historic facilities within a National Park.
- **Imagination Stage**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$245,631) – The mission of Imagination Stage (IStage) is to empower all young people to discover their voice and identity through performing arts education and theatre. IStage envisions a future where theatre experiences are a fundamental aspect of children's lives, nourishing their creative spirit, inspiring them to embrace the complexity and diversity of their world.
- **Levine Music**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$121,991) – Levine Music is the region's preeminent center for music education committed to developing a lifelong love of music in everyone, regardless of age, ability, or means. Levine is founded upon three pillars: Education, Performance, and Community. The organization's goals are to provide the cognitive and social benefits of arts education; create a new generation of music appreciators; spur community redevelopment; provide mentors to our students; and provide children in under-served neighborhoods opportunity through music education.
- **Maryland Youth Ballet**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$113,679) – Maryland Youth Ballet (MYB)'s mission is to provide: 1) young dancers with high caliber, classical ballet training to prepare them for professional careers and/or acceptance top level dance training centers. 2) professional and

recreational adult programs 3) accessible, professional-quality ballet performances 4) financially disadvantaged young children with a free introduction to ballet and training scholarships 5) young children with physical disabilities, the opportunity to experience the joy of dance movement in our custom-equipped ballet studio.

- **Metropolitan Ballet Theatre, Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$44,421) – Metropolitan Ballet Theatre (MBT) provides arts opportunities for all through exceptional dance education, community outreach, and inspiring performances. The organization's goals of excellence and service to our community are accomplished in MBT's three program areas: Academy, Outreach, and Productions.
- **KID Museum**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$48,993) – KID Museum's mission is to cultivate creativity, curiosity, and compassion to build a better world. A home-grown nonprofit created by parents and educators from Montgomery County, KID Museum is a unique, experiential learning space. KID Museum provides a space to inspire wonder and exploration through maker experiences for elementary and middle school-aged children that integrate hands-on science, technology, engineering, art, culture, and service learning with an exploration of world cultures and global citizenship.
- **Montgomery Community Television dba Montgomery Community Media**, Rockville, Maryland (\$173,628) – Montgomery County Media (MCM) is the county's Telly and CINE award-winning community media center and region's largest access station. Since 1984 MCM's aim is to "*inform, connect and educate*" the residents of Montgomery County. MCM's mission is to create and deliver unique media content that educates, entertains, informs and inspires those who live and work in Montgomery County.
- **Montgomery County Historical Society**, Rockville, Maryland (\$14,400) – Since 1944 Montgomery History has served Montgomery County and the region through exhibits, programs, educational activities, a research library, and history-themed conferences. From our base in Rockville, we operate the c. 1815 Beall-Dawson House and Stonestreet Museum of 19th Century Medicine; manage a 11,000-item collection of historic artifacts, and operate the Jane C. Sween Research and Special Collections Library and Montgomery County's official government archives.
- **National Philharmonic Orchestra & Chorale of Montgoemry County, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$107,145) - The mission of the National Philharmonic is to provide the highest quality orchestral, choral, and other musical experiences that enrich and inspire the lives of residents in Montgomery County and the Washington metropolitan area. The goal of the National Philharmonic is to provide audiences with professional performances at a convenient location and an affordable price. The organization aims to appeal to the diverse cultural backgrounds of the community through concerts of varied repertoire, diverse guest soloists, and unique education programs accessible to people of all ages.
- **Olney Theatre Center**, Olney, Maryland (\$319,890) – Olney Theatre Center for the Arts (OTC) has served as a cultural landmark for 80 years, entertaining and educating millions of Americans on its fourteen-acre campus in Montgomery County, and all over Maryland and the nation through its National Players touring arm.
- **Round House Theatre**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$181,029) – Round House Theatre is a home for outstanding ensemble acting and lifelong learning. Round House Theatre seeks to captivate audiences with stories that inspire compassion, evoke emotions, and demand conversation.

- **Sandy Spring Museum**, Sandy Spring, Maryland (\$29,572) – Founded in 1981 to preserve the unique history of Sandy Spring, Sandy Spring Museum (SSM) has consistently adapted to the demands, requests, and needs of its community. SSM's mission is to serve as a place for people to make meaningful connections to community history through the cultural arts. SSM provides the environment and inspiration for artists and community members to create and host programs, performances, activities, and exhibits that engage, stimulate, and bring people together.
- **Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$560,878) – Strathmore's vision is to create transcendent moments that ignite the human spirit. Their mission/purpose is to present and produce exemplary visual and performing arts programs for diverse audiences; create dynamic arts education experiences; and nurture creative ideas and conversations that advance the future of the arts.
- **Metropolitan Center for the Visual Arts dba VisArts**, Rockville, Maryland (\$82,914) – The mission of the Metropolitan Center for the Visual Arts ("VisArts") is to transform individuals and communities through the visual arts.
- **the Puppet Co.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$24,035) – the Puppet Co. was established to create and present puppet theater, especially for children and family audiences, as a synthesis of the visual and performing arts; through interpretive programs including classes, demonstrations, and exhibits, to inform and excite the public about the potential of puppetry; and to establish theaters for the presentation of those programs.
- **The Writer's Center**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$71,715) – The Writer's Center (TWC) cultivates the creation, publication, presentation, and dissemination of literary work. TWC is an independent literary organization with a global reach, rooted in a dynamic community of writers. As one of the premier centers of its kind in the country, the organization believes the craft of writing is open to people of all backgrounds and ages.
- **Washington Conservatory of Music**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$54,285) – The Washington Conservatory of Music provides exceptional musical learning and listening experiences for students and the community. The Conservatory's vision is to be a community inspired and informed by the experience of music. The paramount goal of the organization is to maintain high quality music lessons, classes, free concerts and events for children, teens, and adults, that reflect their distinction as one of the sixteen nationally accredited community music schools in the country.
- **Washington Revels, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$40,560) – Washington Revel's mission is to create community through celebration. Through performance, education, and outreach, Washington Revels is dedicated to reviving and celebrating cultural traditions such as music, dance, storytelling, drama and ritual, which have bound communities together over the ages and across the globe.
- **Young Artists of America at Strathmore**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$13,406) - Young Artists of America at Strathmore (YAA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization offering world-class training to gifted and committed young performing artists in a professional and nurturing environment. Through mentorship and individualized instruction from renowned artists, middle and high school students work collaboratively to perform fully orchestrated works of music-theatre in state-of-the-art venues such as the Music Center at Strathmore, where YAA resides as the arts center's first Affiliate.

