

Resolution No.: 15-1660
Introduced: October 17, 2006
Adopted: October 31, 2006

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Councilmember Floreen

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the FY07 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Arts and Humanities Council Non-Departmental Account
Levine School of Music, \$50,000 (source of funds: General Fund Reserve)

Background

1. Section 308 of the County Charter provides that a special appropriation: (a) may be made at any time after public notice by news release; (b) must state that the special appropriation is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency or to act without delay in the public interest; (c) must specify the revenues necessary to finance it; and (d) must be approved by no fewer than six members of the Council.
2. In January 2005, the Levine School of Music began operations at Strathmore Hall. In FY06, the school requested and received \$50,000 from the County to help support the transition to the new venue and cover the costs associated with providing expanded services there. At that time, although the Levine School had been operating in the County for more than a decade, it was not eligible to apply for operating support from the Arts and Humanities Council.
3. In FY07, the Levine School became eligible to apply for Arts and Humanities Council operating support through a new grant category for "affiliate organizations" and initially was led to believe that the school would receive approximately \$80,000, an amount sufficient for the year. While the budget was under County Council review, the Levine School learned that Arts and Humanities Council operating support would be less than originally expected. Subsequently, the school received \$31,000 in operating support from the Arts and Humanities Council, but it continued to face a projected \$50,000 deficit in FY07.
4. After the FY07 budget was adopted, the Levine School requested \$50,000 from the County to make up the remaining shortfall in their FY07 Strathmore campus budget.

5. The requested funding would be used to provide financial aid for Montgomery County students who cannot otherwise afford the school's tuition, and to offer free or nominally priced concerts, recitals, master classes and programs for the public, including Levine's nationally recognized *Early Childhood Music* and programs for seniors. Without this funding, students who currently receive financial aid may not be able to finish the school year, and the school may be forced to cancel many of its public programs.
6. Notice of a public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held on October 24.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following resolution:

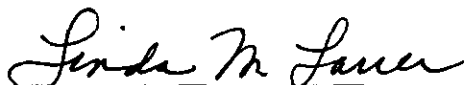
A special appropriation to the FY07 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Government, Arts and Humanities Council Non-Departmental Account, is approved as follows:

Personnel Costs	Operating Expenses	Capital Outlay	Total Appropriation	Source of Funds
0	\$50,000	0	\$50,000	General Fund Reserve

This special appropriation is necessary to act without delay in the public interest.

The Arts and Humanities Council must administer this appropriation and assure that it is used by the Levine School of Music, Strathmore campus, to provide financial aid for Montgomery County students who cannot otherwise afford the school's tuition, and to offer free or nominally priced concerts, recitals, master classes and programs for the public.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council