

**Program # 10026 - Regional Arts & Culture Council**

**Version 2/04/2005 s**

**Priority:** Vibrant Communities

**Lead Agency:** Non-Departmental - All

**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating

**Program Contact:** Julie Neburka

**Related Programs:**

**Frameworks:**

**Executive Summary**

Support from Multnomah County is vital in supporting RACC's efforts to integrate arts and culture in all aspects of community life. The activities funded by this investment will help create vibrant communities, will enhance our children's education, and will contribute to a thriving economy. Multnomah County's investment also leverages additional support from Clackamas County and Washington County.

**Program Description**

"Through vision, leadership and service the Regional Arts & Culture Council works to integrate arts and culture in all aspects of community life." RACC is the regional steward of public investment in arts and culture, providing direct support for artists and arts organizations in five key areas: 1)Through advocacy and development, RACC builds support and resources for a strong arts and culture community. RACC receives direct financial support from a variety of government agencies and private funding sources to provide services for artists and arts organizations. 2)RACC helps schools pay for arts education activities that instill an appreciation for culture and enhance our children's overall learning. 3)Approximately \$2 million of government funding is distributed annually as direct cash grants to artists and arts organizations. 4)The nationally acclaimed public art program at RACC integrates art into public spaces. RACC manages Multnomah County's Percent for Art program, as well as the City of Portland's. 5)Numerous information resources are available for artists, arts organizations and educators, both in print and online.

**Program Justification**

• Arts and culture create healthy neighborhoods with a vibrant sense of community. As noted in the Vibrant Communities Strategy Map, we all benefit from cultural opportunities. RACC works with Multnomah County to ensure culturally diverse contributions to our lifestyles and our landscapes, to strengthen community-based arts organizations with cash support, and to support a thriving arts community through a variety of other programs. Arts activities help the community come together and bridge socio-economic differences. RACC programs directly support the artists and arts organizations that create vibrant communities and culturally diverse neighborhoods.

**Performance Measures**

RACC is currently in the process of conducting an evaluation of our largest service area, the RACC grants program. Other discreet programs, such as the Workplace Giving Program and the Cultural Leadership Program have also been evaluated by third parties in the past year. These assessments help RACC ensure the wisest investment of limited resources, and maximum return on those investments.

**Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results**

- \$1,395,946 was granted this year to 51 Multnomah County artists and 74 Multnomah County arts organizations in the form of Professional Development Grants, Project Grants, Community Outreach Bonus Grants, General Support Grants, and two Artist Fellowship Awards. Artists and arts organizations based in Multnomah County received 97% of RACC's entire grant award pool of \$1,439,927 in FY04-05.
- Of these grants, \$877,000 was awarded to 30 Multnomah County arts organizations in the form of General Support. About 20% of this sum, or \$175,400, is being spent this year on the arts education and community outreach activities conducted by these companies. Many of these activities occur in outlying neighborhoods and community centers beyond the downtown core.
- Attendance at RACC-funded arts and culture events in 2003 totaled more than 2.3 million, generating more than \$30 million in earned revenue for these organizations. Multnomah County residents accounted for 44% of these admissions.
- RACC administered the Percent for Art program on behalf of Multnomah County, managing more than \$500,000 in projects in 2003 and 2004. Recent additions to Multnomah County's Public Art Collection include projects at the Wapato Facility, the Hillsdale Library, the Multnomah Building, and a variety of portable works. Throughout 2005, we celebrate the 25th Year of Portland's and Multnomah County's Percent for Art programs.
- This school year, more than 10,000 students are benefiting from RACC's Fast Track Grants that support arts education activities in 34 different Multnomah County schools. An additional 3500 students and community residents are being served through Fast Track Grants for Arts Education Activities in Multnomah County SUN Schools this year.

**Program Mandate: 4 Program and Funding Level Choice**

Multnomah County's funding for the RACC is a discretionary General Fund expenditure.

**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
<b>Program Expenses</b>	2005	2005	2006	2006
Contracts	\$131,800	\$0	\$137,050	\$0
Internal Services	\$2,169	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$133,969</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$137,050</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$133,969</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$137,050</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$133,969</b>		<b>\$137,050</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Explanation of Revenues**

A majority of RACC's funding is provided by contracts with the City of Portland (65% of total support in FY 2004), as well as Metro, and Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties (20% of total support in FY 2004). The remainder of its funding comes from gifts, workplace giving campaigns, etc. Multnomah County's 27-year history of funding and support for RACC's goals is critical to the nurturing of arts and culture in the County.

**Significant Program Changes**

RACC is working with the City of Portland and numerous community partners to conduct the region's first Public Opinion Survey for Arts and Culture since 1996. This report will help RACC understand the value of arts and culture among local residents, and will help inform future investments in community-based organizations, programs that support individual artists, and arts education activities. Scheduled completion date for this survey and a follow-up focus group is July 1, 2005.

Additionally, RACC expanded its workplace giving program for arts and culture into 12 businesses throughout the Portland area. Employee contributions are redistributed to more than 70 arts and culture organizations in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties. Because of generous underwriting support from the Meyer Memorial Trust, the M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust, and the Oregon Cultural Trust, our administrative costs have been paid for and 100% of the money we raise can be passed on to the arts organizations we serve. To date, more than \$40,000 has been pledged by area employees through this effort.