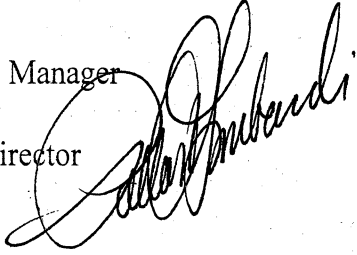


Cambridge Arts Council

57 Inman Street Cambridge, MA 02139 (617) 349-4380

MEMO TO: Robert W. Healy, City Manager
FROM: Pallas C. Lombardi, Director
DATE: December 4, 1998
RE: City Council Order #043, dated 11/23/98
*Report on What Support the City Can Provide
For Neighborhood Arts*



The single most important factor that unites all neighborhood arts programs, whether existing or emerging, is the need to funding. Despite the steadily increasing prosperity of the economy, funding for the arts remains scarce.

The City through the Cambridge Arts Council (CAC) is fortunate to receive funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) each year for the purpose of redistributing to arts projects that serve the needs of our community. For the past two years, CAC has successfully increased its allocation by \$15,000 to a total of \$54,000.

On October 15, CAC received 82 grant applications requesting a total of \$273,302. The review committee (see attached) is recommending 20 grants and 5 pass applications for funding by cutting grantees' budgets by approximately 20% to 25%. The review committee was extremely frustrated by the difficulty of this decision-making process.

The committee members asked CAC if the City would match on a 2:1 or 1:1 basis the funds received from the State and increased by the Arts Council.

\$32,990 matching funds from the City would bring the recommended grantees to full funding and ensure program success. An additional **\$61,570** would fully fund the remaining 15 applicants the review panel recommended for funding based on the quality of the applications, the constituencies served, and the demonstrated community support for the projects.

The attached lists name the applicants, describe the projects and neighborhoods served, and the amounts requested of both the applicants recommended for funding whom we are able to fund and the applicants recommended for funding whom we are unable to fund.

The review committee and the Cambridge Arts Council share the opinion that the City has an opportunity to support these applicants by matching the State funds. The grant program establishes guidelines and criteria for an equitable review of applications. The CAC is able to implement this process effectively but with the committee continues to be frustrated by the lack of resources available to support these worthy applicants.

FY99 Cambridge Arts Council Grant Program Panelists

The following panelists were recruited by the Cambridge Arts Council through a public nomination process as well as through word of mouth and via the extensive panelist data base of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. All live or work in Cambridge and have a diverse range of expertise, including art-making, administration and grant-writing, education, and community activism. They also were selected to represent the ethnic diversity of Cambridge.

Visual Arts/Film & Video

Wen-Ti Tsen is a public artist whose current projects include *Mirror of Culture – A Portrait in Diversity*, a mural at UMASS/Boston and *Story Grove*, a site sculpture at the O'Donnell School in East Boston. (Asian American)

Sandy Goldberg is a visual artist and museum educator who recently received a LEF Foundation grant for a solo installation for Boston City Hall.

Philecia Harris is a visual artist and Branch Director at the Valente Branch Library. She is on the board of the Cambridge Center for Adult Education. (African American)

Bernice Schneider is a film editor and cinematographer and recipient of a NEA regional fellowship.

Mike Majoros is a documentary filmmaker and a professor at Rhode Island School of Design.

Music/Dance

Joyce Bishop is a dancer and Interim Director at the Strand Theater, Dorchester. (African American)

Melinda Rhone is a dancer, musician and educator who is active in the programs of the Brazillian Cultural Center of New England. (Brazilian)

Ray Farhner is a composer and conductor, and former Artistic Director of Young Audiences of Massachusetts.

Syd Smart is a percussionist and drummer who is involved in a variety of jazz and improvised music. (African American)

Jennifer Elowitch is a violinist and Artistic Co-Director and Co-Founder of the Portland Chamber Music Festival (Maine).

Literature/Theater

Pat Dixon is a journalist, essayist, communications consultant, and arts administrator. In 1996, she produced *The Thirteen Neighborhoods of Cambridge*, a study of neighborhood life and the arts commissioned by the Cambridge Arts Council.

