

ITEM #: 10
DATE: 12-12-23
DEPT: ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: SPRING 2024 COMMISSION ON THE ARTS (COTA) SPECIAL GRANTS

BACKGROUND:

On November 6, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for the Spring 2024 Special Project Grants. These grants are in amounts up to \$1,000 for unforeseen or unique opportunities that support arts in the community. This season, six grant requests were received, totaling \$11,515 in requests. COTA has \$5,228 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.

ORGANIZATION	PROJECT	REQUEST	AWARD
Ames Desi Drama Association	Indiran Chandiran	1,000	1,000
Ames Writers Collective	Langston Hughes Project –Poetry Master Class	1,000	1,000
Creative Artists’ Studios of Ames	Fiber Arts Node	6,120	428
D.M. Metro Opera Guild – Ames Chapter	Children’s Opera	1,595	1,000
India Cultural Association	“Run-g Munch” Holi 5k Run	1,000	1,000
Story Theater Company	Royal Academy	800	800
Total		\$ 11,515	\$ 5,228

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.