1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   Approval of Agenda

2. **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

4. **GRANT PROGRAM** 15 minutes
   A. ACTION: Grant Reports
      1. Arts Education: Boulder Metalsmithing Association, Enhancing Art Through Metalsmithing, $3,000
      2. Arts Education: Friendship City Projects, Taller Artístico Xuchialt Art and Culture Exchange, $3,000
      3. Arts Education: Museum of Boulder, Teen Corps: 3D Printing Artifacts for the Blind (Seeing Through Touching), $2,900
      4. Arts Education: Studio Arts Boulder, Pottery with the “I Have a Dream” Foundation, $3,000
      5. Community Project Grant: Boulder Symphony, GLOW Project, $5,000

5. **COMMISSION BUSINESS** 30 minutes
   A. Discussion of the decision process for the Special Facilities Grant

6. **MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

7. **MATTERS FROM STAFF** 60 minutes
   A. Questions about the Manager’s Memo – Matt
   B. Artist Census – Mary
   C. Volunteer to assist with the Martin Luther King Day Enhancement Grant – Matt
   D. Retreat Planning – Celia and Matt

8. **ADJOURNMENT**
CITY OF BOULDER  
BOULDER, COLORADO  
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING  
MINUTES

**Name of Board/Commission:** Boulder Arts Commission  
**Date of Meeting:** June 19, 2019 at the Main Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave.  
**Contact information preparing summary:** Celia Seaton, 303-441-3106

**Commission members present:** Kathleen McCormick, Erica Joos, Devin Hughes, Bruce Borowsky  
**Commission members absent:** Mark Villarreal  
**Panel members present:** Belgin Yucelen, Sarah Braverman, Leah Brenner Clack  
**Panel members absent:** Katharine Reece

**Library staff present:**  
Matt Chasansky, Office of Arts & Culture Manager  
Lauren Click, Coordinator, Grants  
Mary Haan, Coordinator, Programs for Artists  
Mandy Vink, Coordinator, Public Art  
David Farnan, Director  
Celia Seaton, Administrative Specialist

**City staff present:**  
None

**Members of the public present:** Leah Podzimeck (Boulder Symphony), Carolyn Booth and Tim Plass (Museum of Boulder), Annett James and Jude Landsman (NAACP Boulder), Travis LaBerge (Parlando), Lizzy Hayes (Boulder Opera), Jennifer Shriver, Betsy Hicks and Mari Munet (Community Cycles), Josh Baldner (Mesa Elementary), and Alan O’Hashi (Boulder Community Media)

**Type of Meeting:** Regular

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<tr>
<th>Agenda Item 1: Call to order and approval of agenda</th>
<th>[0:00:05 Audio min.]</th>
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<td>The meeting was called to order. McCormick, acting chair, asked the group for any addendums or changes to the agenda. Chasansky mentioned an addition under Item 7’s Matters from Staff as “e” – discussion of the Human Relations Commission grant collaboration around the equity grant. Borowsky moved to approve the agenda as amended. Hughes seconded, and all were in favor.</td>
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| Agenda Item 2: Review of Minutes  
Item 2A, Approval/Review of May 2019 Meeting Minutes | [0:01:18 Audio min.] |
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<td>McCormick asked the commission for changes or addendums regarding these minutes. Being none, Joos moved to approve the May minutes. Borowsky seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Agenda Item 3: Public comment</th>
<th>[0:02.10 Audio min.]</th>
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| McCormick asked the assembled crowd whether there was any public comment.  
  
  Tim Plass introduced himself as a member of the board of directors for the Museum of Boulder (MoB) and reminded the commission of MOB’s appearance last month at the General Operating Support (GOS) grant awards. Plass noted that in the GOS cycle, MoB came in eighth out of eight; he believes this ranking points to an issue wherein MoB often feels itself a “square peg trying to fit into a round hole” of the Arts Commission grants. Referring to the upcoming Special Facilities Grant, MoB wants to ensure that City Council’s intent for the grant to encompass educational realms and other non-traditional art be carried out, but some of the language in the application was concerning (e.g., under Community Priorities, reference to “high artistic merit”). While also troubled by “project” terminology in the application, he has gained clarification that this crosses a broad swath including operating costs. Plass requested that commission consider culture just as valid in the application as the “pure arts,” in alignment with council intention.  
  
  Joos thanked Plass for his input. She noted that this stands currently as a one-time offering from City Council; if incorporated into the grant cycle, the community would be invited for input on the language. McCormick: “things have shifted more in the last couple years to embrace culture as well as arts,” perhaps out of line with the Cultural Plan. |
Chasansky disagreed, indicating that the Cultural Plan specifically calls for a broad definition of “art” to include both history and culture. Chasansky agreed that the term “project” is an “odd fit,” for the outcomes that council was seeking.

**Agenda Item 4: Grant Program**

**A. ACTION: Grant Reports**

1. Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Shakespeare & Violence Prevention, $3,000
2. Nii Armah Sowah, African Arts & Cultural Workshop Series: A Participatory Experience Through the Arts, $3,000

McCormick noted that both projects were “wonderful.” Joos moved to approve the submitted reports, Hughes seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**B. ACTION: Professional Development Application – Erica Joos**

Click noted that while previously a commission-reviewed process, this year staff review aimed to lessen the workload of the commission. However, in this instance of a commissioner applying herself, the application comes before the commission in the interest of full transparency as these applications were traditionally given extra scrutiny. McCormick: this vocal/movement program in France seems to align well with Joos’ work as an art educator. She spoke to the importance of providing growth opportunities to the members of the commission. Devin made a motion to grant this Professional Development grant to Joos, Borowsky seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**C. ACTION: Arts Education Grant**

- Discussion: Boulder Symphony application eligibility – Click explained the background on this issue. Consultation with City Attorney’s Office clarified that commission has a basis to outright deny the application because Niwot is not included within the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan. The General Eligibility Requirements state that “[t]he product (performance, piece of art, etc.) funded in whole or in part by the Boulder Arts Commission must be provided for and accessible to the Boulder community. Any product that receives other funding may be held in another municipality or area, provided that at least one performance is provided within Boulder Valley, as defined in the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan, and is for the direct benefit of the Boulder community.” McCormick wondered whether a certain percentage of performance must fall within city boundaries. Click, referring to the eligibility guidelines, explained that at least one instance of the funded art experience must take place in Boulder.

McCormick asked Podzimeck, who was in attendance as a representative of the Boulder Symphony, whether the group has arranged for a Boulder performance. Podzimeck replied that one concert will be at First Presbyterian Church in Boulder. Additionally, all mentors are Boulder artists. Joos asked whether this sort of program has run before and Podzimeck replied that this would be their pilot run; her goal would ultimately expand this offering to more schools. Borowsky and McCormick voiced concern about precedent of awarding a program outside the city with city taxpayer funds. Borowsky and McCormick don’t feel it meets the eligibility standard. Joos stated her view that this application does appear eligible. She spoke to the importance of educating young people in music and advocated flexibility around funding 10-20 miles outside city limits. McCormick would like to see this brought to BVSD schools in the future. McCormick thanked Podzimeck for her clarifications and comments.

Borowsky moved that the Boulder Symphony’s application unfortunately is not eligible to be included in the 2019 Arts Education Grant process as their project application does not comply with the Boulder Arts Commission’s general eligibility requirements. McCormick was also in favor; the motion passed 2-1.

- Presentations and Rescoring (a full list of applicants can be found on p. 11 of the packet.) The scores from Villarreal and Reece will not be included due to transparency rules for conducting meetings of boards and commissions.
- Panel Discussion of Scores: Top ten scoring applicants were determined as: Parlando School for the Arts, NAACP Boulder Authorized Committee, And Art Space, Boulder Opera, Boulder International Film Festival, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Boulder Community Media, Dairy Arts Center, Community Cycles, and Mesa Elementary.

- Commission Approval

Hughes moved that the following applicants are awarded the Arts Education Grant: Parlando School for the Arts, NAACP Boulder Authorized Committee, And Art Space, Boulder Opera, Boulder International Film Festival, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Boulder Community Media, Dairy Arts Center, Community Cycles, and Mesa Elementary. Borowsky seconded and the motion was unanimously approved. Click noted need for one more round of voting for the Mesa Elementary School’s risers as this item falls under the designation of a capital improvement project. Joos moved to approve this capital improvement funding, Borowsky seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

D. DISCUSSION: Unspent Grant Funds – Click explained how these unallocated monies left over at the end of the year can be used or return to the general fund (see handouts). Click presented the staff recommendation to use $5,500 to fund the 2 remaining unfunded Arts Education applications, and $4,500 to fund 7 additional Round Two Professional Development applications. The commission provided nodding approval to the staff recommendation.

