



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Cultural Affairs

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: April 21, 2025

Re: Authorizing FY 2025 agreements with various arts and cultural organizations for arts programming or services.

Executive Summary

This legislation authorizes 17 grant agreements with local arts and culture organizations for a total of \$50,000 in grant funding for arts programming.

Discussion

In FY25, a total of \$216,500 is budgeted for grants to local nonprofit arts organizations (\$200,000 from the Office of Cultural Affairs' (OCA) budget and \$16,500 from the Columbia Arts Fund endowment). \$166,500 in funding was granted through agreements with 26 organizations in October 2024. In December 2024, OCA opened a mid-year grant opportunity in order to distribute the remaining \$50,000, with an application deadline in January 2025.

The awards resulted from the Commission on Cultural Affairs review process of applications received from local arts organizations. Commissioners reviewed the project proposals and made award level recommendations at its March 10, 2025 meeting. The 17 grant agreements provide funding for various arts and cultural programs, scheduled May 2025 through October 2025. The following is a list of organizations, projects, and award amounts:

Columbia Art League - \$3,338

Project Name: Interpretations VII Exhibition

Dismal Niche Arts - \$1,981

Project Name: Fennesz at the Firestone Baars Chapel

GreenHouse Theatre Project - \$3,039

Project Name: Youth Shakespeare Workshop

Jabberwocky Studios - \$3,227

Project Name: Visual Art Lesson Library and Staff Training, and Mural Project

Mareck Center for Dance - \$3,314

Project Name: DanceAbility Showcase

Mid-Missouri Traditional Dancers - \$2,263

Project Name: Summer Bash Dance Series



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Odyssey Chamber Music Series - \$3,234
Project Name: October 2025 Concerts

Orr Street Studios Artist Guild - \$1,689
Project Name: Youth and Adult Community Programming

Ragtag Film Society - \$3,246
Project Name: Passport Series - Third Cinema

School of Service (dba Access Arts) - \$3,180
Project Name: Artastic Summer Camps

Talking Horse Productions - \$3,268
Project Name: Home Before Dark Theatre

The Missouri Symphony - \$3,314
Project Name: Guest Artist Sponsor: Firefly Music Festival 2025

The Zipper Festival - \$3,200
Project Name: The Zipper Festival 2025

Theater Reaching Young People & Schools - \$3,288
Project Name: TRYPS Summer Teen Musical

Vidwest - \$3,261
Project Name: The Unexpected Show: An educational comedy sketch show about Columbia, Missouri

Vox Nova of Columbia - \$1,904
Project Name: Season 11 Concert Series: Choral Cantata with Chamber Orchestra

"We Always Swing," Inc. - \$3,254
Project Name: Camille Thurman Quartet

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$50,000. These funds are included in OCA's FY25 budget.
Long-Term Impact: None.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)
Primary Impact: Resilient Economy, Secondary Impact: Inclusive Community, Tertiary Impact: Organizational Excellence



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Economic Development, Secondary Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities, Tertiary Impact: Inter-Governmental Cooperation

Legislative History

Date	Action
10/21/24	The City Council passed resolution R180-24 - Authorizing FY 2025 agreements with various arts and cultural organizations for arts programming services.

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends approval of the resolution.