

Program #10020 - Regional Arts & Culture Council 4/18/2018

Department: Nondepartmental **Program Contact:** Christian Elkin
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) provides contract services to Multnomah County and its residents. Formerly a county bureau (the Metropolitan Arts Commission), RACC became an independent 501(c)(3) organization in 1995 in order to leverage support from other regional government partners and private donors, ultimately investing much more in arts and culture than the County alone can afford. These investments create vibrant neighborhoods, enhance our children’s education, and fuel the creative economy with measurable economic benefits for Multnomah County.

Program Summary

RACC plays a vital role in the county’s economic and community development efforts. Specifically, RACC provides services in five key areas: (1) Through Advocacy, RACC helps build support and resource for arts and culture. (2) RACC Grants provide artists and arts organizations with the base financial support they need to continue serving our community. (3) RACC’s nationally acclaimed Public Art program, including the Multnomah County 2% for Art Ordinance, integrates a wide range of art into public spaces. (4) RACC provides other Community Services including workshops for artists, consulting for arts organizations, and a variety of printed and electronic resources; (5) RACC helps K-8 schools integrate the arts into the standard curriculum, and supports art and music teachers that are funded by Portland’s arts tax; and (6) RACC invests in arts-related programming that supports vulnerable populations and marginalized communities in Multnomah County, including low-income Oregonians, veterans, East County residents, seniors and people experiencing homelessness.

Arts and culture activities add measurable value to our region’s economy and to our quality of life. Artists and arts organizations bring residents together for shared cultural experiences that stimulate creativity which in turn supports more innovative businesses and a richer educational experience for our children. A vibrant arts community serves as a magnet for young creatives, and Multnomah County’s investment in the arts contributes to the competitive advantage we have over other regions competing to attract sustainable businesses and an innovative, well-educated workforce. Multnomah County is home to the vast majority of the region’s artists and arts and culture organizations, which together generate more than \$294 million for the local economy and \$12.5 million for local government coffers every year.

Proposed program allocations for FY 2019 County dollars include investments in the following RACC programs: \$244,800 for grants and technical assistance services for artists and arts organizations, \$31,275 for arts education (including The Right Brain Initiative), \$5,000 for advocacy programs including Work for Art, and \$18,925 for general management and sustaining services such as accounting and information technology/web services. RACC receives separate funding from Multnomah County to fund public art projects through the county’s percent-for-art ordinance.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY17 Actual	FY18 Purchased	FY18 Estimate	FY19 Offer
Output	Dollars leveraged from other sources	\$8,813,680	\$9,500,000	\$10,857,000	\$11,000,000
Outcome	Multnomah County children engaged in creative learning	9,225	9,500	9,674	9,750
Output	# served by RACC-funded projects (total attendance)	3.35 Million	3.5 Million	3.5 Million	3.75 Million
Outcome	Improvement in reading and math scores	2.5 times	2.5 times	2.5 times	2.5 times

Performance Measures Descriptions

*Evaluation data reveals that as schools work with The Right Brain Initiative, students reading and math scores increase at least 2.5 times more than the average annual rate of increase. This growth is even greater for English Language Learners, whose scores increased 10 times more after schools partnered with Right Brain.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

RACC operates as a steward of Multnomah County investments in arts and culture as per contract #440000704 which expires on June 30, 2019.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2018	2018	2019	2019
Contractual Services	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$300,000	\$0	\$300,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$300,000		\$300,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2018: 10020 Regional Arts & Culture Council

Three years ago, Multnomah County funding for RACC was increased by \$130,000 to help RACC provide significantly more grants and services for artists & arts organizations in underrepresented communities including residents of East County, communities of color, low-income Oregonians, and other marginalized populations. This program offer maintains those investments.