

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF COMMISSION ON THE ARTS (COTA)
SPECIAL PROJECT GRANTS FOR FALL 2016**

BACKGROUND:

In June the Commission on the Arts (COTA) met to finalize recommendations for its Fall 2016 Special Project Grants. Four grant requests were received. The organizations requested \$3,000 in funding, with \$4,160 being available from the 2016/17 budget for both Fall and Spring Special Project grants.

Based on the merits of each application and the criteria established for the special project grants, COTA recommended the following allocations, which were then sent to the organizations in contract form. The contracts, having been signed by the organizations, are now presented for City Council approval.

COTA FALL 2016/17 SPECIAL GRANT REQUESTS

Organization	Project	Request	Award
ACAC	Ames Area Studio Tour Artist Meet and Greet	\$ 750	\$ 725.00
ACTORS	Online Advertising	750	637.50
India Cultural Assoc.	Shakuntala: A Classic Love Story	750	412.50
Worldly Goods	Eulenspiegel Puppets Performance at Octagon	750	637.50
Total		\$ 3,000	\$ 2,412.50

The Commission takes seriously its charge to verify that the proposals for funding will be completed and that there is a public benefit. If these contracts are approved, \$1,747.50 in funds will remain available for COTA's Spring 2017 Special Project Grants.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the COTA Special Project Grant contracts as recommended by the Commission on the Arts.
2. Hold these contracts and ask the Commission for further information.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

COTA's special project grant applications are reviewed each year to ensure they meet the criteria outlined in the application instructions. The Commission has recommended that they be approved to accomplish the Commission's goal to further the performing arts in the Ames community. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.