

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

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

**BACKGROUND:**

On November 7, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for the Spring 2022 Special Project Grants. This season, seven grant requests were received, totaling \$14,750 in requests. COTA has \$8,450 in funding available for these grants.

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

<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>REQUEST</b>	<b>AWARD</b>
Ames Chamber Artists	Spring Concert Addition	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,235
D.M. Metro Opera Guild – Ames Chapter	Children’s Opera	575	525
Good Company	Digital Marketing Expansion	1,000	805
India Cultural Association	Hindi Theater Play	3,000	1,825
Iowa Youth Ballet	Community Dance Workshop	1,675	955
Octagon Center for the Arts	[untitled]: A celebration of breasts from the perspective of people who had them and let them go	3,000	1,670
Story Theater Company	Charlotte’s Web	3,000	1,435
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 14,750</b>	<b>\$ 8,450</b>

**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:**

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, as described above.