Boulder Arts Commission Special Meeting Agenda  
August 19, 2020 6:00 P.M.  
Online Video Meeting

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

2. **MINUTES**  
   Approval of the July 2020 Meeting Minutes

3. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

4. **MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS**
   A. Campaign Guidelines – Kathleen  
   B. Update on the COVID 19 Arts and Culture Relief Fund – Kathleen

5. **PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**
   A. DISCUSSION: Preview of the Public Art Implementation Plan

6. **GRANT PROGRAM**
   A. ACTION: Grant Report Approvals  
      i. Report: Special Facilities Grant 2019, Museum of Boulder, General Operating Facility Support, $43,000  
      ii. Report: Special Facilities Grant 2019, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Expansion of impact of BMoCA exhibitions and associated programs through collaborations and outreach, $75,000  
   B. DISCUSSION: Grant Report Follow Up  
      i. Report Follow Up: Special Facilities Grant 2019, Dairy Arts Center, $50,000  
      ii. Report Follow Up: Community Project Grant 2019, Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company, $10,000  
   C. ACTION: Interviews and Decision for University of Colorado at Boulder Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration Scholarship  
      i. Carlisle Isley  
      ii. Elaine Waterman  
   D. ACTION: Arts Education Grant Decisions  
   E. DISCUSSION: 2021 Grants Program Updates

7. **MATTERS FROM STAFF**
   A. Questions on the Manager’s Update – Matt

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

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<th>Name of Board/ Commission:</th>
<th>Boulder Arts Commission</th>
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<td>Date of Meeting:</td>
<td>July 15, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact information preparing summary:</td>
<td>Celia Seaton</td>
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**Commission members present:** Mark Villarreal, Kathleen McCormick, Devin Hughes, Bruce Borowsky, Georgia Schmid
**Commission members absent:** none
**Panel members present:** none
**Panel members absent:** none

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

**City staff present:**
Karl Guiler, Planner - Code Amendment Specialist, Department of Planning & Development Services

**Members of the public present:** None

**Type of Meeting:** Regular | Remote

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**Agenda Item 1: Call to order and approval of agenda**
[0:02:26 Audio min.]
The meeting was called to order. McCormick provided an introductory orientation around the virtual procedure, as this meeting was held through Zoom videoconference. She asked the group for any other addendums to the agenda. Being none, Villarreal moved to approve the agenda. Borowsky seconded, and all were in favor.

**Agenda Item 2: Review of Minutes**
**Item 2A, Approval/Review of June 2020 Meeting Minutes**
[0:05:00 Audio min.]
McCormick asked the commission for changes or addendums regarding these minutes. Hearing none, Borowsky moved to approve the minutes. Villarreal seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Agenda Item 3: Public Participation**
[0:05:56 Audio min.]
None.

**Agenda Item 4: Matters from Guests**
[0:00.00 Audio min.]

A. Community Benefit for Development – McCormick introduced Karl Guiler, a planner with the Department of Planning & Development Services. Community Benefit project (underway for two years) built need for arts and cultural spaces into the comp plan policies. While permanently affordable housing has so far been a priority, focus can shift now to other community benefits such as the art/culture piece during this “phase 2” - see packet. Guiler welcomed commission input.

Borowsky wondered about the impact of COVID19. Guiler acknowledged the consideration, as well as the level of uncertainty. Checked in with council in May – the directive was to move forward as before.

Guiler noted an August 25th study session to report on the progress (community outreach, input, options moving forward) of this topic.

Villarreal liked everything included, suggests including an arena for street artists to perform or make murals (Street Wise, SMiLE, street theater etc.)

Commission wishes to be involved in the selection of pieces to be sure they serve the appropriate needs in the community. Per Schmid, “to keep Boulder true to what it claims to be and what it stands for.” Chasansky noted his favorable view toward the commission engaging in this decision-making process.
Mc Cormick thanked Guiler for attending. Chasansky will relay Guiler’s contact information for any further follow up inquiry/input from commission.