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<th>Agenda Item 5: Commission Business</th>
<th>[1.38.45 Audio min.]</th>
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<td>McCormick reminded the group of the last commission meeting wherein two of the extra-large organizations who will not be eligible to apply for the Special Facilities Grant were not granted GOS funding. Commission, dismayed that there wasn’t enough money to fund all, resolved to alert council to this concern. Villarreal, Joos, and McCormick attended the City Council meeting the following Tuesday to join voices in a plea for more arts funding. Borowsky noted that he met one-on-one with five council members to convey this same need.</td>
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<th>Agenda Item 6: Matters from Commissioners</th>
<th>[1.41.58 Audio min.]</th>
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<th>Agenda Item 7: Matters from Staff</th>
<th>[1.42.02 Audio min.]</th>
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<td>A. Questions About the Manager’s Memo – Chasansky welcomed questions by email.</td>
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<td>B. Office Relocation Sponsorship – Click spoke to this effort to support Boulder-based organizations in relocating their offices to affordable space within Boulder. Staff recommendation advises the remaining sponsorship funds this year be dedicated to this program. Commission agreed. She asked for commission assistance to review the applications – Joos and McCormick volunteered.</td>
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<td>C. Access and Equity Practices for Commission Meetings – Chasansky and Seaton presented on proposed accessibility services including discussion of audio amplification, hearing helper headset, ASL interpretation, Spanish and other language translation, and child-care service. Joos suggested certain City boards and commissions occurring simultaneously to pool the time periods that these services would be needed – more efficient scheduling for common services though she is not sure about the feasibility of such alignment. Borowsky advised that it is better to buy instead of rent in terms of the A/V equipment. Borowsky offered his expertise and A/V vendor suggestions. Next steps involve pricing and consulting with eServices Manager Aimee Schumm.</td>
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<td>Chasansky presented on the proposed preamble for the start of the commission meetings that would encompass commission mission from ordinance, cultural plan vision, and land acknowledgement. He noted next steps as selecting a volunteer from commission for drafting, seeking permission from the tribal nations on the language, and then returning with a draft preamble for commission approval. Joos volunteered to assist, as she has experience working with Right Relationship Boulder.</td>
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<td>D. Process for the Special Facilities Grant – Staff provided commission with opportunity to try out new method whereby applicants would reply with a written response for the resoring portion (as opposed to the 3-minute presentation response). Click presented on this staff recommended alternative complete with an updated schedule</td>
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projecting August 21st as the meeting for presentation of final grant decisions. This process would have no interaction save for online between applicants and commission/staff. All scoring would be blind, with decisions presented at the August Meeting. Hughes approved the removal of influence that may come into play when the commissioners can all see other’s scores. Borowsky noted his own experience as a grant writer valuing the face-to-face human element. McCormick expressed her view of face-to-face interaction with the public as an integral part of her commissioner duty. Hughes suggested trying this process out for one cycle to see how it goes. Borowsky agreed. Commission suggested having scores published in the packet. Nodding approval from commission to use this alternate process.

E. DISCUSSION: Human Relations Commission grant collaboration – In the HRC’s May and June meetings, discussion resulted in a request to use this equity grant for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day event as opposed to Indigenous Day. This would provide more “breathing room” as these documents wouldn’t be needed until November. Joos wished both could be funded, but she trusts the HRC’s judgement. McCormick stated her agreement to earmark funds for MLK day as this celebration has had low visibility in Boulder. The group provided nodding approval to allocate the equity grant’s $10,000 for MLK day, as per the advice of the HRC.

Agenda Item 9: Adjournment [2.54.18 Audio min.]
There being no further business to come before the commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

Date, time, and location of next meeting:
The next Boulder Arts Commission meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, in the Boulder Creek Room at the Main Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO 80302.
1. Notes on the July Agenda

   > Please note that, at the request of the University of Colorado, the deadline for the Arts Administration Certificate Program Scholarship has been extended. As a result, it is necessary to postpone the Arts Commission’s decision until the August meeting.

   > A reminder that the agenda item for the decision on the Special Facilities Grant has been moved to the August meeting.

   > 6B, Artist Census – In Attachment One, please find a draft of the Artist Census findings document. This is provided for your review before the meeting, during which staff will ask the Commission for final questions and advice on the study.

   > 7E, Retreat Planning – During the meeting staff will ask members of the Commission for the best dates in October to set the annual Arts Commission retreat. Also, staff will discuss the basic agenda and get advice on a location for this year’s retreat.

2. Public Art Administrative Approval

   In Attachment Two, please find a notice of administrative approval for a temporary public art proposal received from the Melody Catalpa neighborhood.

3. Commission Correspondence

   In Attachment Three, please find copies of email correspondence received by the Boulder Arts Commission during the period between the publication of the June 2019 and July 2019 packets.

4. Staff Updates

   Staff provided a series of proposals for budget increases to the city's Executive Budget Team (EBT). In the coming two months, the EBT will refine these proposals and incorporate them into a city-wide 2020 budget proposal, currently scheduled for discussion by City Council at their September 10 meeting.

   The area plan for Alpine-Balsam (former Boulder County Hospital site) continues with a series of public engagement meetings and tours. More information can be found at [the Alpine-Balsam project website](#). Please help us spread the word.

   Staff supported the team from the library division and the Neighborhood Services office for the Civic Soup event on June 11.

   Work continues with other city departments on developing a statement on the role of culture in climate change adaptation.

   Work continues with other city departments on regulation improvements.

   Staff continues to support the team coordinating the Community, Culture, and Safety Tax.

   Staff is participating in the East Boulder Subcommunity Plan.
Grants and Programs for Organizations

Please help us spread the word, and mark your calendars, for the next summit of cultural organizations:
Tuesday, August 27, 2019
5 to 6:30 p.m.
Boulder Creek Room, Boulder Public Library, 1001 Arapahoe Ave.
For this quarter’s meeting of senior staff and board members of cultural nonprofits, Paul Chinowsky with CU’s College of Engineering and Applied Science will speak about the impacts of climate change on arts programs, festivals, and destinations. Please rsvp if you would like to attend.

At the request of university staff, the deadline for the CU Boulder Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration Scholarship has been extended to July 25, 2019 to allow more time for applications to the scholarship.

The updated grants schedule can be found in Attachment Four. It includes revisions of the following:
- Special Facilities Grant program schedule
- CU Boulder Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration Scholarships program schedule

The following Rental Assistance Grant reports were approved prior to the meeting:
- Colorado MahlerFest, MahlerFest XXXII, Macky Auditorium, $1,000
- Parlando School for the Arts, Xanadu, The Musical, Dairy Arts Center, $1,000
- Future Arts Foundation, The Bluebird Music Festival, Macky Auditorium, $1,000

The following Professional Development reports were approved prior to the meeting:
- Alan O’Hashi, Creative Industries Summit, Salida, CO, $500.00
- Leah Podzimek, League of American Orchestras Conference, Nashville, TN, $1,000.00
- Nancy Smith, SAVVY Arts Venture Challenge, Columbia, SC, $1,000.00

The following Professional Development applications were approved prior to the meeting, per the advice of the Arts Commission to dedicate additional funds to Round Two:
- Andrew Neely, Screenwriting Workshop through CU Boulder’s Continuing Education program, online, $500
- David Kansuke Wheeler, Shakuhachi Kenshukan 30th Anniversary International Shakuhachi Festival in Okayama Prefecture, Japan, $1,000
- Emily Volk, The Digital Naturalism Conference, Gamboa, Panama, $1,000
- Kathryn Aronson, Creative Living Embodied Arts Training Program (CLEAT: Giving you creative traction), Boulder, CO, $500
- Shay Wescott, Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability, Denver, CO, $500
- Susan Eriksson, Chicago Responsible Jewelry Conference, Chicago, IL, $1,000
- William McCrossen, study music composition / arrangement coaching with Art Lande, Boulder, CO, $500

All reports and applications which have been approved by staff are available for commissioners’ review.

In Attachment Five, please find a current grants program budget.

