



MEMO TO: Parks and Human Services Committee of the Whole

FROM: Lorna Velasco, Cultural Arts Coordinator

DATE: February 4, 2020

SUBJECT: 2020 Art Season Grant Selection

I. PURPOSE ☒ For Info Only ☐ Potential Agenda Item ☐ Scheduled for Council Action

II. RECOMMENDATION

Briefing on the 2020 Arts Season Grant Awardees

III. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Carrie Hite, Parks and Recreation Director, 425-556-2326

Chris Weber, Cultural Arts Administrator, 425-556-2316

Lorna Velasco, Cultural Arts Coordinator, 425-556-2352

IV. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

Since 2012, the Redmond Arts Season is a grant program that supports quality arts and cultural programs that are accessible to Redmond residents and visitors throughout the year in order to:

- Provide inclusivity: Create connections and partnerships across Redmond's diverse community
- Cultivate a creative environment: Provide an encouraging environment for artists and participants at all levels
- Produce a thriving arts scene in Redmond: Support local artists and arts and cultural organizations

The City of Redmond provides support and resources to help connect Redmond's diverse community and develop our creative community. This includes any one or a combination of the following resources to meet these goals:

- Project support grants of \$1,500, \$2,500 and \$3,500
- City of Redmond venue(s), dependent on availability
- Coordinated communications, marketing, and outreach activities by City of Redmond staff

The overall budget for this program is \$28,000.

A. Analysis

The 2020 Art Season Grant Call was created with purposeful intent to simplify the process and more clearly define the criteria in hopes of attracting new diverse applicants into the process, and better integrating this program to reflect the goals of the Cultural Inclusion Resolution (No. 1465).

The 2020 Art Season Call opened on October 11, 2019, with a deadline of December 06, 2019. A Grant Workshop was held at Centro Cultural Mexicano on November 12, 2019 and six groups participated. A total of 19 applications were submitted, a 65% increase from the previous year. There were eleven new applicants, and seven applications from previous grant winners. Exhibit A summarizes the proposals.

Exhibit A: 2020 Art Season Grant Applications

Name	Title	Amount
afrose ahmed	Public Poetry Project	\$3,500
Bellevue Martial Arts	Mandirigma: Warrior Culture of the Philippines	\$3,500
Bobby Ives	The Joy of Landscapes!	\$3,500
Centro Cultural Mexicano	Dia de los Muertos 2020	\$3,500
Elise Konscsek	Welcome Immigrants	\$3,500
Latinos Unidos	Latino Night	\$2,500
Marko Coady	Apex	\$1,500
Nrityalaya School of Dance	Lasya-Baratanatyam Performance	\$3,500
Poets in the Park	Poets in the Park	\$3,500
SecondStory Repertory	SecondStory Repertory: Live Theater at RTC 2020	\$3,500
Semilla Flamenca	Inclusive Dance Workshop and Show (Flamenco)	\$3,500
Tanya Knudsen	The Art of Zero Waste	\$3,500
Tasveer	Tasveer Youth Collective Film and Celebration	\$3,500
Tifa Tomb	CREAK!	\$3,500
Vala	2020 VALA Arts Season Programming	\$3,500
Vedic Cultural Center	Ananda Mela	\$3,500
Vedic Cultural Center	Festival of Colors	\$3,500
Vedic Cultural Center	Healthy, Happy and Wise - Vegetarian, Vegan, and Raw Food Festival	\$3,500
Wolfberry Studio LLC	Rainbow on the Eastside - Pride Month Art Show	\$3,500

The 2020 panel met on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 10:00 AM at Redmond City Hall.
The panel consisted of:

Cheri Fowler, *Redmond Arts & Culture Commissioner*

Kari Tai, *Redmond Arts & Culture Commissioner*

Chris Weber, *City of Redmond Cultural Arts Administrator*

Lorna Velasco, *City of Redmond Cultural Arts Coordinator*

The following selection criteria were used to rate the applications:

- **Public Benefit:** Project describes meaningful efforts to create community participation and reach diverse and underserved audience. The project aligns with the City of Redmond's Resolution No. 1465, affirming a commitment towards a culturally inclusive community.
- **Quality Project:** Provides a clear, well-conceived, compelling project where art is the primary component and promotes arts participation and community relations. Various art forms include dance, music, film, theatre, visual arts, literary arts, and festivals.
- **Feasibility & Quality of Past Work:** They have a proven track record of presenting in their field and/or other programs and/or demonstrated ability to produce the program (or similar program) in and around the City of Redmond. There is evidence of community involvement and support. The budget is clear and realistic.
- **Match:** Applicant has matching funds in the forms of: in-kind donations, volunteer hours, outside organization support such as grants, corporate, and/or individual donations.

The panel unanimously recommended that the Arts & Culture Commission fund the following groups the amounts listed in Exhibit B. On December 12, 2019, the Arts & Culture Commission approved these recommendations.

Exhibit B: Recommended Awards for 2020 Arts Season Grants

Proposal & Requested Amount	Award Amount
afrose ahmed- Public Poetry Project Literary Arts <i>Timeframe:</i> FY 2020 Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500
Centro Cultural Mexicano- Dia de los Muertos 2020 Arts and Culture Festival <i>Timeframe:</i> November 1, 2020 Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500
Latinos Unidos- Latino Night Arts and Culture Festival <i>Timeframe:</i> February 1, 2020 Requested: \$2,500	\$1,500
Marko Coady-Apex Multidisciplinary Arts <i>Timeframe:</i> 3 rd Tuesday, 7pm Requested: \$1,500	\$1,500
Poets in the Park Literary Arts	\$2,500

Proposal & Requested Amount	Award Amount
<i>Timeframe: July 18-19, 2020</i> Requested: \$3,500	
SecondStory Repertory Theatre <i>Timeframe: Jan 18 – June 21</i> Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500
Semilla Flamenca – Inclusive Dance Workshop <i>Timeframe: April 7-26</i> Requested \$3,500	\$2,500
Tasveer- Tasveer Youth Collective Film and Celebration Film <i>Timeframe: September 11, 2020</i> Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500
Tifa Tomb- CREAK! Film <i>Timeframe: TBD, potentially July/August 2020</i> Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500
Vedic Cultural Center- Ananda Mala Arts and Culture Festival <i>Timeframe: July 26-27, 2020</i> Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500
Vedic Cultural Center- Festival of Colors Arts and Culture Festival <i>Timeframe: March 21, 2020</i> Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500
Wolfberry Studio LLC- Rainbow on the Eastside: Pride Month Art Show Visual Arts <i>Timeframe: June 1-30, 2020</i> Requested: \$3,500	\$2,500

Funding for the Arts Season Grants is allocated from the Arts Activity Fund. This year, the Arts and Culture Commission authorized increased funding levels from \$15,000 to \$28,000 to enhance the community's access to public art and to support more local artists and cultural arts organizations.

V. TIME CONSTRAINTS

None, this is a briefing to keep the City Council aware of arts organizations doing work in Redmond. No City Council action is required.

VI. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Presentation