**Agenda Item 5: Grant Program**

**ACTION:** Grant Reports

1. Arts Education Grant 2019: Dairy Arts Center, $3,000
2. Special Facilities Grant 2019: Dairy Arts Center, $50,000
3. Community Project Grant 2019: Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company, $10,000

Villarreal: circumstances of COVID19 shut down facility for The Dairy and they were unable to complete the project. He wondered about any future intention to put on this performance, “if this play would see the light of day.” McCormick wondered about a virtual staging of the performance. Villarreal doesn’t want to withhold funding from any of these projects but he would like to touch base with The Dairy to see about the possibility of some other avenue of completion of the project. Click reminded commission that the final payment has already been remitted. Schmid clarified that if it were a different year she may feel differently, but the COVID crisis has understandably thrown many intentions and projects into chaos. Click will reach out to The Dairy for clarification and response.

Villarreal made a motion to approve the three grant reports as submitted. Borowsky seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 6: Matters from Commissioners**

**ACTION:** [0.44.07 Audio min.]

A. Organization Relationships: McCormick reminded commission of its previous discussion regarding touching base with organizations, particularly those supported by general operating support grants. Click shared a list and the commission discussed assignments.

B. Proposed Virtual Town Hall – Borowsky suggested this event as an opportunity for give people a chance to voice frustrations and concerns and allow the commission to provide support. He spoke on how to help artists and art organizations survive in this new time, e.g., with virtual programming, performances on closed-off streets. He highlighted the need to provide a space for artistic livestreaming which he views as the “wave of the future, with or without COVID.” Tagline for this virtual town hall: “The Boulder Arts Commission listens hard.”

**Agenda Item 6: Matters from Staff**

**ACTION:** [1.25.18 Audio min.]

A. Manager’s Memo: see packet. Chasansky welcomed questions. Deborah Malden been representing the commission in discussions of the Arts and Culture Relief Fund; Chasansky confirmed that the commission’s application was received. He reports 147 applications from around the state, with 32 being Boulder organizations. Current process of reviewing and final recommendations underway with more information forthcoming.

The Office of Arts and Culture is in the process of finalizing construction plans with artist Adam Kuby who will install a sculpture in the Civic Area (55 Degrees, sited outside the north building of the Main Library). The installation may begin as early as the last week in July. More information can be found on the public art website for the Civic Area project.

Gordon Gamm’s donation offer of Ruth Bloch’s sculpture Entangled has been withdrawn (due to a conflict with scheduling and the delays caused by COVID19). Longer conversation about public art and what it means for the community warranted, exploring different ideas of how to deploy arts into the social infrastructure of Boulder – not just sculptures. Topic for October retreat.

Michelle Sparks’ Arapahoe Underpass project is tracking for install in September/October.

**Agenda Item 7: Adjournment**

**ACTION:** [1.56.30 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, August 19, 2020, on Zoom.
1. Important Information about the August Meeting

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency orders, this meeting of the Arts Commission:

- Will ensure that participants can follow the requirements for social distancing and prohibition on gatherings in the emergency orders by convening the meeting online using a video conference.

- Will not be able to include public comment or observation of the meeting. The recording will be posted as soon as possible for public review. Any member of the public who wishes to comment on the content of the meeting is encouraged to email members of the Arts Commission (contact information is available at the Office of Arts and Culture website.)

- In lieu of public comment, for this meeting only staff will be accepting written statements from members of the public to be read out during the meeting. If any community member wishes to provide a public comment statement, they are encouraged to email Matt Chasansky at chasanskym@boulderlibrary.org before 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday August 18, 2020.