Public Art Program

POSTPONED: the 2019 Public Art Social, originally scheduled for Friday, August 2, 2019 has been postponed due to a delay in preparing the site. The Office of Arts and Culture will still have a table at the NoBo First Friday and will showcase many projects underway in North Boulder including a charette with commissioned artist Sharon Dowell.

Public Art Commissioning Updates:
- Diagonal Highway (Christian Muller/Totems): Installation
- Civic Area 11th St. Spine Signature Artwork (Adam Kuby): Final Design underway including budget adjustments and potential value engineering (reducing project scope to meet available budget) due to project timeline delays in permitting; updates will be available Oct/Nov 2019. Anticipated installation Spring 2020.  www.adamkuby.com
- University Hill (ENVD 3300 Praxis): Project on hold due to permitting and zoning issues. The project team is currently considering the following options: cancelling the project, redesign to meet zoning and permitting regulations, or re-siting the work to CU’s campus. If project is a go, earliest installation will be delayed to Spring 2020.  https://www.colorado.edu/envd/
- North Broadway [Sharon Dowell]: Preliminary Design – See the information above regarding Sharon’s community charrette on August 2 and please join us!  http://sharondowell.com
- Foothills Underpass (Carolyn Braaksma): Fabrication of formliners. Project bids came in double expected; Office of Arts and Culture and Transportation are seeking additional funding or value engineering (reducing project scope to meet available budget) of project.  https://www.braaksmadesign.com/
- NoBo Library: Selection – Proposal Meeting, July 25th from 12-5pm in the Eldorado Meeting Room; Semifinalists are: Kimberly Garza (Sacramento, CA) www.atlaslab.com, Joel Swanson (Denver, CO) http://joelericswanson.com, Mouna Andraos (Montreal, Quebec) www.dailytouslesjours.com, Patrick Marold (Nederland, CO) www.patrickmarold.com, Sam Falls (Los Angeles, CA)  https://samfalls.com
- Scott Carpenter Park: Pre-selection
- Fire Station 3: Pre-selection
- CAGID Garage Art Public Art Program: On Hold

Community-Initiated Projects Updates:
- Bear Hugs Downtown Boulder Partnership Donation: Contracting
- Strength from Within Melanie Yazzie donation proposal: Coordination on sculpture delivery and plinth fabrication. Work may need to be sited in alternate location until plinth (and funding) available
- Tim Eggert Memorial Donation: Pre-approval Process – working to understand permitting requirements for proposed artwork
- Nobel Circle Monument: Pre-approval Process – fundraising, project development, working to understand permitting requirements for proposed artwork
- Rotary Club: Pre-approval Process - working to understand permitting requirements for proposed artwork and project timeline
- Boulder Housing Partners for the development of 30th and Pearl: Contracting

Maintenance and Conservation:
- The public art collection will be featured on the www.boulderarts.org website this fall.
- Work continues on the new city-wide asset management system Beehive for maintenance coordination with other city depts.
- 2019 Condition Report is complete; review of conditions and anticipated costs to conduct maintenance and conservation for 2019-2020.
- RFP’s for conservation and maintenance will be distributed in August
Staff is participating in the annual Capital Improvement Project review.

In Attachment Five, please find a current five-year program budget for public art commissioning. A handful of projects are anticipated to have a fund gap. Staff is working with finance and budget to identify possible budget support while also exploring re-designs to meet value engineering (reducing project scope to meet available budget).

> Programs for Artists

Staff attended the 2019 DanceUSA National Conference in Cleveland, OH. Once again, a major focus of many of the sessions were around awareness and efforts on accessibility for all artists. Staff has also begun collaboration with leaders in the community to prepare for the 2020 National Conference in Denver.

Staff attended the annual meeting of The Dance Archive (formerly the Carson Briery Giffin Dance Library) at the University of Denver. Of note: The Dance Archive, https://library.du.edu/dancearchive/, is no longer a membership organization.

Staff is updating details for the 2019 Annual Dance is for Every Body! Showcases November 2 and 3 in the Canyon Theater of the Boulder Public Library. Applications go live July 15 and the deadline to apply will be August 26. These free showcases are an outreach program for the community and include professional as well as novice dancers in a variety of dance genres. Please help us spread the word.

Staff is finalizing details for a Professional Artist Forum for photographers in early September.

Staff is continuing to work towards a professional development project for aspiring professional authors.

Staff continues to collect and update the Dance Bridge page, www.boulderarts.org/dance-bridge and send e-newsletters on resources and opportunities at least once per month.

> Creative Neighborhoods

Applications for the 2019 Mural Artist Roster is closed. The roster will be used to identify artists for public projects around the city. And, members of the community are encouraged to visit the roster and commission an artist!

Staff is planning for another round of neighborhood murals, anticipated for 2020.

> The Creative Workforce and the NoBo Art District

The Artist Census final analysis will be the subject of conversation at the July meeting, and will be posted on the website. Thanks to everyone who participated in surveys and focus groups, and to the experts at Qualitative Research Centre for their excellent work on the focus group meetings.

The NoBo Arts District 10 year anniversary celebration is now scheduled for September’s First Friday.

Staff continues to support the team in NoBo proposing a Business Improvement District.
About the Census of Boulder Artists

STUDY GOAL
The Census of Boulder Artists is a series of studies to better understand the lives of professional, practicing artists: how they are surviving and thriving as workers and small business owners in Boulder. The Artist Census is designed to a) clarify and expand our understanding of the lives of artists, b) to confirm anecdotes that have been heard in the community, and c) to give direction to community leaders and organizations who are working to improve the lives of artists, particularly regarding the recommendations in the City of Boulder’s Community Cultural Plan.

THREE RESEARCH PROJECTS
To answer the question of the study goal, staff of the Office of Arts and Culture used three tools:
1. CENSUS SURVEY: The survey was open in 2018 to any artist working or living in Boulder who made at least a portion of their income from their artistic practice. Approximately 300 surveys were completed.
2. COMPLIMENTARY RESEARCH: Staff also reviewed research from other studies in Boulder as well as research from other communities:
   - Creativity Connects: a study of artists by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
   - Creative Vitality Suite (CVS): a tool by WETFAF which includes findings on creative professionals
   - Information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)
   - Arts and Economic Prosperity 5, a study of nonprofits by American’s for the Arts (AFTA)
   - Other research and assessments
3. FOCUS GROUPS: The Office of Arts and Culture contracted the Qualitative Research Centre (QRC) to conduct small group discussions with a total of 32 artists. The two-hour meetings were open conversations with visual and performing artists. The focus groups were also used to fine-tune the results of the survey.

In the findings, below, these tools appear by section; the data, comparative findings, and focus group analysis.

DEFINING “ARTIST”
For the purposes of this study, the definition of “artist” was based on the following BLS categories:
- Craft artists (SOC Code: 27-1012)
- Fine artists, including painters, sculptors, and illustrators (21-1013)
- Artists and related workers, all other (27-1019)
- Actors (27-2011)
- Dancers (27-2031)
- Choreographers (27-3032)
- Music directors and composers (27-2041)
- Musicians and singers (27-2042)
- Writers and authors (27-3043)
- Photographers (27-0421)

Also responding in the surveys and focus groups were jewelry designers, graphic artists, film and video, professionals in the contemplative arts, and others.

It is important to note that many people self-identify as artists. These are important individuals to our community. However, for the purposes of this study, the close definition of a “practicing, professional artist” includes only those that earn a portion of their income from their art and report those earnings to income tax filings. In this way, the Census of Boulder Artists can focus on artists which can be considered workers or proprietors of small businesses.
One: Boulder is an inspiring home for artists. But, it is not an “arts city.”

Artists have chosen Boulder because of the lifestyle and the inspiring natural backdrop to the city. They continue to move into Boulder in increasing numbers. However, they do not find it a great place for their business. They find it increasingly difficult to thrive, and most struggle to stay afloat. In addition to the financial challenges, they wish for more community support and comradery with fellow artists.