Patricia Powell is a novelist and lecturer in English and American Literature and Language at Harvard University. (Carribean)

Evelyn Moore is an actor, director, and writer, and English/Drama teacher in the Newton Public Schools.
(African American)

John Bay is Education Director at the Studebaker Theater, Somerville (currently implementing an Education Partnership Initiative grant project in the Cambridge Public Schools).

Sue Standing is a poet and professor at Wheaton College. Her poems recently appeared on *One Side of the River*, a CD of poems by Cambridge and Somerville poets.

Cambridge Arts Council Grant Program

FY99 Funded Applications

DANCE

25

Dance Complex

Dance Month

for: Dance Complex will serve as an informational and organizational center for all the events taking place during Dance Month, May 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6, Citywide

Request: \$6,000

Grant: 4,500

66

Dance Complex

Dancemonth in the Schools

for: the pairing of dance teachers with school teachers to create curriculum based dance classes, as part of Dancemonth.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Citywide

Request: \$1,325

Grant: \$995

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = DANCE (2 detail records)

\$5,495

LITERATURE

43 Karen

Propp

Midlife Motherhood: Interviews/Readings

for: interviews of Cambridge women regarding becoming first-time mothers in mid-life, and readings of a new creative non-fiction work on this topic.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 9, 5, 7, 11

Request: \$2,855

Grant: 2,141

47

New Words Live Inc.

New Words Live 1999 Fall Reading Series

for: presentation of 10-12 authors reading from books of importance to women, taking place during September-November 1999, in New Words Bookstore and in Cambridge Public Libraries.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 4, 6

Request: \$2,500

Grant: 2,000

64

Cambridge School Volunteers Inc.

Reading Partners - The Intergenerational Literacy Program

for: the training of volunteer tutors to work with first and second grade Cambridge students at risk in emergent literacy skills, and a photographer who will document their progress.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Citywide

Request: \$2,225

Grant: 1,669

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = LITERATURE (3 detail records)

\$5,810

MULTIDISCIPLINARY

58

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center (CMAC)

Youth Jamn!

for: an eight month program between CMAC and Jamnastics Inc. using art and sport to build community and promote positive change among Cambridge youths.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 1, Citywide

Request: \$5,000

Grant: 3,750

76 Laurie Beth Mangili

Painted Storytelling Chairs and Tables

for: the creation of a series of storytelling tables and chairs from storybooks by the first and fifth grade students at the Haggerty School.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 13

Request: \$3,266

Grant: 2,000

77

Brazilian Cultural Center of New England

Performance and workshops in Brazilian art

for: the implementation of an arts/education program, in partnership with the Harrington School.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 4

Request: \$4,600

Grant: 3,450

88

Brazilian Cultural Center of New England

Performance in Afro-Brazilian Capoeira and Maculele

for: performances in Capoeira, a Brazilian dance/martial arts artform, and Maculele, an Afro-Brazilian stick dance, for Cambridge schoolchildren.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 4, 6, 1

Request: \$4,200

Grant: 3,150

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = MULTIDISCIPLINARY (4 detail records)

\$12,350

MUSIC

24

Cambridge Symphony Orchestra

The Creation and Presentation of a Flute Concerto

for: the presentation of a new flute concerto composed and performed by a local composer and musician, staged on March 21, 1999, at Cambridge Rindge & Latin School.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6, 10

Request: \$2,000

Grant: 1,000

48 Deborah Silverstein

Family Concert with Taproot

for: presentation of a free family concert by Taproot, a family folk quartet, at the Mildred A O'Neil Library on Rindge Avenue on March 21, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 11

Request: \$500

Grant: \$500

65

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston

Access to the Best Music Program

for: underwritten and accessible seating to low-income, at-risk, disabled young people and senior citizens, to enable them to attend Pro Arte's concerts at Sanders Theater in Cambridge.

