

Edmonton Arts Council

Festival Operating Grant Recommendations

Recommendation

That Community and Public Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That funding recommendations, as set out in Attachment 1 of the April 4, 2018, Edmonton Arts Council report CR_5770, be approved.

Executive Summary

The Edmonton Arts Council (EAC) recommends a total of \$1,517,400 in Operating Grants for 29 organizations. Funding for 13 of the organizations, which totals \$1,326,000, requires Council approval. This is in accordance with City Policy C211H, which states that grant recommendations for \$30,000 or more must have Council approval.

The funding recommendations are within the EAC's approved 2018 Budget.

Report

- This report contains the results of the second of two application deadlines for 2018 Festival Operating grants.
- Applications were accepted at the Edmonton Arts Council online until November 1, 2017.
- Thirty-one applications were received. Upon review two applicants were assessed as ineligible.
- In some cases, applicants were asked to clarify or provide updated information.
- A Jury was appointed in accordance with Policy C211 and Edmonton Arts Council guidelines.
- The Jury considered the 29 eligible applications and made these funding recommendations to the Edmonton Arts Council's Board of Directors, who accepted them in February.
- Each applicant was notified of the jury's recommendation and informed of the Edmonton Arts Council's appeals policy. One organization that applied at a previous deadline presented an appeal.
- The Edmonton Arts Council struck an appeals committee, which heard from the appellant on March 9, 2018.
- No changes to grant amounts resulted from the appeal.
- All twenty-nine eligible applications are recommended for funding, seventeen of which are increased amounts over 2018.

- Two groups are new to this program having previously been funded by Festival Seed grants. Seven previously funded organizations did not apply, and two others transferred their funding requests to other programs.
- Four Festivals are subject to the EAC's "Concerns and Warnings" policy, which is a due-diligence mechanism.
- This is the second and final deadline for 2018 Festival Operating grants. See report CR-5471 and City Council minutes from January 23, 2018 for further information about the first deadline.
- Including the two deadlines, there are 37 Festival events funded to a total of \$1,787,400 in this program for 2018 (2017: \$1,630,000).

Corporate Outcome: Edmontonians are connected to the city in which they live, work and play.

Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Grant funding is available to established non-profit organizations for the purpose of producing festival events in Edmonton.	Festivals are funded at the target level of 12% of their budgets.	2018 – 9.5% 2017 – 8.7% 2016 – 9.7%	12% (Art of Living, recommendation #6)

NOTE:

- As outlined in Attachment 1 under *Level of Support*, the Art of Living plan sets funding targets for Festival as a percentage of their aggregate annual budgets.
- The next cultural plan for the City of Edmonton, now in development, will point towards an impact assessment framework for arts and festivals organizations to better demonstrate the outcomes of their work.

Attachment:

1. Program Summary and Grant Recommendations

Background Information Available on Request From Edmonton Arts Council

Full Program Guidelines