



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: August 1, 2024

In Control: San Antonio Arts Commission

DEPARTMENT: Department of Arts and Culture

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Krystal Jones

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

FY 2025 Artist Grants Preliminary Funding Recommendation (Action Item)

SUMMARY:

The Department of Arts & Culture provides Artist Grants to qualifying professional artists based in San Antonio. Thirty applicants are being recommended for funding in two tiers: 25 grants at \$7,500 and 5 at \$15,000.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Artists Grants are made available annually through the Department of Arts & Culture. Funded through the Hotel Occupancy Tax and detailed in the Arts Funding Guidelines for Nonprofits & Artists, Artist Grants are available in two funding tiers—\$7,500 and \$15,000—to professional San Antonio-based artists working in the literary, media, multidisciplinary, performing, and visual arts. These grants support artists in the creation and presentation of new artistic work in San Antonio. For FY 2025, there is funding available for 30 grants: 25 grants at \$7,500 and 5 at \$15,000. A

previously recommended and approved artist has voluntarily withdrawn from funding consideration. There is now an opportunity for another artist in the \$15,000 tier for the performing arts category. Per the Grant Guidelines, funding is recommended for the next highest scoring applicant. Staff recommends the next highest scoring applicant for funding in the performing arts category at the \$15,000 tier.

ISSUE:

Funding for Artist Grants requires approval prior to grants being awarded. Preliminary funding recommendations will be reviewed and approved by the Arts Funding Committee. If approved, funding recommendations will go to the San Antonio Arts Commission for approval. From there, approved funding recommendations are included in the Department's FY 2025 Budget for City Council approval.

FISCAL IMPACT:

FY 2025 Artist Grants are funded by the Hotel Occupancy Tax and included with Department of Arts & Culture's FY 2025 Budget to be approved by City Council in September 2024.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is a briefing and possible action item to consider an alternate preliminary funding recommendation for an Artist Grant award. The alternative would be to delay the item until the Arts Funding Committee could convene at a future meeting. However, with FY 2025 Budget on the horizon, delays to approval of the recommendation could lead to a missed funding opportunity for the alternate applicant.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.