FY19 Advancement Grants

\$295,094 awarded for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Advancement Grants assist arts and humanities organizations in attaining fiscal stability and long-term viability. Grants support long-term planning, and technology improvements critical to an organization's arts or humanities mission. Nine organizations received FY19 awards within this category.

- **Adventute Theatre MTC**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$39,762) – Grant funds will be used to upgrade programmatic and operational infrastructure, including upgrading aging production equipment, replacing carpeting and office lighting, redesigning a mobile-friendly website, and creating an Autism-friendly quiet room.
- **Artpreneurs, Inc dba Arts on the Block**, Kensington, Maryland (\$91,077) – Arts on the Block (AOB) will use grant funds to facilitate an organizational move and expansion from their Kensington studio location to the first floor of the new Silver Spring Library. Funds will be used to hire architecture, interior design, and project management professionals to plan and design the interior of the new space. The new space will include AOB offices, a gallery, a retail store, a large digital design and mosaic studio.
- **Bender Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington**, Germantown, Maryland (\$19,187) – The Bender JCC of Greater Washington (Bender JCC) requests funding to replace the wireless microphone systems in the Kreeger Auditorium in order to comply with new Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations.
- **Docs In Progress**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$21,827) – Grant funds will be used to make technological improvements for Docs In Progress' new Silver Spring space, which will expand the organization's capacity to offer high quality documentary filmmaking workshops and screenings.
- **Friends of the Library, Montgomery County**, Rockville, Maryland (\$20,387) – Grant funds will support IT infrastructure upgrades including hardware, software, network resources, and services required for efficient, reliable operations.
- **Imagination Stage**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$25,103) – Grant funds will be used to replace the aging headset system, which is vital to producing professional and student productions on the mainstage. Imagination Stage (IStage) will also upgrade digital media equipment needed for filmmaking courses. Both components of this project are vital to IStage programs aimed at middle and high school students.
- **KID Museum**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$55,860) - Grant funds will be used to support Phase I of KID Museum's Campaign Planning Process. This includes 1. Communications assessment and brand enhancement; 2. Campaign readiness coaching and; 3. Capital Campaign Consultant will help finalize case statement and materials, develop timeline and targets for fundraising, and work with Board and staff to launch the private sector phase of the campaign.
- **Sandy Spring Museum**, Sandy Spring, Maryland (\$10,256) – Grant funds will be used to upgrade technology that will build the foundation for enhanced fundraising capabilities.

- **Story Tapestries, Inc.**, Germantown, Maryland (\$11,631) - Grant funds will be used to hire two consultants to work collaboratively with Story Tapestries (ST) to provide expertise and training for Board development/recruitment, and developing fundraising capacity to help ST meet its goals. Consultants will also assist staff and Board members to create a fundraising roadmap. Grant funds will allow ST staff/Board members to attend training programs, including courses offered by Nonprofit Montgomery.

FY19 Capital Improvement Grants

\$891,762 awarded for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2020

Capital Improvement Grants provide supplemental funding for special purposes and assist arts and humanities organizations in attaining stability and long-term viability. Five organizations received FY19 awards within this category.

- **Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$250,00) - Grant funds will be used to replace the deteriorating roof and repaint the exterior of the carousel building that houses the historically and artistically significant 1921 Dentzel carousel at Glen Echo Park.
- **Metropolitan Ballet Theatre**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$193,525) - Grant funds support the buildout of the space to include 3 studios with proper sprung dance flooring and integrated audio/AV. The construction includes demo, rerouting HVAC units to gain adequate ceiling height, and installing equipment such as barres and mirrors.
- **Montgomery Community Television dba Montgomery Community Media**, Rockville, Maryland (98,237) - Grant funds will be used to complete the infrastructure construction of Silver Spring Community Media Lab with an integrated security system, power surge, phasing protection, construction of a podcast facility, and cabinets.
- **Olney Theatre Center**, Olney, Maryland (\$100,000) - Grant funds will be used for improvements of the structural integrity and appeal of Olney Theatre Center (OTC) including new carpet in the Mainstage Theatre; roof and drainage repairs to three buildings; sidewalk and parking lot repairs across campus; new fire alarm panels and security lighting.
- **Round House Theatre**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$250,000) - Grant funds will be used to overhaul the HVAC system at Round House Theatre's Bethesda facilities. This major capital improvement is part of a larger renovation project to begin in January 2019. The new HVAC system will have a long-term impact on the theatre's operations by improving temperature control, reduced acoustic interruption, and enhanced energy efficiency.

FY19 General Operating Support Grants for Mid-Size Arts and Humanities Organizations

\$590,540 awarded for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

General Operating Support Grants for Mid-Size Arts and Humanities Organizations provide support to organizations with annual cash operating expenses of at least \$50,000 and not more than \$150,000. Organizations that have annual expenses of more than \$150,000 are eligible if the organization did not apply for *General Operating Support Grants for Large Arts and Humanities Organizations*. Twenty-eight organizations received FY19 awards within this category.

