

Priority: Vibrant Communities

Lead Agency: County Management

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Program Contact: Mark Campbell

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) provides direct services to Multnomah County and its residents. Formerly a county bureau (the Metropolitan Arts Commission), RACC is now an independent 501(c)(3) organization that leverages significant support from other regional government partners and private donors before re-investing the County's allocation in programs and services that are creating vibrant neighborhoods, enhancing our children's education, and fueling a creative economy with measurable economic benefits. Although county funding for arts and culture has declined more than 76% since the high funding mark of \$603,096 in FY98-99, this request honors the County's directive to apply a 12% cut (\$22,540) to RACC's FY09 allocation (\$187,831) to arrive at a target figure of \$165,291

Program Description

In accordance with our Multnomah County contract, RACC plays a vital role in the county's economic and community development efforts. Specifically, RACC provides services in five key areas: (1) Through Advocacy, RACC helps build support and resource for arts and culture. (2) RACC Grants provide artists and arts organizations with the base financial support they need to continue serving our community. (3) RACC's nationally acclaimed Public Art program, including the Multnomah County 2% for Art Ordinance, integrates a wide range of art into public spaces. (4) RACC provides other Community Services including workshops for artists, consulting for arts organizations, and a variety of printed and electronic resources; and (5) RACC is developing comprehensive Arts Education solutions for our community.

Program Justification

Arts and culture activities add measurable value to our region's economy and to our quality of life. Artists and arts organizations bring residents together for shared cultural experiences that stimulate creativity which in turn supports more innovative businesses and a richer educational experience for our children. A vibrant arts community serves as a magnet for young creatives, and Multnomah County's investment in the arts contributes to the competitive advantage we have over other regions in the country that are all competing to attract sustainable businesses and a creative, well-educated workforce. Multnomah County is home to a vast majority of the region's artists and arts and culture organizations, which together generated more than \$318 million for the local economy last year.

Performance Measures

| Measure Type | Primary Measure | Previous Year Actual (FY07-08) | Current Year Purchased (FY08-09) | Current Year Estimate (FY08-09) | Next Year Offer (FY09-10) |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Output | Multnomah County children served | 0 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 9,000 |
| Outcome | Economic impact of nonprofit arts and culture activities in the Portland tri-cou | 0 | 344,000,000 | 344,000,000 | 348,000,000 |
| Input | Multnomah County dollars invested in arts and culture | 150,000 | 187,831 | 187,831 | 165,291 |
| Efficiency | Dollars leveraged by RACC from other public and private partners | 5,452,000 | 7,611,000 | 6,818,000 | 7,000,000 |

Performance Measure - Description

County dollars help RACC develop strategic partnerships and build more support from public and private partners throughout the region. Last year, RACC secured more private funds for arts and culture than ever before, including \$335,000 in gifts from businesses and individuals through Work for Art, RACC's workplace giving program.

In FY09, support from the County was combined with City of Portland funds, Work for Art proceeds, and other sources to fund over \$2 million in grants to 70 Multnomah County artists and 144 Multnomah County nonprofit organizations. In FY10, RACC will reduce the amount of Multnomah County funds allocated to grants, but our goal is to backfill those losses with additional proceeds from our Work for Art campaign. However, this is a step backwards in our stated objective of securing 5% of our arts community's budgets from local government funding sources. (We currently provide less than 1.5%.)

Legal/Contractual Obligation

None.

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2009 | 2009 | 2010 | 2010 |
| Program Expenses | | | | |
| Contracts | \$187,831 | \$0 | \$165,291 | \$0 |
| Subtotal: Direct Exps: | \$187,831 | \$0 | \$165,291 | \$0 |
| Administration | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Program Support | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Subtotal: Other Exps: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total GF/non-GF: | \$187,831 | \$0 | \$165,291 | \$0 |
| Program Total: | \$187,831 | | \$165,291 | |
| Program FTE | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Program Revenues | | | | |
| Program Revenue for Admin | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total Revenue: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Explanation of Revenues

This is a General Fund-supported program.

Significant Program Changes**Last year this program was:**

72117, Regional Arts & Culture Council

Facing difficult budget cuts of their own, our public schools have been reducing or eliminating arts education programs. RACC is working to reverse this trend through "The Right Brain Initiative," a public/private collaboration to integrate arts education into the standard curriculum for every K-8 student in the region by 2012. County investments last year helped build a coalition of school district superintendents, parents, teachers, artists, arts organizations, foundations, businesses, and other governments who are committed to a more equitable arts education delivery system, and leveraged \$700,000 from other public and private sources that will be used to serve 9,5000 students in the region this year. The County's FY10 investment of \$35,000 will leverage an additional \$1 million from other sources to help RACC serve 17,500 students.