WHAT THE DATA TELLS US ABOUT BOULDER ARTISTS

- About 4,500 professional artists live in Boulder. That is about 3.5% of the city’s workforce. (BLS)
- Boulder has the third-highest concentration of artists, right behind Los Angeles and Santa Fe. (NEA)
- About 71% of our artists are residents of the City of Boulder and 29% live elsewhere, usually around Boulder County. Nearly 43% of artists who identify as Latinx live outside the City of Boulder. (Census Survey)

HOW THAT COMPARES TO OTHER PLACES AND INDUSTRIES

- Like artists, other gig-economy workers face murky rules, competition and oversupply, payment issues, and real hassles of running a business.
- Also similar to many other industries, artists face a new and challenging landscape for their businesses due to technology, the growth of income inequality, rising rents in many major cities, uncertainty about health insurance and other government programs, debt, and more. (NEA)

FOCUS GROUP ANALYSIS BY QRC

“I came here for the Boulder lifestyle... but, it is hard to make a living.” (Focus Group Participant)
- Our artists choose Boulder because it is a good place to live... but not because it is a great place to work as an artist.
- For most, it feels like a constant struggle to stay afloat.
- Despite the high number of artists living here, Boulder is not perceived as having a thriving, vibrant or highly visible arts scene.
- Boulder is largely defined by its outdoor lifestyle, technology, science and commercial success (all of which dominate and overshadow the role and influence of the Arts in local culture).
- Many artists report their colleagues are leaving Boulder. Though the data does not conclusively back that up, this perception is important to exposing how artists feel about their city.
- Most feel they must sell, perform, or market their art outside of Boulder. They feel that people here are reluctant to buy art or attend performances by local artists, but will readily do so when traveling. They feel that outside talent, coming to Boulder, has greater credibility than local artists.
- There is a very real “tension” between the desire to create and produce art and the practical business of making a living from it.

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1 Note: the survey respondents who identified as Latinx represent a smaller portion of all surveys than is representative of the population of the City of Boulder.
2 Forbes, Five Common Struggles You Will Face in the Gig Economy, Abdullahi Muhammed (October 2018)
Two: Earnings from arts professions is low.

Most artists do not make a sustainable wage from their creative practice. And, too many have a low household income: they are not typically off-setting low arts earnings with capital investments nor the income of a partner. Their earnings tend not to go up with inflation. Yet, expenses to run their business have increased. Many artists have multiple jobs, often outside the arts, to make ends meet.

WHAT THE DATA TELLS US ABOUT BOULDER ARTISTS
- The average hourly earnings of a Boulder artists, from their arts business, is $15.29. (BLS)
- 36% of Boulder-resident Artists have a household income below the living wage for a 2-person household: $43,721.60.3 40% who report individual earnings below the living wage for a single adult also report a household income below the living wage. (Census Survey)
- Nearly 80% of artists must have a second job outside the arts industry to make ends meet. (Census Survey)

HOW THAT COMPARES TO OTHER PLACES AND INDUSTRIES
- The median household income in Boulder is $70,158.4 Artists come up a little short of that, with about 59% of survey respondents reporting a household income below $75,000. (Census Survey).
- Nationally, median incomes for fine artists, actors, musicians, dancers, choreographers, photographers, and “other entertainers” are below the median income of the labor force overall. (NEA)
- Artists are 3.6 times more likely to be self-employed than other workers: 34% vs. 9%. (NEA)
- The vast majority of US artists who earn their primary income from the arts earn less than $39,280 per year, which is below the living wage in many cities.5
- Across the US, 66% of artists hold a second job while 21% hold two additional jobs. This pattern has not shifted substantially in the past decade.6

FOCUS GROUP ANALYSIS BY QRC
“[I find it increasingly difficult to be here…]” (Focus Group Participant)
- For most, their art income has not kept up with rising costs. They feel a constant struggle to stay afloat.
- Boulder is an inconsistent marketplace for arts businesses. Many report multiple arts jobs, taking on work outside the arts. And, they are looking for much of their income in other cities.
- This puts the arts in a category with other professions that find Boulder expensive.

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3 Living Wage Calculator, Dr. Amy K. Glasmeier, MIT
4 Boulder Economic Council. This number includes students at the universities.
5 “Artists and Arts Workers,” National Endowment for the Arts, 2011
Three: Low incomes plus high housing costs and a modest local marketplace results in “The Squeeze.”

Artists report feeling “squeezed” between their relatively low earnings, high housing costs, low availability and high rents on studio and performing space, high cost of doing business generally, and uncertainty about the prospects for sustaining their business.

WHAT THE DATA TELLS US ABOUT BOULDER ARTISTS

- The cost of studio space measured by the average industrial property asking rent is $14.42 (sf/yr). That has increased by 44% in between 2013 and 2017.7
- 67% of survey respondents own their home. However, only 21% of those under 35 own their home (Census Survey) which is below the national average of 36% for the same group.8
- For those that rent their home, costs continue to go up. The median rent rose from $976 to $1,436 between 2008 and 2016.9

HOW THAT COMPARES TO OTHER PLACES AND INDUSTRIES

- Our studio space rent is higher, by about $4 (sf/yr) than the rest of the County and in the Denver Metro area and nearly $6 higher than the rest of the state.10
- Considering other occupations, 52.18% of Boulder residents own their home.11 Artists appear much more likely to own their home. This may be because most survey respondents are long time residents. (Census Survey)
- As in Boulder, artists in the US tend to be highly educated: 59% have bachelors’ degrees or higher, compared to 31% of U.S. workers overall. Most working artists earn less than professionals with similar educational achievement in other fields. (NEA)
- Affordability of renting a home is worse in Boulder, but by no means is isolated to this city. Across the state the median rent has risen by $263 between 2008 to 2015. In Boulder during that same time, $418.12

FOCUS GROUP ANALYSIS BY QRQ

“It’s an everyday struggle and juggling act to figure out how to live and work here.” (Focus Group Participant)

- Our artists are surviving (barely) and feel “squeezed.”
- Housing costs are the number one challenge.
- Once they have figured out a place to live, the most important “practical felt need” is the scarcity and affordability of spaces to create, perform and show their work.
- The lucky ones make it work with the support of an income-earning partner.
- Many focus group participants feel they have no choice but to move outside the city. And, many feel they are hearing more artists who have had to move to surrounding communities to find affordability.
- Others turn to communal or collective options that are hard to find and may not comply with city regulations. The need to stay under the radar adding to the stress and uncertainty of their everyday lives.
- The business of art requires skills that they do not have, and don’t make enough to hire support.

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8 American Community Survey (US Census Bureau, www.census.gov)
9 American Community Survey (US Census Bureau, www.civicdashboards.com)
10 Loopnet Market Trends
11 American Community Survey (US Census Bureau, www.civicdashboards.com)
12 American Community Survey (US Census Bureau, www.civicdashboards.com)
Four: Boulder has the ingredients to be a great home for artists and their small business enterprises. But we are not there yet.

Boulder has many events and festivals, theaters and galleries, a great tourism market, a variety of grants, an affluent community, new fellowships and awards, a large number of artists, and many other assets. However, artists are not feeling the benefits of all this activity.

WHAT THE DATA TELLS US ABOUT BOULDER ARTISTS
- Artists continue to move to Boulder. The number of artists has grown by about 3% per year between 2011 and 2017. (BLS)
- A plurality of artists balances their income from inside and outside the city. One-third say they work primarily in Boulder. (Census Survey)
- Cultural nonprofits in Boulder support more than 1,800 jobs. (AFTA) Artists take advantage of that work: most arts professionals report 51% to 72% of their income comes from these organizations. (Census Survey)
- The audience for performing and visual arts in Boulder continues to grow, with over 1.3 Million cultural visitors in 2017. (AFTA)
- New education and recognition opportunities have emerged in recent years including the Dairy Center Honors, Boulder County Arts Alliance workshops, and the Arts Administration certification at the University of Colorado.

HOW THAT COMPARES TO OTHER PLACES AND INDUSTRIES
- Nationally, training, fellowships, grants, and awards for artists are not responding to new ways of working, nor artists’ needs and opportunities. (NEA)
- A specific challenge for artists in the US is the fact that the real estate pressures on small and mid-sized nonprofits and arts businesses tends to undercut jobs and income for artists, as well as limiting opportunities for rehearsal, exhibition, performance, and convening.13 (NEA)

FOCUS GROUP ANALYSIS BY QRC
"The money is known to be here... The challenge is to help the community see the value in nurturing and supporting the local arts scene." (Focus Group Participant)
- Artists feel that the chances of getting a grant are low, with too many artists pursuing too few dollars. Applying for grants requires an investment of time that is hard to justify.
- The quality of artistic talent here is felt to be under-appreciated by the public.
- The practical business side of art today demands a lot of time and attention.
- The number one “emotional felt need” for artists in Boulder is greater connection to other arts professionals. They want to feel connected to a community that is valued and vibrant, to be inspired and to inspire, to connect and to collaborate. And, that is not happening enough!
- There are little pockets of creativity in the city, but no “happening art scene.” Nothing with an edge, excitement, or buzz.