- **After School Dance Fund**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$17,687) – After School Dance Fund's (ASDF) mission is to develop youth leadership and promote wellness, heritage, and cultural unity through Latin dance education. Our goals are to combat the troubling prevalence of preventable social and health issues in the Latina/o community, including childhood obesity, high rates of high school dropouts, teen pregnancy, domestic violence, and the devastating influence of gangs in our communities. Participants in the after school dance program learn to perform popular Latin dances and live a healthy lifestyle.
- **Akhmedova Ballet Academy**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$19,706) – The Akhmedova Ballet Academy (ABA) is dedicated to providing the finest quality ballet training utilizing the Vaganova Method, with personal and artistic mentoring that prepares young talented dancers to become strong and fully developed artists ready to take their places in major dance companies around the world.
- **Artpreneurs Inc. dba Arts on the Block**, Kensington, Maryland (\$24,706) – Arts on the Block (AOB) empowers creative youth to imagine and shape fulfilling futures for themselves and contribute to the quality of life of their communities. AOB achieves its mission by providing real-world experiences in the arts and entrepreneurial training that open new pathways to learning, self-discovery, and achievement.
- **Arts for the Aging, Inc. (AFTA)**, Rockville, Maryland (\$23,456) – Arts for the Aging, Inc. (AFTA) is an award-winning social service organization that engages older adults in health improvement and life enhancement through frequent, multidisciplinary, participatory arts programs. AFTA's primary focus brings visual, musical, performing, literary, interdisciplinary, and intergenerational arts experiences to groups of older adults living with a range of aging-related physical and cognitive impairments.
- **Bel Cantanti Opera**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,456) – Bel Cantanti Opera's mission is to support the development of young opera singers by providing coaching and performance opportunities in front of live audiences, and bring these performances to the community at an affordable cost.
- **Cantate Chamber Singers**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$14,247) – Cantate Chamber Singers' (CCS) mission is to stimulate awareness and appreciation of sacred and secular choral music through innovative programming, creative outreach, and collaborative performances with other artists and ensembles. Cantate is dedicated to presenting artistically exciting, inspiring performances of

newly commissioned and rarely heard choral works, alongside well-beloved established repertoire.

- **ClancyWorks Dance Company**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$23,456) - ClancyWorks (CW) enhances the quality of life for people in many communities, using the arts as a way to develop mutual understanding and to advance positive social action. The Company does this in four focus areas: Performance, Arts Education (AiE), Community Engagement, and Professional Development (PD). CW's mission is to increase the public appetite for, and understanding of, the arts by presenting high quality dance performances and educational programs.
- **CREATE Arts Center Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$23,456) – CREATE Arts Center (CREATE) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit visual arts organization that has been providing high-quality art education, enrichment, and therapeutic arts experiences to individuals and families for over 30 years. CREATE's mission is to spark creativity, foster learning, empower individuals, and facilitate community connections through the visual arts.
- **Docs In Progress**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$20,957) – The mission of Docs In Progress is to give individuals tools to tell stories through documentary film to educate, inspire, and transform the way people view their world. Docs in Progress empowers and supports a community of visual storytellers with fresh perspectives that are crucial to civic discourse, social change, and greater awareness of key issues confronting our society, from around the world to right here in our neighborhood in Silver Spring.
- **Flying V, Ltd.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$20,957) – Flying V creates theatre that invigorates and inspires people to live life with a greater sense of appreciation and adventure. A gateway drug to theater that bridges the gap between pop culture and high culture, Flying V is dedicated to the creation, development, and production of vibrant, original work, offbeat contemporary plays, and performance art inspired by genre fiction and other modern mythologies.
- **Gandhi Brigade Youth Media**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$22,206) – The mission of Gandhi Brigade Youth Media is to prepare youth to become leaders through a community engagement process that uses digital media. The organization's goals include training middle and high school students in videography, digital editing, digital music creation, graphic design and engaging participants in a process of building leadership and advocacy skills as they create digital media that challenges injustice.
- **Glen Echo Pottery (GEP)**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$22,206) – Based in Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo Pottery (GEP) has nurtured the artistic spirit of thousands of students since 1975. The organization's mission is to teach ceramic arts in a relaxed but creatively serious environment that is accessible and inspirational to everyone from the tentative novice to the very experienced student.
- **Glorystar Music Education and Cultural Foundation, Inc. dba Glorystar Children's Chorus**, Potomac, Maryland (\$19,707) – Glorystar Children's Chorus (GCC), provides excellent music education to children and youth in the joy of choral art. Through a rich repertoire of Eastern and Western music, GCC promotes music appreciation and builds bridges in our diverse community.
- **Inscape Chamber Orchestra**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,456) – Inscape Chamber Orchestra is dedicated to premiering and recording of new works by American composers. The organization's mission is to perform concerts that engage audiences with compelling concert experiences.
- **InterAct Story Theatre**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$22,206) – InterAct Story Theatre is a multidisciplinary touring theatre for young audiences dedicated to providing quality

performances, arts-integrated classroom workshops, artist-in-residency programs for kids, families and educators. The organization creates interactive theatre experiences for kids and families designed to bring everyone together through theatre to engage, explore, and grow.

- **interPLAY Orchestra**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$23,456) – interPLAY Orchestra (IPO) is a community orchestra comprised of adults with cognitive and physical disabilities who learn to make music in collaboration with high school seniors, college students and professional musicians. The organization's mission is based on the belief that music is not just about the written notes, and that cognitive disabilities should not limit a person's access to enjoy and even perform music. Professional musicians volunteer to share their musical talent and performance experience by joining Orchestra Members to perform all types of music, from Bach to Basie.
- **Kalanidhi Dance**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$23,456) – Kalanidhi Dance's mission is to inspire appreciation for Kuchipudi dance through artistic excellence, creative performances, high quality educational programs, and collaborations. It does this by maintaining and enhancing its status as a dance company rooted in the classical Indian tradition, creating original, high quality artistic work that remains authentic to the Kuchipudi style and pushing the boundaries of Kuchipudi through collaborations with local and international artists, across genres.
- **Lumina Studio Theatre, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,456) – Lumina Studio Theatre provides unique opportunities for young and adult actors of all levels of experience to perform classic theatre in a professional setting. Lumina engages actors in a rigorous, comprehensive performance-directed program of theatre arts using the techniques of Rudolf Steiner, Michael Chekhov, and Stella Adler.
- **Marlow Guitar International Incorporated**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$23,456) – The mission of Marlow Guitar International (MGI), formerly named International Conservatory of Music, is to create community through music by drawing people together for entertainment, education, and inspiration. MGI was named in honor of John Marlow, a performer, composer, arranger, and educator, who inspired and assisted generations of guitarists with his talent, commitment to excellence, and generous personality.
- **New Orchestra of Washington**, Rockville, Maryland (\$22,206) – The mission of the New Orchestra of Washington (NOW) is to make music relevant to new audiences through performances that combine a range of genres with fresh interpretations of classic works, and through community-building projects that engage new and experienced concertgoers.
- **Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$23,456) – Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation (PRHP) safeguards and promotes the history of the City of Rockville by preserving buildings, objects, documents, spaces, places, and information important to the City's heritage. The organization seeks to accomplish this mission through a multi-pronged approach of education, advocacy, example, and community involvement.
- **Photoworks at Glen Echo Park**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$19,706) – Photoworks is a unique photography, community, and resource center. Photoworks offers education programs, quarterly courses, gallery exhibitions, and community outreach initiatives to enrich and broaden the lives of photographers, artists, and students, facilitating photographers at all levels to grow to their visual potential.
- **Project Change (Team of Stars Program)**, Olney, Maryland (\$20,957) – Project Change (PC), the parent organization for the Team of Stars (TOS), is a youth-driven, nonprofit organization empowering middle and high school students to be agents for positive change within their

