

ITEM #: 15
DATE: 06-27-23
DEPT: Admin.

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: FALL 2023 COMMISSION ON THE ARTS (COTA) SPECIAL GRANTS

BACKGROUND:

On June 5, 2023, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for Fall 2023 Special Project Grants. Four grant requests were received, totaling \$5,250. COTA has \$8,508 in funding available for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 Special Project grants. The requests and COTA’s recommendations are described in the table below:

| ORGANIZATION | REQUEST | PROJECT | RECOMMENDATION |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| ACTORS | \$2,500 | The Play that Goes Wrong | \$1,600 |
| Octagon | \$1,000 | RAGBRAI Wheat Paste Mural | \$910 |
| Ames Town and Gown | \$750 | Castalian Quartet Outreach | \$750 |
| Story Theater Company | \$1,000 | Performance Lab Workshop | \$930 |
| TOTAL | \$5,250 | | \$4,190 |

Copies of the contracts were sent to the awarded organizations for approval and have been returned. The contracts are now presented for the City Council’s approval.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the COTA special project grant contracts as recommended.
2. Refer the contracts to COTA for further information.
3. Do not approve the contracts.

CITY MANAGER’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Special project grants help advance participation in and awareness of the arts in the Ames community, which is a key goal of the Commission on the Arts. COTA has reviewed the requests and has recommended the approval of the contracts now presented to the City Council.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.