13 The NEA’s national categorization of small and mid-sized organization includes every nonprofit in Boulder, including the largest cultural organizations.
What does the Community Cultural Plan recommend?
The 2015 Community Cultural Plan provided specific recommendations on what strategies and projects the City of Boulder Office of Arts and Culture will use to address the challenges faced by professional artists:

- Supporting and recognizing artists and creative professionals
- Working on issues of viability and affordability
- Providing professional development tools

Work has already begun including a project grant specifically for artists, artist forums, sponsorship of professional development programs, and support for the NoBo Art District as a platform for the success of artist businesses.

As staff and the members of the Boulder Arts Commission evaluate these programs, and launch new ones, the findings of the Census of Boulder Artists should be used to refine the work plan for the best outcomes in the community.

Advice from QRC
Based on their analysis of the Focus Groups, the consultants at QRC recommend the following for consideration:

- Explore creative ways to support artists with their space and live/work needs... or our artists will be forced out of Boulder.
- Explore ways to shine a light on ‘One Boulder Arts Community,’ to promote & celebrate all facets of the arts here. The goal is to evoke pride, enthusiasm & support from locals and visitors. Develop a communications campaign to encourage the community to ‘GET OUT’ and the artists to get out of their silos.
- Challenge the business community to engage and support the arts. Help create bridges to foster connections.
- The initiatives of the Office of Arts and Culture are valued. There is a further need to provide business tools and resources to help artists forge connections with other artists within and beyond their disciplines.

References and Notes
GENERAL NOTES
This study is labeled a "census" because the survey is based on official US census questions. It is not a comprehensive count of every artist in Boulder, Colorado.

The survey respondents appear to be concentrated in certain demographic categories. When possible, the focus groups and comparative research analyses were used to correct the understanding of cohorts in the survey which may be underreported. For instance, survey respondents were mostly reporting their age as 55 or older. However, this may not be an accurate understanding of the community, since older people are more likely to respond to a survey.

RESOURCES
- The findings from survey data and analysis of the focus groups is summarized in a presentation delivered to the Boulder Arts Commission in September 2018. Please visit this link to download the presentation.
- Full data from the survey is available by request: culturalplan@boulderlibrary.org.

The staff of the Office of Arts and Culture and the Boulder Arts Commission wish to thank the survey respondents, focus group participants. And, a special thanks to Vicki Johns and Arnie Jacobson of QRC for their excellent work on the focus groups.
MEMORANDUM

To: Boulder Arts Commissioners
From: Matt Chasansky, Boulder Arts Commission Liaison
Cc: Mandy Vink, Public Art Administrator
Date: July 11, 2017
Regarding: Paint the Pavement application approval for Melody Catalpa

This memo serves as notice to the Boulder Arts Commission of the administrative approval of a temporary public art project.

Project Intro: The Melody Catalpa neighborhood has applied for a Paint the Pavement project through the City of Boulder Transportation Department. The mural, located at the intersection of 16th and Kalmia, will be created during a block party on July 21, 2019. The project concept is a catalpa tree with the sky and flatirons behind. It features a musical movement in the roots to incorporate “melody” and beehives in the center as Melody Catalpa was the first neighborhood in the world to achieve certification as “bee safe”. This project is being stewarded by Lieschen Gargano Quilling and Merlyn Holmes. This is one of the first murals and art in public places projects in this neighborhood.

Review Process: In the October 2017 Arts Commission retreat, the commissioners approved a public art process change for community-initiated temporary projects. The rule defines community-initiated projects such as this to be temporary exhibitions, identified in Section IV. Limitations, and therefore can be approved and work to begin in a more expedient manner. Temporary exhibitions, including community-initiated projects, require internal review by the technical review committee and will be reviewed at the conclusion of two years. At that time, the work may be considered as a donation to the city’s collection.

This project has been approved by and is supported by the Office of Arts and Culture, the Neighborhood Liaison Office, and the Transportation Department.

The following pages include the pertinent sections of the Melody Catalpa neighborhood paint the pavement permit application.
Melody catalpa paint the pavement description

Our paint the pavement art is of a catalpa tree with the sky and flatirons behind. It also features musical movement in the roots for the “melody” part, bee hives in the center as we were the first certified “bee safe” neighborhood in the world. It is in the round as it will be in the center of the intersection. The colors and details may be a bit simplified as neighbors paint it, but our muralist will be there to help guide us.
Paint the Pavement
INSTALLATION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into as of this _____ day of __________, 20____ by and between ___ Lieschen Gargano ___ (hereinafter referred to as “Applicant”) representing Neighborhood Group ___ Melody Catalpa ___ (if applicable) and City of Boulder Department of Public Works (hereinafter referred to as “The City of Boulder”)

WHEREAS, the Applicant has submitted plans and a valid petition for painting the pavement at the
☐ intersection of ____________ 16th __________ and ____________ Kalmia ave __________

or

☐ midblock location on __________________________________________

between ____________ and ____________

WHEREAS, The City of Boulder has reviewed plans and approves installation;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Applicant will hold the City of Boulder, its officers, agents, and employees free and harmless from any claims for damages to persons or property, including legal fees and costs of defending any actions or suits, including any appeals, which may result from painting.

2. Applicant shall be responsible for installation of the painting in accordance to the drawing submitted to the Traffic Engineer, as approved by the Traffic Engineer, the Boulder Arts Commission and the City Manager.

3. Applicant will work with all affected neighbors to resolve any concerns that may arise regarding the project. The inability to resolve such concerns may be grounds for revocation of the agreement by the City.

4. Applicant will obtain a Neighborhood Block Party Permit or Special Events Permit from the City of Boulder to close all legs of the intersection for up to one block distance, in order to install the intersection painting.

5. Applicant will be responsible for submitting a Method for Handling Traffic (MHT) for approval by the Traffic Engineer, if such plan is deemed necessary by the Traffic Engineer, and paying all costs of designing and implementing the method. No street will be blocked for more than 14 hours in any 24-hour period unless specifically allowed by the Traffic Engineer.

6. Applicant will notify all households and businesses within four standard city blocks of the proposed project at least 30 days before the project installation date.

7. Applicant understands that if any nuisance condition is allowed to exist in the area of the project, the City may summarily abate such nuisance. The existence of a nuisance in the area of the project may be grounds for revocation of the agreement.

Paint the Pavement Installation Agreement
8. Applicant shall repair the painting project as needed, or portions of the project, with all costs borne by the applicant, if street repair, street maintenance, street reconstruction, repair of existing utility facilities or installation of new utility facilities in the right-of-way affects the installation.

9. Applicant shall follow the standard application procedures, in place at the time of application, to obtain City approval to complete any future repair or repainting of the pavement mural.

10. This agreement covers use of the public right-of-way only, and does not exempt the applicant from obtaining any license or permit required by the City Code or Ordinances for any act to be performed under this permit. Nor will the agreement waive the provisions of any City Code, Ordinance, or the City Charter, except as stated herein. This agreement will not exempt any party from complying with all applicable traffic laws, including laws regarding pedestrians, except during the hours of street closure, as approved by the City.

11. The City of Boulder may revoke an agreement for convenience. The City of Boulder will immediately revoke a permitted project no longer meeting the original intent of the project. Other reasons for revocation may include, but are not limited to:
   
   o **Neighborhood Conflicts:** The applicant will work with all affected neighbors to resolve any concerns that may arise regarding the project. The inability to resolve such concerns may be grounds for revocation of the agreement by the Traffic Engineer.
   
   o **Nuisance conditions:** If any nuisance condition is allowed to exist in the area of the project, the City may summarily abate such nuisance. The existence of a nuisance in the area of the project may be grounds for revocation of the permit.

12. This agreement shall remain in effect for one (1) year from the date of this agreement.

13. The painting project described above is done with the express permission of the City Manager and shall not be deemed to be graffiti pursuant to City Code (Section 5-4-14, B.R.C. 1981).

14. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement on the day and year above first written.