Neighborhood(s) Served:

Request: \$2,500

Grant: 1,500

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = MUSIC (3 detail records)

\$3,000

THEATER

44

Underground Railway Theater

Underground Railway Theater's Season Premiere

for: presentation of plays, workshops and symposia in the Underground Railway Theater being built by MIT in Central Square.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 5

Request: \$8,000

Grant: 5,000

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = THEATER (1 detail record)

\$5,000

VISUAL ARTS

10

Cambridge Arts Council

Gallery 57: 8 solo exhibitions 1999-2000

for: the coordination and staging of eight solo art exhibitions by Cambridge artists at Gallery 57, run by Cambridge Arts Council.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6

Request: \$4,800

Grant: 3,600

11 Ted

Clausen

Visible Voices

for: a National Memorial to honor Lesbian and Gay American History in Cambridge.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 11, Citywide

Request: \$7,550

Grant: 5,000

40

Cambridge Arts Council

Temporary Public Art 20th Anniversary - 1999

for: presentation of an extensive temporary art program at the 1999 Cambridge River Festival, as part of the 20th Anniversary celebrations of the city's public art program.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 7, Citywide

Request: \$5,500

Grant: 3,46053 Courtney **Bent**

Picture This: The Cerebral Palsy Photography Project

for: on-going community based photography workshops for individuals with Cerebral Palsy.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 1, 6

Request: \$2,780

Grant: 2,220

55 Mitch

Ryerson

Stump Chair Carving Project

for: designing and carving three large tree stumps into functional public seating with children from Neighborhood Youth Centers in Cambridge.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Undecided as y

Request: \$2,250

Grant: 1,800

57

Windsor House Adult Day Health Program

Senior to Senior Mosaic

for: the creation of a ceramic mosaic by a ceramic artist and 35 elders and disabled adults, to be installed at the Cambridge Senior Center.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6

Request: \$1,580

Grant: 1,000

King Open School Arts Committee

Martin Luther King Jr. Mural Project

for: the creation of an outdoor mural depicting the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. by the students at the King Open School guided by the artist David Fichter.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 7

Request: \$3,500

Grant: 2,800

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = VISUAL ARTS (7 detail records)

\$19,880

Grand Total**\$51,535**

PASS

79

Watson House/ Mass. Half-way Houses Inc.

Alvin Ailey Dance Performance at the Wang Center

for: 12 tickets to the Alvin Ailey Dance Performance at the Wang Center for the Performing Arts on April 23, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 5

Request: \$84

Grant: \$84

80

CRLS Drama Fund for Cambridge Public Schools

American Repertory Theater: The Island of Anyplace

for: 360 tickets for children, Grades k-3, to see the Island of Anyplace play performed by the American Repertory Theater at Loeb Drama Center, May 25, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Citywide

Request: \$2,520

Grant: \$625

81

CRLS Drama Fund for Cambridge Public Schools

Phenomenal Physics with Dr. Fish and Trent

for: 386 tickets for children, grades 4-6, to see the performance: Phenomenal Physics with Dr. Fish Trent, by the North Shore Music Theater, on May 19, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Citywide

Request: \$2,509

Grant: \$625

82

CRLS Drama Fund for Cambridge Public Schools

Dance Umbrella/Jazz dance by Danny Buraczeski

for: 255 tickets for children, grades 7 & 8, to see the Jazz dance performance by Danny Buraczeski at the Emerson Majestic Theater, on April 9, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Citywide

Request: \$2,550

Grant: \$625

83

CRLS Drama Fund for Cambridge Public Schools

The Barber of Seville

for: 360 tickets, for students, grades 9-12, to see the Barber of Seville by the Boston Lyric Opera at John Hancock Hall on April 20, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Citywide

Request: \$2,520

Grant: \$625

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = (5 detail records)

\$2,584

Grand Total**\$2,584**

Cambridge Arts Council Grant Program

FY99 Additional Recommended Applications

DANCE

8

Nicola Hawkins Dance Company

Modern dance performance/workshop

for: a daytime dance performance about the Big Dig, followed by a workshop, in October 1999 at the Dance Complex for children and teachers from the Cambridgeport and Graham and Parks schools.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6, 5 Request: \$500 Recommended Grant \$500