communities through youth health, wellness, service, and leadership opportunities. PC enables youth to tap into their potential and influence their communities, with peer mentoring being an integral part of its programs. TOS is a Summer Camp and after-school program for low income middle school youth that fosters youth development skills through musical theater.

- **Silver Spring Town Center Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,455) – Silver Spring Town Center Inc. (SSTCi) educates, entertains, and inspires residents of all ages by activating public spaces with arts and cultural events that embrace the region's diversity and build community connections. SSTCi's goal is to create a "community living room" through its over 100 FREE arts and entertainment programs year-round.
- **Story Tapestries, Inc.**, Germantown, Maryland (\$24,705) – Story Tapestries (ST) is a leading arts organization that serves our Montgomery County community through: 1) Professional performances in storytelling, theater, dance, spoken word, and other art forms in a variety of public spaces including community centers, local theaters, libraries, and schools; and 2) Workshops and in-depth training programs for adults and children to develop skills in various art forms, sharing how to use the performing, visual, and literary arts to develop their voice, share their stories and increase their literacy, social-emotional, and STEAM skills.
- **Symphony of the Potomac**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$19,706) – Symphony of the Potomac (SOTP) is a community-based orchestra. The high-quality symphony orchestra, with diverse membership, offers affordable concerts to increase awareness of and educate residents about classical music and orchestral performance. The symphony provides talented young people and qualified adult amateurs the opportunity to play under a professional conductor with professionally trained musicians. The symphony brings classical music to audiences that would not otherwise have access to live performances, including school children and adults in residential care.
- **The Highwood Theatre Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$22,205) – The Highwood Theatre's (HT) mission is to provide members of the community, of all ages and experience levels, with opportunities to create theatre collaboratively in a professional environment. The Highwood Theatre believes that anyone can do theatre and that there is a place and a role for everyone. The Highwood Theatre strives to build community through participant-produced theatre.
- **Youth Art for Healing**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$18,455) – Youth Art for Healing (YAFH) is a non-profit organization founded in 2012. YAFH brings works of art created by youth into healthcare environments, to provide a sense of comfort, inspiration, healing for patients, their loved ones, and healthcare professionals.

FY19 Project Grants for Small Arts and Humanities Organizations and Groups

\$86,858 awarded for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Project Grants for Small Arts and Humanities Organizations and Groups fund organizations with annual cash operating expenses up to \$50,000, and support the presentation of high-quality programs for the public. Nineteen organizations received FY19 awards within this category.

- **Bethesda Little Theater**, Olney, Maryland (\$4,750) – Grant funds will be used for theater rental, set design, costumes, promotion, and other show materials for a musical stage performance that takes place over three weekends. Funds will also pay for director, stage manager and musician honorariums.
- **DC Beauty of Beijing Opera Ltd**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$4,950) – Grant funds will be used to finance a fully costumed Beijing Opera, and associated workshops for the public, to broaden the cultural horizon of local residents.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,700) – Grant funds will be used to pay expenses for festival activities, including the facility rental, workshop fees, panelist fees, supplies and printing.
- **FocusMusic**, Derwood, Maryland (\$3,800) – Grant funds will be used to: 1. Coordinate production of Focus Bethesda & Focus Rockville shows. 2. Develop joint projects with other nonprofit organizations that produce folk and acoustic concerts in Montgomery County. 3. Focus Bethesda and Rockville sound tech costs.
- **Heralds of Hope Theater**, Laytonsville, Maryland (\$4,900) – Grant funds will be used to pay for rental and rehearsal fees for the production of the play, *"Fire In My Eyes"* to be held at the Randolph Road Theater, Silver Spring, Maryland, in October through November.
- **Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theatre**, Poolesville, Maryland (\$4,900) – Grant funds will be used to defray theater rental costs for our production of *"A Christmas Carol,"* HGCBT's ballet adaptation of the Dickens classic, to be performed at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater in Rockville, Maryland.
- **Jazz Encounters**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,700) – Grant funds will be used to pay musicians and vocalists appearing at the Betty Mae Kramer Gallery, as well as a program/event host fee. The event will feature young musicians and vocalists performing every Friday night. Selected young artists from Montgomery County, and the region will be invited to showcase their talents for the downtown Silver Spring community.
- **Kolot HaLev**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$4,802) – The grant funds will be used to present a winter concert with a Montgomery County international dance group. The concert will combine music and dance under the theme: Yom SheKulo Shabbat- Redemption is at Hand.
- **Montgomery Philharmonic, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$5,000) – Grant funds will be used for costs associated with an orchestral performance, educational programming, Summer Reading Sessions,

a Youth Chamber Music Festival, the *"Celebrate Youth"* Concert, adult education master classes, and senior outreach.

