



Program #10020A - Regional Arts & Culture Council 7/21/2015

Department: Nondepartmental **Program Contact:** Lisa Whedon
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted
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 is developing comprehensive Arts Education solutions for our community; and (6) RACC will continue to support arts programs that work within Multnomah County’s system of care for vulnerable populations, particularly those for 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 \$253.5 million for the local economy and \$21 million for state and local coffers every year.

Proposed program allocations for FY16 County dollars include allotments to the following RACC programs: Advocacy and Development (including Work for Art), \$12,000; Grants, \$107,700; Technical Assistance, \$5,200; Arts Education (including The Right Brain Initiative), \$31,275; Management/General (including outreach to under served communities), \$14,507 and \$129,318 in additional administration, grants and projects that serve vulnerable populations (as described by (6) above).

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Purchased	FY15 Estimate	FY16 Offer
Output	Dollars leveraged from other sources	\$7,925,000	\$8,000,000	\$8,171,000	\$8,500,000
Outcome	Individuals served by RACC-funded projects and programs (total combined attendance)	6,500	7,000	7,000	7,500
Output	Multnomah County children engaged in creative learning of standard curriculum subjects	0	0	3.2 Million	3.3 Million
Outcome	Improvement in reading and math scores, compared to average annual rate of increase*	0	0	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, 2018.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2015	2015	2016	2016
Contractual Services	\$167,008	\$0	\$300,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$167,008	\$0	\$300,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$167,008		\$300,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

This is a General Fund program.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2015: 10020 Regional Arts & Culture Council

1. RACC published a free resource to help local arts organizations focus work around equity and inclusion: An Introduction to Engaging Diverse Audiences and other resources are available online at racc.org/equity. 2. The Right Brain Initiative is now serving 20,000 students in 59 schools across 7 districts in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties. 3. RACC's professional development workshops serve more than 350 artists/year. 4. Awarded more than \$2 million to 126 nonprofit organizations, 11 schools and 125 individual artists. Increase expected in 2014-15 thanks to special funding from the City of Portland and growth in Portland's voter-approved Arts Education and Access Fund. 5. RACC acquired 34 pieces for the Portable Works Collection with the focus of increasing representation of Native American artists in the collection. 6. Work for Art, raised \$776,007 2013-14 campaign year, and is expected to raise similar amount in 2014-15.