9

Prometheus Dance

The Millennium Project: Songs and Dances from 1900

for: an original song and dance performance exploring social issues today and 100 years ago, to be staged for two weeks in March and April, 2000.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 1 Request: \$7,000 Recommended Grant \$7,000

26

Back Porch Dance Company

Cambridge Women and Work Project

for: production and presentation of a multipart project for March, 2000, focusing on the lives and work of Cambridge women, in conjunction with Vaughn Sill's photographs.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6, Citywide Request: \$8,000 Recommended Grant \$8,000

54

East End House Summer Fun Program

The Joy of Dance VI

for: a collaborative dance project between the East End House Summer Fun Program and the Deborah Mason School of Dance.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 1 Request: \$500 Recommended Grant \$500

67

Dance Collective Inc.

Summer Outreach Program and Intergenerational Company

for: performances and workshops involving dance professionals and Cambridge youths.

Neighborhood(s) Served: Citywide Request: \$2,000 Recommended Grant \$2,000

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = DANCE (5 detail records)

\$18,000

LITERATURE

33 Julia Thacker

The Funeral of a Man Who Isn't Dead Yet

for: completion of a short novel and a reading at the Collins Branch of the Cambridge Public Library on July 8, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 10 Request: \$2,000 Recommended Grant \$2,000

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = LITERATURE (1 detail record)

\$2,000

MULTIDISCIPLINARY

31 Cambridgeport Artists Open Studios (CAOS)

Cambridgeport Open Studios event

for: the simultaneous opening of studios and galleries of over 70 artists' and performers' work who live or work in Cambridge.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 5 Request: \$3,370 Recommended Grant \$3,370

61 Cambridge Community Television

Summer Video Institute 1999: Identity

for: a theater/media arts project exploring issues of identity, racial and ethnic diversity, and community with Cambridge youths.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6 Request: \$5,000 Recommended Grant \$5,000

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = MULTIDISCIPLINARY (2 detail records)

\$8,370

MUSIC

15 Jazz Composers Alliance

Jazz Composers Alliance Festival

for: a jazz festival involving various jazz ensembles in the Alliance, to be staged on April 1 and 2, 2000 at MIT, Cambridge.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 2 Request: \$5,500 Recommended Grant \$5,500

17

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras

Season Finale Performance

for: the production and presentation of a musical performance at Harvard University's Sanders Theater on June 5th, 1999.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 6 Request: \$8,000 Recommended Grant \$8,000

28

Cambridge Community Chorus

1999 Messiah Concert

for: a 1999 performance of Handel's Messiah at Kresge Auditorium at MIT.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 2, Citywide Request: \$4,000 Recommended Grant \$4,000

32

Longy School of Music

Modern American Music Concert Series

for: the presentation of four free concerts between October 1999 and April 2000, at the Longy American Music Department.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 10 Request: \$3,000 Recommended Grant \$3,000

37

Cambridge Center for Adult Education

The Cabaret Connection at CCAE

for: a series of performances, workshops, lectures and master classes by local cabaret artists.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 10 Request: \$3,500 Recommended Grant \$3,500

49

Club Passim

Future of Folk Showcase

for: for three showcases of emerging acoustic artists from Cambridge and neighboring communities.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 10 Request: \$5,000 Recommended Grant \$5,000

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = MUSIC (6 detail records)

\$29,000

THEATER

7

Playwrights Platform**Shrinking Space**

for: a concert reading of five one act plays that explore space to be performed on August 22 and 23, 1999, at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education.

Neighborhood(s) Served: 10 Request: \$1,200 Recommended Grant \$1,200

Summary for 'DISCIPLINE' = THEATER (1 detail record) \$1,200

Grand Total \$58,570



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
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5.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

December 14, 1998

To The Honorable, The City Council:

Please find attached a response to Awaiting Report Item No. 36, regarding a report on what support the City can provide for neighborhood arts, received from Arts Council Director Pallas Lombardi.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachment

Consent Agenda #5 8035

Relative to Awaiting Report
Item Number 36, regarding
a report on what support the
City can provide for neighborhood
arts.

In City Council December 14, 1998

PLACED ON FILE