



**SEATTLE ARTS COMMISSION**  
Minutes  
Monthly Meeting  
Tuesday October 13th, 2015  
City Hall: Boards and Commissions L280

Commissioners present: Priya Frank, Jerry Garcia, Ashraf Hasham, Fidelma McGinn, Billy O'Neill, Vivian Phillips, Tracy Rector, Kelly Rodriguez, Michael Seiwert, and Sharon Williams

Commissioners absent: Jeff Benesi, Jonathan Cunningham, Terri Hiroshima, Perri Howard, Gian-Carlo Scandiuzzi, Huong Vu

Staff present: Calandra Childers, Randy Engstrom, Elisheba Johnson

Guests present: None

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

**Cultural Resource Collective: Andrew Golden, Graham Mills, Gus Denhard**

In 2009, nine theater groups banded together to figure out who Seattle's cultural patron was by using TRG's data management system to aggregate patron data. The data base is a secure online platform for audience development.

Gus from the Early Music Guild spoke to how the service helps his organization have access to the same data that larger organizations use. With investment from the Office of Arts & Culture, the Cultural Resource Collective would like to help organizations reach out to underinvested communities and expand their membership by growing their tiered membership model.

**2016 CityArtist Grant: Irene Gomez**

The 2016 CityArtist grant supports individual artists based in Seattle working in literary, media, film, and visual art. ARTS received the highest number of applications for this grant at 181. 77 of the applicants fell into the category of diversity. The panel selected 30 projects to fund.

**Motion:** Tracy moved to approve the panel selections for the 2016 CityArtist grant. Priya seconded. All present approved.

**2016 Cultural Facilities Grant: Randy Engstrom and Kathy Hsieh**

The budget for the 2016 Cultural Facilities fund is \$250,000. Matthew tried a new strategy for funding organizations this year. Applicants were divided into two categories based on their funding ask; 150 thousand or more were in one group, and 25 thousand or less were in the second category. Grouping



the projects in this way enabled the panelists to fund more projects. Randy will send out descriptions of the funded projects to the SAC.

**Motion:** Fidelma moved to approve the panel selections for the 2016 Cultural Facilities Grant. The following commissioners recused themselves; Billy, Tracy, Ashraf, Priya and Jerry.

#### **Approval of the September Minutes**

Michael moved to approve the September minutes. Tracy seconded. All present approved.

#### **Director's report: Randy Engstrom reporting**

The mayor's office has proposed a 5% increase in admissions tax to ARTS' 2016 budget. This will go to additional investments in arts education and cultural facilities. ARTS is working on a creative industries strategy with the Office of Economic Development and the Office of Film + Music. ARTS presented to delegates of Boston including their mayor on Seattle's Percent for Art program. OneBeat artists will be performing in Seattle the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup>. SAC asked if some of the additional ad tax funds could go to increasing funding programs like CityArtist and Civic Partners. ARTS will work on increasing all funding programs if the ad tax allocation increases.

#### **SAC Nomination: Elisheba Johnson**

- PAAC has two new community members; Tim Marsden from Sound Transit and Julia Fryett from Aktion Arts.
- The commission brainstormed potential names for the commission at-large position. Names included; Steve Galatro, Wier Harmon, Sarah Wilke, and Stephanie Ellis-Smith.

#### **Announcements:**

- OneBeat concert at Columbia City Theatre November 4<sup>th</sup>
- Core Gallery is having a native art exhibition
- Seattle celebrated its second Indigenous People's day
  
- City Council apologized for native boarding school trauma.
  
- Tracy has a film featured on Seattle Channel
  
- Commission should take the lead in welcoming new council members.

**Adjournment:** 5:41