

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF COMMISSION ON THE ARTS (COTA) SPECIAL GRANTS FOR SPRING 2017

BACKGROUND:

On November 7, 2016, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for the Spring 2017 Special Project Grants. Three grant requests were received, totaling \$1,850 in requests. COTA has \$1,747 in funding available for these grants.

Based on the merits of each application and the criteria established for the special grants, COTA recommended the following allocations. Contracts were sent to the awarded organizations for approval and have been returned. The contracts are now presented for City Council's approval.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Commission Recommendation</u>
ACAC	\$ 750	Lecture Series – Creating a Professional Practice	\$ 750
Worldly Goods	750	30 th Anniversary Community Classes	750
Story Theater Co.	350	Boys and Girls Club Theater Program	0
Total	\$ 1,850		\$ 1,500

Special Project grant awards are limited to \$750 per project. Grant applicants are required to attend a COTA meeting to present their project. A representative of Story Theater Company did not attend and was therefore an award was not recommended by COTA.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the COTA special grant contracts in the amount of \$1,500 as recommended by Commission on the Arts (\$750 for ACAC and \$750 for Worldly Goods).
2. Delay approval of these contracts and ask the Commission for further information.
3. Do not approve the contracts.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

These projects 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, thereby approving the COTA Spring 2017 special grant contracts as recommended by the Commission on the Arts.