By:

[Signature]

Applicant signature

Lieschen gargano

Applicant name

720-938-0800

Phone Number

Lieschen@parachutes.com

e-mail

Michelle Melonakis, City Traffic Engineer

Jane S. Brautigam, City Manager

Attest:

Alisa Lewis, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

City Attorney

Paint the Pavement Installation Agreement
Block Party to Paint the Pavement
PERMIT APPLICATION

Section 2 – Application Form (Return this Section)

Check off the following items that are enclosed with your completed application:

Required:
- [ ] Completed application, which includes
  - [ ] detailed map of area to be closed
  - [ ] completed petitions
- [ ] Traffic Control Plan (if required)
- [ ] Paint the Pavement Installation Agreement, which includes
  - [ ] a written description and sketch of the design to be painted

Optional:
- [ ] amplified sound (live/amplified music, PA system): Refer to Requirement #3 for compliance

Submitted by:

[Signature]

Block Party Sponsor signature

7209380800

Phone

Today’s Date: 4/26/2019 Date of Block Party: 7/21/2019

Address of Block Party: 16th st. & Kalmia ave

(attach map of block party area)

Describe Event: Paint the pavement as part of Mmmmuahah! Grant

Applicant: Lieschen Gargano Phone: 7209380800

Address: 1245 Linden Ave

Boulder, Colorado 80304

City State Zip Code

Block Party to Paint the Pavement Permit Application • Section 2
Start time: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Number of persons attending: ~40 (greater than 100 requires special approval)

Will amplified music be provided? No

Will alcohol be available? No

If so, which address(es) will have alcohol?

Alcohol is only allowed on private property. All state and city alcohol laws still apply during Block Parties. A Block Party permit does not allow the sale of alcohol or the consumption of alcohol on public property.

How do you plan on notifying your neighbors? (See #6 for ideas) 

Nexdoor list, neighborhood email list, posted flyers, petition, kick off mtg to discuss.

Applicant may be asked to produce map, flyers, etc. upon request by the city.

As an applicant for a block party permit, I certify that I have read and understand all of the conditions and procedures that are required in order to obtain the permit and I agree to comply with each of those conditions and procedures.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Boulder, and all City of Boulder officers, employees, agents and representatives, from any claims (including costs of defending such claims) or damages that may arise from the occurrence of the block party or from related events.

I understand that a block party permit does not authorize violation of city or state laws, except to the limited extent that it allows a street to be temporarily closed in conformity with permit conditions and allows the painting of a design in the street. I also understand that a block party permit does not excuse failure to comply with orders of law enforcement personnel, firefighters or other emergency workers, and that it does not provide immunity from civil claims of third parties that are based upon damages occurring at, or in conjunction with, block party events.

I affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the statements and representations made in connection with this application are true to the best of my knowledge.

Block Party Sponsor Signature

4/26/2019

Date
Paint the Pavement

PETITION

Because the Paint the Pavement project will create a semi-permanent change to the neighborhood environment, in addition to closing the street for a day, identifying support from neighbors is especially important. The Paint the Pavement Petition must have signatures from 100 percent of the property owners directly abutting the project and at least 60 percent of the property owners and/or residents on the project street frontage(s) within the “impact area” which is defined as one standard city block (or 400 feet) of the proposed project, or within the area to be closed for the painting event, whichever is greater. Each residence within the impact area will only receive only one “vote” per address. Either a renter or property owner may sign the petition form on behalf of an address, but not both. Multi-family units require the approval of the property manager or homeowner association, or 60% of unit owners or tenants. For public properties, the site manager’s approval is adequate.

The Traffic Engineer may modify the petition boundaries when considered appropriate. The petition states that approval is being given both for the street closure and the painting of the street.

Person responsible for circulating this petition:

Name: Lieschen Gargano
Telephone: 7209380800
E-mail: Lieschen@parachutes.com

Location of Paint the Pavement mural:

Roadway Segment: ___________________ from ________________ to ________________

OR

Roadway intersection __________ 16th Street __________ at __________ Kalmia Avenue

Date of painting event: __________ 7/21/2019

The “impact area” for the proposed Paint the Pavement mural treatment is defined by City staff and includes those residences listed in the petition below.
Commissioners—

I understand that Angelique Espinoza has sent emails out with a concern. She has also been in touch with me. Below is the response that I sent last week. You are, of course, encouraged to respond as you see fit. I think some of the information I gave to her might be helpful to you.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Matt

From: Chasansky, Matthew
To: Bruce Borowsky; Devin Hughes; Erica Joos; flynvartranch@comcast.net; Kathleen McCormick (fonthead1@gmail.com) Seaton, Celia; Click, Lauren; Farnan, David
Cc: Seaton, Celia; Click, Lauren; Farnan, David
Subject: FW: Concerns about Criteria
Date: Monday, June 17, 2019 7:58:57 AM
Attachments: image010.png

Commissioners—

I understand that Angelique Espinoza has sent emails out with a concern. She has also been in touch with me. Below is the response that I sent last week. You are, of course, encouraged to respond as you see fit. I think some of the information I gave to her might be helpful to you.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Matt

From: Chasansky, Matthew
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2019 4:00 PM
To: Angelique Espinoza <director@museumofboulder.org>
Cc: Tim Plass <tim.plass@gmail.com>; Carolyn Booth <booth@museumofboulder.org>; Click, Lauren <ClickL@boulderlibrary.org>; Farnan, David <FarnanD@boulderlibrary.org>
Subject: RE: Concerns about Criteria

Angelique—

Thanks very much for this email. And, for the phone call today. My notes, below, capture some of what we talked about. On carbon copy are David Farnan and Lauren Click, who have been in conversation about this grant for the past 10 months. They may be able to add thoughts. (Thanks in advance, Lauren and David!)

I will be out of the office early next week. But, I very much want to take you up on your offer to meet and discuss these points. However, I thought it important to connect on these questions so that we can make sure you have everything you need ahead of Monday’s deadline.

To start, I will repeat what I wrote in my quick email yesterday: I highly recommend you chat with some of the commission members. Especially, Mark and Kathleen. They have been the most engaged with City Council around this grant, as well as speaking in advocacy for more funding for your organization (among a few others).
So, on to your points:

1. In the email below, you call out those places in the application where the terms “art”, “artistic merit”, and “artists and creative professionals” are mentioned.

As we discussed, there is some disagreement in the community about the precise definition of “arts and culture”. However, the Arts Commission has been very clear that, for their purposes, the term “arts” includes heritage. They have worked on aligning, what was before 2015 a pretty exclusive term, to the sentiments of the community. We heard from folks who participated in the Cultural Plan that history, heritage, and specifically your organization are important to the cultural strategy. So, for example, when you see the term “artists and creative professionals”... the commission understands that term unequivocally includes historians, history writers, practitioners of traditional cultural forms, social historians, curators of heritage, etc.

This is captured in several places. Please refer to COB Revised Code 14-1-2 (a) (9) where “history and heritage” are listed under eligible programs and projects. Also, in the specific eligibility criteria for this grant which reads: “The facility may be programmed for any field or specialty including culture, heritage, social justice, science, or the arts.”

2. Regarding your points about the seven guidelines that City Council set for this funding:

Those guidelines were developed on the fly during City Council’s meeting last October and were the subject of much discussion at Arts Commission meetings in October, November, and January. They attempted to translate this guidance into viable evaluation and eligibility criteria. That was further endorsed by Council on March 5, 2019.

In your email you specifically bring up the following:

- "Examples of facilities based organizations to include...Museum of Boulder...."  
  Staff and the Arts Commission agree that the Museum of Boulder is eligible.

- "Unlike typical arts grants, these grants would include programs, performances, and exhibits that are not traditionally art...." And, "they would include any educational or engagement experience, including culture, science, art, and health"  
  This is specifically stated in the eligibility criterion: “The facility may be programmed for any field or specialty including culture, heritage, social justice, science, or the arts.”

- "The programs, performances and exhibits would be targeted towards residents of the Boulder region....”  
  This is highlighted in the purpose statement “support nonprofits which own or operate venues to improve the provision of programming to the community...
through the public use of their facility.” Also, please note the general eligibility requirements that the organization be headquartered in Boulder and that all grants are used to support programming for the community.

A note that the specific evaluation criteria that are captured in the purpose statement and rubric (connections to the community; encourage collaboration; improve access; and contributes to the experience of participants) were developed with a lot of help, including from Ken Wilson. He met with David and I to help us align some of this language to what he felt was the specific perspective of the Museum. He may have further insight.