- **National String Symphonia**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,750) – Grant funds will be used for a professional concert of string orchestral music performed in Montgomery County.
- **Neighborhood Concerts**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$2,910) – Grant funds will be used for costs associated with producing free admission concerts in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase (MD) area, including artist fees, space rental, music purchase, printing, recording, and postage.
- **NIH Philharmonia**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,950) – Grant funds will be used to cover costs for sheet music rental, percussion instrument rental, program printing, soloist honorarium, and the Music Director's stipend.
- **Rockville Bach Academy, Inc. dba The Advent Project**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,320) – Grant funds will be used to partially support costs for soloists, orchestra, venue, publicity, and other technical costs for the *"Conversation Concert."*
- **Rockville Brass Band**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$2,976) - Grant funds will be used for venue rental, equipment rental, promotional costs, marketing costs. Funds will also support commission costs for a brass band and choir arrangement to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Treaty of Versailles.
- **Six Degree Singers**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,900) – Grant funds will be used for the preparation and execution of the fall and spring concerts. Six Degree Singers plans to continue its community choir operations and present free performances. Funds will support stipends for musical directors and the accompanist, rehearsal space fees, advertising fees, and a multimedia recording.
- **Unexpected Stage Company**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$4,950) – Grant funds will be used for program costs for Unexpected Stage's summer production of Duncan MacMillan's *"The Most Humane Way to Kill a Lobster."*
- **Wheaton Wonders dba Wheaton Arts Parade**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$5,000) – Grant funds will be used to pay for art instructors, art supplies, workshop space rental, interpretation, and other direct costs involved in producing two visual art workshops for Wheaton civic and cultural associations. The Community Art Workshops will focus on churches, especially those with a large Spanish speaking membership, and residents in affordable housing, especially middle and high school students.
- **Wildwood Summer Theatre**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,750) – Grant funds will be used to help finance this year's main-stage production of *"Heathers,"* which will be performed in July. Funds will be used to partially to finance production costs (including set construction, costumes, props) and the renting of show rights.
- **Zemer Chai**, Kensington, Maryland (\$4,850) - Grant funds will be used to organize and perform a choral concert of diverse Jewish music from around the world in a variety of styles and languages (including Hebrew, Yiddish, and Ladino, as well as English), before an audience of 400-500 people in Montgomery County, MD.

FY19 Artists and Scholars Project Grants

\$148,172 awarded for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

Artists and Scholars Project Grants support the work of individual artists and scholars who reside in Montgomery County. Projects focus on the creation of artistic or scholarly work, and/or professional development. Thirty-six artists received FY19 awards within this category.

- **Adele Schmidt**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used for production of a documentary titled *"California Dreaming."* Funds will cover artist fees, production expenses, and travel to shoot interviews and additional footage in California.
- **Anastasia Christofakis**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$4,232) – Grant funds will be used to bring innovative musical programs to ethnically diverse students. The goal is to elicit a conversation about humanitarian concerns while providing students with an outlet to express emotions and heal.
- **Barbara Siegel**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,550) – Funds will be used for the artist's salary to complete, self-publish, and promote a graphic novel about Tycho Brahe, a 16th Century astronomer. Grant funds will cover copies of the finished graphic novel. These copies will be used for promotion at conventions, and to mail to individuals and organizations.
- **Beverly Ress**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,050) – Grant funds will be used for the cost of working with a Master Printer to create a multi-color print. The costs include ink, paper, the time incurred by the printer, and the time incurred by the artist.
- **Bonnie Rich**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,050) – Grant funds will be used to create the web series *"40 Days of Dishing Tradition."* In this series, filmmaker Bonnie Rich explores themes regarding passing on tradition, heritage, and religion through daily conversations with seniors, preschoolers, rabbis, scholars, her parents, her millennial daughters, their friends, and fun folks she meets along the way. Viewers will be encouraged to add their own stories.
- **Brian Frankel**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to produce a documentary film called *"Fabric"* that celebrates cultural diversity within Montgomery County. Frankel will collaboratively (1) record & compile stories representing cultural diversity, (2) use the film to mentor and educate emerging filmmakers, and (3) share the finished film at a free public screening.
- **Carlen Quiroga**, Damascus, Maryland (\$4,800) – The grant funds will be used to work with inmates suffering from mental illness in the Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) at the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. Quiroga will provide a series of visual art and creative process workshops, including a project entitled *"Call and Response - Hear our Voices."* The project and visual art workshops will offer beneficial educational, artistic, and therapeutic experiences for this vulnerable population during their incarceration.

- **Caroline Ferrante**, Olney, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to pay for studio time, production, studio musicians, mastering, distribution, the culminating workshop and concert at Montgomery College.
- **Carrie Rose**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to produce the ninth season of the *“Origins Concert Series”* in Silver Spring, MD. Rose will premier two new compositions.
- **Cathy Fink**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to cover time spent composing new works and recording the compositions for a roots music sound library on the gourd banjo, five-string banjo, six- and 12-string guitars, Appalachian dulcimer ukulele, and cittern. The sound library will be distributed for use in film and television.
- **Cecily Bumbray**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used for studio time, producer fees, musician payments, mixing, mastering, and digital distribution.
- **Gilda Claudine (Dini) Karasik**, Kensington, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to develop a book of personal essays/memoir about borders and boundaries. Karasik intends to examine issues of mixed-race identity, class, and privilege through this lens, exploring her identity as a Latina, her experience as the daughter of a Mexican immigrant with Borderline Personality Disorder, and her life living both on the U.S.-Mexico border and in Montgomery County, Maryland.
- **Fabiola Alvarez Yurcisin**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,575) – The grant funds will be used to purchase two cages, three small projectors, and a sheet of clear acrylic mirror that will be used to frame nine woven panels. The funds will support Alvarez Yurcisin’s artistic practice for a solo exhibition at VisArts in Rockville.
- **Jackie Hoysted**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used to install the *“One House Project”* at Blackrock Center for the Arts. The installation will include over 200 individual artist panels dedicated to a family member’s immigration story. The house is a powerful visual statement about the diversity of America. Funds will be used to build the house, conduct workshops, develop an interactive catalogue, and create an instruction manual to encourage the replication of the One House Project in other communities.
- **Jacqui Crocetta**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to develop a new body of work (paintings, prints, drawings, sculpture) in response to themes centering on compassion and conviction, as inspired by an examination of Brookside Gardens. Crocetta will look at different aspects of the gardens through the lens of pattern, abstraction, and observational drawing. Funds will also cover workshop fees to expand her artistic skills.
- **Jerry Truong**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,300) – Grant funds will be used to create a series of large-scale photographs and moving images. This new project explores the vibrant community of immigrants who fled from war-torn Vietnam in the 1980’s and eventually settled in the Washington, D.C./Virginia area.
- **Karash Payne**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,640) – Grant funds will be used to purchase photographic equipment essential to improving the quality of reference photographs used in the applicant’s oil paintings of figures in and under water.
- **Karen Lovejoy**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to produce quality video samples for marketing. As part of the artist’s marketing plan to increase exposure, Lovejoy will produce videos that represent the music, vitality, and spirit generated in live performances.

