

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: COMMISSION ON THE ARTS SPECIAL GRANTS FOR SPRING 2014**

**BACKGROUND:**

On November 2, 2013, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for the Spring 2014 Special Grants. A total of five grant requests were received from five different organizations. The organizations requested \$3,200 in funding, with \$1,755.15 being available from the 2013/14 budget for Spring Special Grants.

Based on the merits of each application and the criteria established for the special grants, COTA recommended the following allocations, which were then sent to the organizations in contract form in December. The contracts are now being presented for your approval.

**COTA SPRING 2013-2014 SPECIAL GRANT REQUESTS**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Request</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Final</b>
Ames Chamber Artists	\$700	Employ instrumentalists	\$536.40
VEISHEA	\$750	Stars Over VEISHEA	\$0.00
India Cultural Association	\$750	Natya Barati Theater	\$559.00
Ames Community Arts Council	\$250	Arts in Ames Awards	\$193.15
Story Theater Company	\$750	Perform/present teen drama	\$466.60
<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>\$3,200</b>		<b>\$1,755.15</b>

The Commission takes seriously its charge to be certain of how the proposal for funding will be completed and be certain that it is understood how the public is benefitted. VEISHEA was not funded for a Special Project Grant, due to their request being an addition to the Annual Grant activities. The Special Grant is provided to allow for unforeseen activities that were unknown at the time of the annual grants process.

The Council approved \$1,950 for Fall 2013 Special Grants from the Special Projects budget. This left an amount of \$1,755.15 available for Spring 2014 Special Grants.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. The City Council can approve the special grant contracts as recommended COTA.
2. The City Council can hold these contracts and ask the Commission for further information.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

It is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the Spring 2014 special grant contracts as recommended by the Commission on the Arts.