3. Your final point refers the use of the term “project grant”. That term is a directive from Council. One that I admit I would not have recommended. It falls into common terminology of grant making: as opposed to an operational grant. However, we have tried to open up that term so that some types of operational uses can be considered. For instance, the grant calls out that limited operational uses such as hiring extra staff for a big program or investing in minor capital purchases may be considered. In short, we were compelled to put it in the category of project grants, but understand that the outcomes Council desires call for a more broad approach.

Also, regarding one further issue you brought up during our phone call, I was correct that the instance that mentions “artistic merit” is in a list of examples. This is for the Community Priorities evaluation question, which is used to measure all competitive grant applications against the Community Cultural Plan. Not only for this category. This is how the application reads:

Examples of ways to demonstrate impact on the Community Priorities may include descriptions of how your project or organization:

- Supports artists and creative professionals by providing professional development programming.
- Contributes to Boulder’s creative identity and creates a vibrant cultural destination through high artistic merit and excellence in the practice of a medium or discipline.
- Engages the community in civic dialogue about the arts through interactive outreach in the neighborhoods.
- Adds creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved populations in art-making for their community.

As you know, the Arts Commission this year decided to do away with a specific evaluation criterion for artistic merit. And, instead, to allow applicants the option to make the case that their cultural practice contributes to the Cultural Plan. It is clear that this is a list of examples meant to encourage applicants to describe in their own words how their application connects to the Cultural Plan.

I hope this helps clarify a bit. I am happy to set up time to meet and talk in more detail. Let me know when you are free.
Dear Matt,

We have concerns about the questions used in the facilities grant application:

Best,

–Matt
Note how heavily these questions still lean into art as the primary criteria. This seems inconsistent with both your email to me in which you state "the Arts Commission has eliminated the 'artistic excellence' criterion in all grants":

It also seems in conflict with the 7 criteria approved by Council:
Particularly the following:
"Examples of facilities based organizations to include...Museum of Boulder...."

"Unlike typical arts grants, these grants would include **programs**, performances, and **exhibits** that are not traditionally art...."

"They would include any **educational or engagement experience**, including **culture, science, art, and health**"

"The **programs, performances and exhibits** would be targeted towards residents of the Boulder region...."

(***emphasis mine**).

For this reason, it is troubling to see art featured so heavily, and mention culture only once in the grant questions. Even where culture is mentioned, is is important only when contributing to Boulder's creative identity and culture through high artistic merit.

"How does organization support **artists and creative professionals**; contribute to Boulder's creative identity and
culture through high artistic merit; engage community in civic dialogue about the arts through interactive outreach in the neighborhoods; and, add creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved populations in art making for their community?

This does not seem in keeping with Council's direction for this grant.

We worry about the weighting of the application questions to the “artistic,” when I think that it is clear that council’s intent was to create a broader category of funding for facilities-based “cultural” institutions. It seems like the bias against cultural organizations that we encountered in the General Operating Support grant questions remains for the facilities-based grant.

Additionally we find it troubling that the application uses the term “project” in this fashion: "Hereafter, the proposals for projects, programming, or operational needs which form an application to this grant will be referred to as the “project.” This language is from the website [https://boulderarts.org/2019-grants-program/2019-special-facilities-grants/](https://boulderarts.org/2019-grants-program/2019-special-facilities-grants/)

We worry that in evaluating the applications, the Art Commissioners will undervalue proposals that aren’t actual projects. For example, our request for operational funding may
not be seen as a "project." We are concerned that the metrics criteria associated with the “project” idea serve to reinforce this bias. We would very much like to come to a meeting of the minds on this issue. Please let me know if it is appropriate to have a phone call or coffee to discuss.

Respectfully,

--

Angelique Espinoza
Museum of Boulder | 2205 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80302
303-449-3464 x1 (office) | 303-818-2032 (mobile)
she/her/hers
www.museumofboulder.org
Facebook | Twitter | Instagram
Angelique—

Thanks so much for emailing the commission members.

A quick note, just in case you were not aware, that the practice of the Arts Commission is to include any email sent to three or more commissioners in the public record. The email below will be attached to the July meeting packet. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

–Matt

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Angelique Espinoza
Date: Fri, Jun 7, 2019 at 2:36 PM
Subject: Fwd: Concerns about Criteria
To: <fonthead1@gmail.com>, <bruce@boulderdigitalarts.com>, <devin@devinpatrickhughes.com>

Hi Bruce, Kathleen and Devin,

As the Interim Executive Director of the Museum of Boulder, I have some grave concerns about the wording of the criteria for the special facilities grant. I simply cannot accept that the word "art" means "art, culture, and heritage". The current wording places all the emphasis on art, artists, and artistic merit. Please review the email I sent to Matt Chazansky below for specifics.
I appreciate your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Angelique Espinoza
303-818-2032

Dear Matt,

We have concerns about the questions used in the facilities grant application:

Note how heavily these questions still lean into art as the primary criteria. This seems inconsistent with both your email to me in which you state "the Arts Commission has eliminated the 'artistic excellence' criterion in all grants":

**Community Priorities:** How does our organization support artists and creative professionals; contribute to Boulder's creative identity and culture through high artistic merit; engage community in civic dialogue about the arts through interactive outreach in the neighborhoods; and, add creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved populations in art making for their community. (1,250 character limit)
It also seems in conflict with the 7 criteria approved by Council:

1. Facilities: The organization must own or long-term lease its own program facility. The reason for this is that ownership of a facility typically comes with a full-time staff and year-round opening hours, allowing a facility-based cultural and educational organization to easily leverage a grant into programs for the benefit of the community. Examples of facility-based organizations include BMoCA (lease), Museum of Boulder (own), The Dairy (lease), Chacabuco (lease), eTown (own), and Studio Arts (lease, soon to own).

2. Uses: Grants can be used for programs, performances, and exhibits that serve the Boulder regional community. These can be used for new experiences, or for expansion or continuation of existing experiences that have already proven successful.

3. Types: Unlike typical arts grants, these grants would include programs, performances, and exhibits that are not traditionally arts, although arts could certainly be included. They would include any educational or engagement experiences, including culture, science, art, and health.

4. Beneficiaries: The programs, performances, and exhibits would be targeted towards residents of the Boulder region (as opposed to tourists) and could be directed towards either adults or children or both.

5. Expenditures: The grants may be expended on any costs reasonably and directly incurred by the facility-based cultural and educational organization to providing the qualifying programs, performances, and exhibits. This could include materials used in the presentation of the experience, salaries and employment costs of permanent or temporary employees preparing or presenting the experience, and expenses incurred in marketing and promoting the experience to the Boulder regional community.

6. Collaboration: Special consideration will be given to grant applications demonstrating collaboration on the program, performance, and exhibits with non-facilities-based organizations. For example, if a facility-based cultural and educational organization chooses to put on an exhibit or program on Latino experiences, collaboration with a non-facilities-based Latino organization would be favorably received in the grant process.

7. Reporting: Any grant would require reporting on the number of people in the community served, so that the grant committee can consider whether the particular grant should be renewed in the future, and whether grants for similar projects should be made.

Particularly the following:
"Examples of facilities based organizations to include...Museum of Boulder...."
"Unlike typical arts grants, these grants would include..."
programs, performances, and exhibits that are not traditionally art...."
"They would include any educational or engagement experience, including culture, science, art, and health"
"The programs, performances and exhibits would be targeted towards residents of the Boulder region...."
(emphasis mine).

For this reason, it is troubling to see art featured so heavily, and mention culture only once in the grant questions. Even where culture is mentioned, is is important only when contributing to Boulder's creative identity and culture through high artistic merit.
"How does out organization support artists and creative professionals; contribute to Boulder's creative identity and culture through high artistic merit; engage community in civic dialogue about the arts through interactive outreach in the neighborhoods; and, add creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved populations in art making for their community?

This does not seem in keeping with Council's direction for this grant.

We worry about the weighting of the application questions to the “artistic,” when I think that it is clear that council’s intent was to create a broader category of funding for facilities-based
“cultural” institutions. It seems like the bias against cultural organizations that we encountered in the General Operating Support grant questions remains for the facilities-based grant.