- **Krista Caballero**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,318) – Caballero will conduct research in the Southwest focused on indigenous knowledge and the cultural implications of bird species in decline. This signifies the next stage for "*Birding the Future*," a project in collaboration with Frank Ekeberg. This grant will provide funds for a critical trip back to Zuni (and the region) where the applicant will interview elders as well as visit important bird and ecologically threatened areas along the border to create a new media installation.
- **Kristine DeNinno**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$1,684) - Grant funds will be used to attend a one-week residency to create solar plate etchings, a new form of environmentally friendly printmaking at a print studio in Baltimore that specializes in this technique. The artist will create solar plates, collaborate with the director of the residency and create a final edition of prints to be shown at a local gallery. Solar plates are a safe way to create an etching and relief printing that does not use grounds, acids, or solvents.
- **Larry Levine**, Rockville, Maryland (\$1,544) – Grant funds will be used to create a series of framed, exhibition quality photographs and a book exploring the theme of why people create. The book will include close up images of the artists at work, detailed views of tools or materials used, and a quotation by each of the artists.
- **Laura Baron**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,300) – Grant funds will be used to finance a recording of original songs by celebrated songwriter Laura Baron. The record will be recorded and produced by DC legend Marco Delmar at Recording Arts. The funds will also be used to hire Delmar to produce and engineer the EP. The grant will fund the release of an initial 300 copies of the EP.
- **Lauren Thompson**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,084) – Grant funds will be used for a puppet show which promotes recycling, artistic expression, the development of emotional regulation, and body positivity for children.
- **Laurie Breen**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used to create a new body of large-scale mixed media paintings during an artist residency.
- **Liliane Blom**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used towards completing the applicant's "*Four Seasons*" series of digital paintings and accompanying video installation. The series is divided into four seasons and each season into three i.e.; early spring, mid-spring, and late spring. The project includes 12 pieces. Each will feature a "Spirit"/ "Goddess"/"Queen" surrounded by the trappings of her station/season.
- **Liz Seaton**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used to develop a Professional Portfolio of illustrations for three stories, to secure the applicant's first publishing contract and engage MoCo residents in portfolio review.
- **Marty Ittner**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$2,730) – Grant funds will be used for creating six hand-printed scrolls for display in Historic Takoma's front picture windows during the winter season. The artworks will feature imagery from Historic Takoma's archives.
- **Nishi Chawla**, Potomac, Maryland (\$4,050) – Grant funds will be used for the staging and production of Chawla's new play titled, "*DRAUPADI'S ARRANGED MARRIAGE*." Draupadi has been considered a rather unfortunate but fascinating character in the Indian epic, "*The Mahabharata*." Draupadi was doomed to marry five brothers, and in the dramatic exchange between Draupadi and her five husbands, Nishi Chawla hopes to explore the dynamics of marriage as an economic and social barter system where the role of romantic love is either diminished or interrogated.
- **Nistha Raj**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used for covering expenses for a musical recording (EP) including the fees for a professional recording studio (recording, mixing

and mastering), expenses for hiring musicians, a photo shoot for promo materials, and CD duplication.

- **Salieu Sidique**, Clarksburg, Maryland (\$4,300) – Grant funds will be used to produce a short film. The funds will be used to hire and pay a Director of Photography, buy a production kit, pay production talent, and pay for required location and equipment insurance. The film is set on the Metro rail.
- **Sam Mauceri**, Kensington, Maryland (\$2,496) – Grant funds will be used to finance the research and writing of a new interactive, multi-sensory play for early childhood audiences (ages 1-5), exploring childhood anxiety and mindfulness.
- **Sarah Beth Oppenheim**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used for honoraria for the applicant, payment for artistic collaborators to conceive and rehearse a dance theatre work. Funds will also cover rehearsal space, the facilitation fee for a creative process workshop/community discussion about identity expression for Montgomery College students and faculty. The grant supports a facilitation fee to offer a movement workshop at Empowered Women International, exploring the themes about the creative process, identity empowerment in the workplace, social life, and home.
- **Seema Reza**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used to fund the promotion of Reza's second book, which is her first full-length book of poetry. "*Sand Body: A Constellation of Half Lives*" will be published by Write Bloody. Creative work and events will take place in Montgomery County. The funds will be used to purchase author copies, finance a pre-publishing trip to the Association of Writing Programs conference in Portland, OR, and a book launch in Montgomery County featuring other poets of color.
- **Susan Farrer**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$1,320) – Grant funds will be used to defray the costs of attending the National Center for Creative Aging's annual conference in Philadelphia. Conference participation will help develop Farrer's capacity as a teaching artist. Farrer focuses on older adults, including adults with Alzheimer's disease/related dementias living in Montgomery County. The professional development conference will include experiential and other sessions to expand her knowledge and skills for working with elderly people, as well as opportunities to network with national and international creative aging experts.
- **Susan Goldman**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,550) – Grant funds will be used to produce a suite of large-scale screen-prints and Artist Proofs. The imagery of vessels and flowers reference the applicant's interest in the art historical canons of these forms. Goldman will transform this concept into images, using the applicant's past to push ideas into a clearer and more precise artistic vision. This project will be a hybrid of her experience as a visual artist and master printmaker.
- **Wytold Lebing**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,800) – Grant funds will be used to create and record an original EP of music blending classical technique on the six-string electric cello with live looping, and contemporary electronic beats crafted out of samples of acoustic cello. Grant funds will also be used to create a live light show and video projection design for performances of this original music, and to promote these performances to audiences in the MD/DC/VA area.

FY19 - 1 Arts Integration Residencies in the Schools

\$15,000 awarded for September 1 – December 31, 2018

Arts Integration Residencies in the Schools Grants (AIRSG) support individual teaching artists and scholars trained in curriculum-based arts integration techniques who collaborate with a teacher to develop an arts-integrated program for students during the school day. The program must benefit underserved students during the school year, during the school day, in a public or non-public elementary, middle or high school located in Montgomery County.

