

ITEM #: 11
DATE: 11-25-25
DEPT: ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **SPRING 2026 COMMISSION ON THE ARTS (COTA)
SPECIAL PROJECT GRANT CONTRACT**

BACKGROUND:

On November 3, 2025, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for Spring 2026 Special Project Grants. One grant request was received totaling \$1,000. COTA has \$7,262 in funding available for Spring 2026 Special Project grants. The request and COTA's recommendation are described in the table below:

| ORGANIZATION | REQUEST | PROJECT | RECOMMENDATION |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| India Cultural Association | \$1,000 | Indian Wedding Mirage | \$682.50 |
| TOTAL | \$1,000 | | \$682.50 |

The project financed through this grant is a demonstration of many of the traditions that are exhibited at traditional Indian weddings. Copies of the contract were sent to the awarded organization for approval and have been returned. The contract is now presented for the City Council's approval.

On November 3, 2025, COTA also voted to make the remaining \$6,579.50 available to arts organizations through a third round of special project grant funding in Summer 2026. The requirements and deadlines for this special round of funding will be finalized at COTA's January meeting.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Spring 2026 COTA Special Project Grant contract as recommended.
2. Refer the contract to COTA for further information.
3. Do not approve the contract.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Special project grants 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 request and has recommended the approval of the contract now presented to the City Council. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[SPG Spring 2025 - India Cultural Association.pdf](#)