Additionally we find it troubling that the application uses the term “project” in this fashion: "Hereafter, the proposals for projects, programming, or operational needs which form an application to this grant will be referred to as the “project.” This language is from the website https://boulderarts.org/2019-grants-program/2019-special-facilities-grants/

We worry that in evaluating the applications, the Art Commissioners will undervalue proposals that aren’t actual projects. For example, our request for operational funding may not be seen as a "project." We are concerned that the metrics criteria associated with the “project” idea serve to reinforce this bias.

We would very much like to come to a meeting of the minds on this issue. Please let me know if it is appropriate to have a phone call or coffee to discuss.

Respectfully,

Angelique Espinoza
Hello Arts Commission,

There are five items for you to review for the grant program before the meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 2019.

- ACTION: Grant Reports
  1. Arts Education: Boulder Metalsmithing Association, Enhancing Art Through Metalsmithing, $3,000
  2. Arts Education: Friendship City Projects, Taller Artístico Xuchialt Art and Culture Exchange, $3,000
  3. Arts Education: Museum of Boulder, Teen Corps: 3D Printing Artifacts for the Blind (Seeing Through Touching), $2,900
  4. Arts Education: Studio Arts Boulder, Pottery with the “I Have a Dream” Foundation, $3,000
  5. Community Project Grant: Boulder Symphony, GLOW Project, $5,000

I have attached them here, or, you may go to the online portal, then to your Shared Documents folder, then to the appropriate folder. You’ll discuss and make final decisions on these items at the meeting.

Also, please be reminded that your initial scores and comments on the 2019 Special Facilities Grant are due this Friday, July 12.

Feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions. Thank you for your hard work and all that you do for the arts in Boulder!

Cheers, Lauren

Lauren Click
she/her/hers
Cultural Grants Program
Office of Arts + Culture
720-564-2355
clickl@boulderlibrary.org
www.boulderarts.org

Library & Arts Department
1001 Arapahoe Avenue | Boulder, CO | 80302
Attachment Four
Revised Schedule for the 2019 Cycle of Cultural Grants

2019 Grants and Meetings Schedule
Updated 7/8/19

Oct. 16, 2018 - City Council Budget approval at meeting

Nov. and Dec. 2018 and 2019
- Grant Info Sessions for Applicants
  - Tuesday, November 27, 4 to 5:30 p.m., Boulder Creek Room at the Boulder Main Public Library
  - Tuesday, December 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Dairy Arts Center Carsen Theater
- Panel Training – Monday, January 7, 2019, 5pm to 7pm, Boulder Creek Room at the Boulder Main Public Library

GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

Community Project Grants – Individuals
- Friday, January 18 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- Jan. 18 to January 23 – Review by staff for eligibility. Revision by applicants if necessary
- Jan. 23 to Feb. 8 – Preliminary review and score by panel (17 days)
- Feb. 8 to Feb. 13 – Score processing by staff
- Feb. 13 – Preliminary scores posted online
- Feb. 13 to Feb. 20 – Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Arts Commission meeting
- Feb. 20 – Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

General Operating Support Reports
- Friday, February 1 at 11:59 p.m.
- Feb. 20 – Review at the Arts Commission meeting.

Community Project Grants – Organizations
- Monday, February 11 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- Feb. 11 to Feb. 15 – Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- Feb. 15 to March 8 – Preliminary review and score by panel (22 days)
- March 8 to March 13 – Score processing by staff
- March 13 – Preliminary scores posted online
- March 13 to March 20 – Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Arts Commission meeting
- March 20 – Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

Professional Development Grants, Round One
- Monday, Feb. 18 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- Feb. 18 to March 4 – Staff review of applications (15 days)
- March 4 – Notification of decision

General Operating Grants – Large and Mid-sized Organizations
- Monday, March 11 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- March 11 to March 15 – Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- March 15 to April 5 – Preliminary review and score by panel (22 days)
- April 5 to April 10 – Score processing by staff
- April 10 – Preliminary scores posted online
- April 10 to April 17 - Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Boulder Arts Commission meeting
- April 17 - Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

**General Operating Grants – Extra Large and Small Organizations**
- Monday, March 11 at 11:59 p.m. - Deadline for applications
- April 12 to May 3 - Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- May 8 - Preliminary scores posted online
- May 8 to May 15 - Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Boulder Arts Commission meeting
- May 15 - Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

**Arts Education Project Grants**
- Monday, May 13 at 11:59 p.m. - Deadline for applications
- May 13 to May 17 - Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- May 17 to June 7 - Preliminary review and score by panel (22 days)
- June 7 to June 12 - Score processing by staff
- June 12 - Preliminary scores posted online
- June 12 to June 19 - Applicants prepare 3-minute optional presentation for the Boulder Arts Commission meeting
- June 19 - Arts Commission meeting. Presentations by applicants; panel rescore; discussion and final decisions on grants

**Professional Development Grants, Round Two**
- Monday, May 20 at 11:59 p.m. - Deadline for applications
- June 3 - Notification of decision

**Equity Grant application – timing dependent upon partnership with the Human Relations Commission**

**2019 CU Boulder Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration Scholarships**
*Updated July 8, 2019*
- Thursday, July 25, 2019, 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- July 25 to July 30 – Review by staff for eligibility, revision by applicants if necessary
- July 30 to August 21 – Review by Arts Commission (8 days)
- August 21 – Arts Commission meeting: interviews and final decisions on scholarships

**Special Facilities Grants**
*Updated June 20, 2019*
- June 10 to June 20 – Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- June 20 to July 12 – Preliminary review and score by panel (22 days)
- July 12 to July 19 – Score processing by staff
- July 19 – Preliminary scores and comments sent to applicants via email
- July 19 to July 26 – Applicants prepare and send written responses to the panel's questions. The written response should be emailed to lclark@bouldercolorado.org by July 26, 2019 at 11:59pm.
- July 26 to July 31 – Response processing by staff
- July 31 – Responses sent to panel
- July 31 to August 9 – Final review and score by panel
- August 9 to August 16 – Processing of final scores
- August 16 – Final scores sent to applicants via email
- August 21 – Arts Commission meeting. Discussion and final decisions on grants

Professional Development Grants
Two deadlines. These are awarded by Office of Arts and Culture staff on a set of criteria. Staff reviews applications and awards are announced at the next meeting of the Boulder Arts Commission following the deadline.

Rental Assistance Funds (Boulder venues)
1st of each month at 5 p.m., year round deadline for applications. These are awarded on a first come, first served basis. Staff reviews applications and awards are announced at the next meeting of the Boulder Arts Commission following the deadline. $18,000 is available for funding on January 1, 2019 until funds are exhausted. 2nd Round TBD.

Macky Free Rental & Supplementary Funds
1st of each month at 5 p.m., year round deadline for applications. These are awarded on a first come, first served basis. Staff reviews applications and awards are announced at the next meeting of the Boulder Arts Commission following the deadline.

Cultural Field Trip Fund
1st of each month at 5 p.m., year round deadline for applications. These are awarded on a first come, first served basis. Staff reviews applications and awards are announced at the next meeting of the Boulder Arts Commission following the deadline.

2019 Boulder Arts Commission MEETING CALENDAR
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, Jan. 16
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, Feb. 20
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, March 20
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, April 17
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, May 15
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, June 19
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, July 17
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, Aug. 14
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, Sept. 18
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, Oct. 16
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, Nov. 20
Boulder Arts Commission meeting – Wednesday, Dec. 18
Attachment Five
Current Cultural Grants Program Budget as of July 12, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRANT CATEGORY</th>
<th>ASSIGNED BUDGET</th>
<th>UPDATED BUDGET</th>
<th>GRANTS AWARDED</th>
<th>BALANCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>GOS: Extra Large Orgs</td>
<td>$200,000.00</td>
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<td><strong>$646,901.50</strong></td>
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There are 11 free rentals still available for the Macky Auditorium.

Note: The new column titled “updated budget” reflects changes the Arts Commission has approved to the original budget as it was first approved in October 2018. The “balance” column is “grants awarded” minus the updated budget.
## Current Public Art Program 5 Year Budget as of July 12, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
<th>PROJECT/ARTIST</th>
<th>TOTAL APPROPRIATED</th>
<th>AMOUNT PAID TO DATE</th>
<th>BALANCE REMAINING</th>
<th>2019 PROJECTED SPENDING</th>
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<td>Civic Area Temp. / Tashakori</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gen. Fund</td>
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<td>CCS v2</td>
<td>Scott Carpenter Pool / pre-selection</td>
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*Multiple funding sources.

CCS: Community Culture and Safety Tax.

Additional maintenance projects are not represented.