- **Neelsville Middle School, Arianna Ross**, Germantown, Maryland (\$3,000) – Teaching Artist Arianna Ross will lead a series of five, one hour workshops for all 6th grade Language Arts classes (18 classrooms total).
- **Argyle Middle School, Leila Cabib**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,000) – grant funds will support a cartooning residency during which seventh and eighth grade students will create a written and visual narrative in the form of a graphic novel page that explores the theme of relationships. Using narration, dialogue, and the visual techniques of graphic novel storytelling, each student will combine his/her life experience and imagination to create this page.
- **Westbrook Elementary School, Carien Quiroga**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,000) – grant funds will support SPED students in the Emotional Disability program to create a large-scale, fused glass mosaic artwork inspired by the history and culture of South Africa while reflecting on their personal journeys of overcoming challenges in their lives. The collaborative artistic process will provide students an empowering and positive mechanism for self-expression, resiliency, and communication.
- **South Lake Elementary School, Ali Oliver-Krueger**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$3000) – grant funds will support a Books Alive residency tailored to integrate creative drama with the kindergarten math curriculum at South Lake. The residency will serve students and teachers in seven kindergarten classrooms, and will promote kindergarten-level math skills, emerging literacy skills, and oral language skills.
- **Albert Einstein High School, Adrienne Clancy**, Kensington, Maryland (\$3,000) – grant funds will support a dance integration residency focused on history and world cultural themes, and will be conducted with a core group of 9th-12th grade students. Students will create work using improvisation, choreographic devices, structures, and the elements of dance to highlight historical and cultural themes.

FY19 Wheaton Cultural Project Grants

\$91,815 awarded for January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Wheaton Cultural Project Grants are flexible awards for projects that create impact in the Wheaton community, and provide cultural opportunities for artists and scholars to work in Wheaton. Ten organizations and one individual received FY19 *Wheaton Cultural Project Grants*.

- **Heralds of Hope Theatre Company**, Laytonsville, Maryland (\$8,000) - Grants funds will be used to fund the cost of marketing and publicity fees associated with a robust outreach campaign for a "Wheaton Ten-Minute Play Festival." The Festival is scheduled to take place in June, 2019. Participation will be encouraged from culturally diverse individuals and groups, particularly from Asian, Latin, African-American, Native-American, and Arab (ALAANA) communities in Wheaton and throughout Montgomery County.
- **InterAct Story Theatre Education Association, Inc.**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$9,000) - Grant funds will be used to grow the InterAct Story Theatre's Wheaton Family Theatre Series, providing monthly free events in the arts and humanities for children and families in Wheaton. The newly enlarged Wheaton Family Theatre Series will include an expanded KidStory Theatre Festival in May 2019; the addition of drama programming during the summer; increased efforts to recruit and showcase the work of artists from Wheaton and our surrounding communities; and an emphasis on inclusion of artists from a diversity of cultures and art forms.
- **Sutradhar Institute of Dance & Related Arts**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$9,000) - Grant funds will be used to choreograph "Why Trees Dance" to highlight our sacred ecology. This is inspired and framed by the 'Chipko' movement of the resistance of Indian rural women who defied loggers by wrapping themselves around trees. To that end, classical dance and lyrics are used from the Atharva Veda 1500 B.C: "This earth is our alter, our heaven," the Bhagavad Gita, 4th C. B.C , "one who reads the wisdom in a leaf of a tree is an awakened soul," and from a contemporary English poet Kamala Devi. The audience is led to a place of reverence for our environment.
- **Wheaton Film Festival**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$9,000) - Grant funds will be used to produce the 5th Annual Wheaton Film Festival (WFF) and produce the 4th Annual Make a Movie in a Month Project (MMM). This is the follow up to the 2018 WFF, 2017 WFF, 2016 WFF, 2015 WFF, and 2018 MMM, 2017 MMM, 2016 MMM. We will offer educational panels, networking opportunities, film screenings, and a month long collaborative filmmaking project that takes place in Wheaton. The 2019 WFF is scheduled for Friday, November 8, 2019.
- **Wheaton Wonders, Inc.**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$9,000) - Grant funds will be used to produce the third annual Wheaton Arts Parade. The parade and festival that follows celebrate local artists, arts organizations, cultural organizations, and Wheaton's cultural diversity. The Wheaton Arts Parade presents Wheaton as an arts friendly community and an arts destination. The parade and festival help the community appreciate its wealth of art and culture which has been difficult to realize due to Wheaton's lack of performance space, studios, and galleries. Funds will be used for equipment rental, printing, insurance, marketing, arts supplies, and workshop instructors.
- **New Orchestra of Washington**, Rockville, Maryland (\$7,900) - Grants will be used to offset artist fees for four admission-free chamber music performances at Chuck Levin's Washington Music Center in Wheaton, MD and two low-admission family concert performances at Temple Emanuel in Kensington, MD.
- **UpRooted Dance**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$8,000) - Grant funds will be used to further develop a new version of "The Legacy Project," to be presented by UpRooted Dance at Brookside Gardens

located within the Wheaton Regional Park. Through dance, sculpture, costume design, live music, and interactive activities and workshops, UpRooted Dance will perform and educate the Montgomery County MD and Wheaton residents about the dire need to take personal responsibility for our shared consumption and waste habits.

- **Leila Cabib**, Potomac, Maryland (\$7,700) - Grant funds will be used to provide free multi-session after-school animation and graphic novel creation classes for children, a multi-session cartooning class for seniors, and four self-contained, one-hour animation workshops for children, and one for seniors at the new Wheaton Library during fall/winter 2019.
- **Urban Artistry, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$8,800) - Grant funds will be used to fund Urban Artistry, Inc.'s annual festival, The International Soul Society Festival, an all ages, week-long series of events celebrating the full spectrum of urban arts and its many influences. This festival creates needed opportunities for inspiration and collaboration amongst global artists and the community in Wheaton. Through cultural arts programming and community and skills building programming, we hope to instill the understanding that "it's bigger than dance."
- **Six Degree Singers**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$7,615) - Grant funds will be used to fund 1) the stipends of Six Degree Singers' artistic staff for leading music education to Wheaton residents and choral concerts in Wheaton and 2) the cost of producing the concerts in Wheaton, including advertising, music, and venue fees.
- **The Rockville Bach Academy**, Rockville, Maryland (\$7,800) - Grant funds will be used to help pay professional musicians (chorus and orchestra), conductor, and venue fees for rehearsals and one performance.



