



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Cultural Affairs

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 20, 2025

Re: Grant Funding Agreements with Local Arts Agencies for FY26

Executive Summary

This legislation authorizes 24 grant agreements with local arts and culture organizations for a total of \$200,000 in grant funding for arts programming.

Discussion

The 24 grant agreements provide funding for various arts and cultural programs scheduled November 2025 through October 2026. In total, more than 125,000 residents and visitors are estimated to benefit from the proposed concerts, exhibitions, classes, performances, workshops, and special events.

The awards resulted from the Commission on Cultural Affairs annual review process of applications received from local arts organizations. Commissioners reviewed the project proposals during two meetings and offered time for public comment at the July meeting. The details of the applicants along with the grant funding recommendations were presented to the Council in August. The following is a list of organizations, projects, and award amounts:

Boone County Historical Society - \$10,205.00

Project Name: BCHS Visual Arts & Music Programming FY2026

Choral Arts Alliance of Missouri - \$10,062.00

Project Name: 2025-2026 Concert Season

Columbia Art League - \$10,719.00

Project Name: Art in the Park 2026

Columbia Civic Orchestra - \$9,897.00

Project Name: Series of Four Concerts

Columbia Community Band - \$6,274.00

Project Name: 2025-2026 Concert Series

CoMo Preservation - \$1,059.00

Project Name: ART-chitecture Contest – CoMo Brick & Mortar Project

Dismal Niche Arts - \$6,722.00

Project Name: Columbia Experimental Music Series



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

GreenHouse Theatre Project - \$9,815.00

Project Name: Season 2026

Jabberwocky Studios - \$10,117.00

Project Name: 2026 Education Program

Jazz Forward Initiative, Inc. - \$3,374.00

Project Name: The 2026 Mo Jazz Music Festival

Mid-Missouri Traditional Dancers - \$2,960.00

Project Name: Traditional American Dance Series

North Village Arts District - \$5,776.00

Project Name: First Friday Entertainment

Odyssey Chamber Music Series - \$10,062.00

Project Name: Season 22

Orr Street Artists Guild - \$10,062.00

Project Name: Orr Street Studios Community Programming

Ragtag Film Society - \$9,892.00

Project Name: True/False Film Fest

School of Service (dba Access Arts) - \$9,877.00

Project Name: Aides for Artists

Talking Horse Productions - \$10,645.00

Project Name: 2025-2026 Production Season

The Columbia Book Festival, Inc. - \$10,010.00

Project Name: Unbound Book Festival

The Curators of the University of Missouri on behalf of the University Concert Series - \$9,466.00

Project Name: University Concert Series 118th Season

(Note: This agreement is being entered separately to be approved by ordinance).

The Missouri Symphony - \$9,908.00

Project Name: 2025-2026 Season

Theater Reaching Young People & Schools - \$10,082.00

Project Name: TRYPS 2026 Education Programing



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Vidwest - \$9,897.00

Project Name: Media CoMoguls: A Workshop Series presented by Vidwest

Vox Nova of Columbia - \$2,985.00

Project Name: Season 12 Concert Series

We Always Swing, Inc. - \$10,134.00

Project Name: Onward: Series #31

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: These funds are included in OCA's FY26 budget.

Long-Term Impact: None.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Resilient Economy, Secondary Impact: Inclusive Community, Tertiary Impact: Organizational Excellence

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

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

Legislative History

Date	Action
N/A	N/A

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends approval of the resolution.