Public Arts Trust

(P729658)

Category	Culture and Recreation	Date Last Modified	05/09/18
SubCategory	Recreation	Administering Agency	Recreation
Planning Area	Countywide	Status	Ongoing

EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Cost Elements	Total	Thru FY17	Est FY18	Total 6 Years	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	Beyond 6 Years
Planning, Design and Supervision	726	-	126	600	100	100	100	100	100	100	-
Other	1,175	495	115	565	115	90	90	90	90	90	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,901	495	241	1,165	215	190	190	190	190	190	-

FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Funding Source	Total	Thru FY17	Est FY18	Total 6 Years	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24	Beyond 6 Years
Current Revenue: General	1,901	495	241	1,165	215	190	190	190	190	190	-
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES	1,901	495	241	1,165	215	190	190	190	190	190	-

APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA (\$000s)

Appropriation FY 19 Request	190	Year First Appropriation	FY96
Appropriation FY 20 Request	190	Last FY's Cost Estimate	1,321
Cumulative Appropriation	761		
Expenditure / Encumbrances	588		
Unencumbered Balance	173		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Effective April 12, 1995, the County Council enacted legislation providing for the creation of a Public Arts Trust. The purpose of this program is to incorporate art into public facilities and sponsor privately-funded temporary or permanent displays of art on public property. As written, the County Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) administers the trust in consultation with the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County (AHC MC), Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery College, and the Montgomery County Parks Commission. The request for County funds for this project will be determined annually. The guidelines state that the annual request for the next fiscal year will be 0.05 percent of the total approved programmed capital expenditures for the current year Capital Improvements Program of the County Government, Public Schools, Montgomery College, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Each year, the County Council should consider appropriating this amount but may appropriate any amount.

COST CHANGE

\$50,000 FY18 Special Appropriation approved by Council in July 2017. Funding added in FY23 and FY24, and annual funding

66

increased in all years.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Bill 12-94, a revision to the Art in Public Architecture law, provides for the creation of a Public Arts Trust. The Public Arts Trust is administered by the County CAO.

FISCAL NOTE

\$50,000 FY18 Special Appropriation approved by Council in July 2017. The Public Arts Trust is implemented through the Department of Recreation via an outside contract with the AHCMC.

DISCLOSURES

Expenditures will continue indefinitely.

COORDINATION

Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery College, M-NCPPC, Department of General Services, County Executive, Chief Administrative Officer

Project #24A

Review of the Financial Structure of Strathmore, the Strathmore Hall Foundation, and Other Similar Venues

Principal Agency: Strathmore

Strathmore is a nonprofit multi-disciplinary arts center in Montgomery County. It is a public/private partnership between Montgomery County and the Strathmore Hall Foundation that includes The Mansion at Strathmore and the Music Center at Strathmore.

Montgomery County acquired the Mansion (built as a private residence in the early 1900s) and 11 surrounding acres of land from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 1979. Following restoration, the Mansion at Strathmore opened in 1983 and currently includes a concert pavilion, music room, tea room, gift shop, and gallery space. The County broke ground on the 1,976-seat Music Center at Strathmore in 2001.

The Strathmore Hall Foundation entered into a 15-year lease agreement with Montgomery County for use of the Music Center and the Mansion in 2004 and the lease allows for four 10-year extensions. The Strathmore hosts several resident artistic partners, including the National Philharmonic and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) at Strathmore, Levine Music, and Washington Performing Arts.

The Council is interested in better understanding the revenue structure of Strathmore and the Strathmore Hall Foundation, including data about annual rents and/or fees charged to its artistic partners. This report will examine and describe Strathmore's and the Strathmore Hall Foundation's overall financial structure, including its financial relationship with the County, with its artistic partners, and with public and private donors. The report will also include research about other similar arts centers – exploring whether other jurisdictions operate arts centers via public/private partnerships, how other centers structure financial relationships with artistic partners, and the venues' overall financial structures.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

ANDREW FRIEDSON
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 1

MEMORANDUM

TO: Councilmember Craig Rice, Education and Culture Committee Chair
Council President Nancy Navarro
Councilmember Will Jawando

FROM: Councilmember Andrew Friedson *AF*

DATE: May 1, 2019

SUBJECT: Arts and Humanities Council NDA

Thank you for all of your ongoing efforts to support a vibrant arts community in Montgomery County, which plays such a pivotal role in creating opportunities, growing the economy, and improving quality of life. As the Education and Culture Committee reviews the Arts and Humanities Council NDA tomorrow, I strongly support Council staff's recommendation to add \$550,000 in arts grants to the reconciliation list. However, I am particularly concerned about any specific requirements that deviate from the established practice of how arts grants are currently allocated.

In light of Council staff's recommendation to review the widely understood funding paradigm at a later date, it would be imprudent to create a new process for these additional funds outside of the established structure before that broader discussion takes place. Such a change would add unnecessary disruption and additional uncertainty as the Council determines the best path forward. The budget is the appropriate time to debate and alter funding levels, not for dramatic changes to process. There simply isn't sufficient opportunity for input and feedback from all affected stakeholders.

As you have heard from the Montgomery County Arts Advocates (MCAA), a sudden and significant change of this nature could adversely impact the financial health and programming provided by creative organizations on which our residents rely. Too often, we get caught up in perceived zero-sum games, in business and in the arts, pitting large organizations against small ones. Like in any healthy ecosystem, we need a diversity of organizations and a variety of sizes that complement one another.

I am hopeful that this additional appropriation, within the existing and established framework, will help to grow our arts community and our economy, and better serve our residents. I look forward to working with the members of this Committee and outside partners to have a comprehensive discussion at a more appropriate time about how best to leverage the arts to make the greatest impact on our community.

CC: Linda Price