2. Notes on the June Agenda

> 4A, Campaign Season Guidelines – In their meeting on July 21, 2020 City Council unanimously approved an Ordinance 8405. This adds to the November election the ballot measure allowing the addition of two members to the Arts Commission. Kathleen McCormick and Matt Chasansky have talked with the City Attorney’s Office to clarify the rules and guidance for commissioners’ conduct during elections and campaigns. In Attachment One please find a letter from the City Manager and City Attorney regarding conduct during an election. Though written for the 2019 election, staff has been informed that the points are still relevant for this year. Below is the guidance that will be discussed at the August meeting:

- Commissioners may not advocate for an issue or candidate during Arts Commission or other city meetings. Though you may discuss the content of this or any other item on the ballot, the chair will ask anyone advocating for an issue or candidate to suspend discussion.

- Commissioners may participate in campaigns during their own time. When doing so, it is encouraged that you begin any public statements or endorsements by stating that, though you are a member of the Arts Commission, you are speaking in a personal capacity.

- If more than three or more commissioners attend a campaign event, please meet briefly to agree that you will not be discussing any Arts Commission business.

> 4B, Update on the COVID 19 Arts and Culture Relief Fund – Decisions are complete for the Relief Fund. Please find in Attachment Two the press releases: one from the partnership and one from the City of Boulder and Create Boulder. More information including a list of grant recipients and recognition of the city and Boulder Arts Commission’s contribution can be found on the websites: [bonfils-stantonfoundation.org](http://bonfils-stantonfoundation.org) or [denverfoundation.org](http://denverfoundation.org). Of important note is the fact that Boulder organizations were well represented in the outcome of the grant:

- Of the 41 organizations funded, 8 were Boulder-based.

- From the initial investment of $40,000 from the City and Create Boulder, the grants returned $165,000 to Boulder.

- Boulder contributions equal 2.35% of the total grant fund of ~$1.4 Million.

- A second round of funding is being discussed.

A joint press release with Create Boulder and the City of Boulder will be distributed to local media in the coming days, after publication of this memo.

> 5A, Preview of the Public Art Implementation Plan, Chapter 1 – In Attachment Three please find “Chapter 1” of the Public Art Implementation Plan: an introduction and overview of the Public Art Program. Staff encourages Arts Commissioners to
ask any clarifying questions about this content prior to the meeting. At the meeting, staff will be asking the following questions:

1. What information do you need on specific projects for review and approval of the Implementation Plan?
2. What information do you need on the overall program for review and approval of the Implementation Plan?
3. What did is missing?

The input will help build a presentation of Chapter 2 for the September meeting which includes proposed work plan items: new projects, projects underway, and promising new concepts on the horizon.

> 6C, Interviews for the University of Colorado Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration Scholarship – For the interviews with applicants, each commissioner is asked to come to the meeting prepared with a question. It is a good idea to have a backup question in case there is duplication. The applicants will answer questions in turn before the Arts Commission votes on a motion to approve one recipient of the scholarship.

> 6D, Arts Education Grant Decisions – Final scores are found in Attachment Four. During the meeting, staff will ask for a motion, second, discussion and vote to approve the final distribution of the grants.

> 6E, 2021 Grants Program Updates – As we prepare for the 2021 cycle of cultural grants, it is important for commissioners to discuss any improvements needed for the guidelines, budget, scoring system, application, and decision process. Staff will be providing a presentation with the following issues which we believe need to be addressed:

4. There appears to be confusion on the definitions of individuals versus organizations in the Community Project category.
5. The first round of Professional Development Scholarships may have been too late in the year.
6. Concerns were raised about the number and amount of scholarships for the CU Arts Administration Certificate Program.

During the meeting, staff will ask if the members of the commission agree with addressing these issues. And, if there are any other areas of concern that should be addressed. It is important to review Attachment Six, the 2020 Grants Budget, and be prepared with any questions about the structure of the grant funding found in the first column. The next step will be for staff to present proposals to address these issues at the September meeting.

3. Commission Correspondence

In Attachment Five, please find copies of email correspondence received by the Boulder Arts Commission during the period between the publication of the July and August 2020 meeting packets.

4. Staff Updates

Staff continues to work with other departments and partners in the community on the response and recovery efforts for the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff members are currently serving on the Boulder Business Response and Recovery Alliance, the Economic Recovery Team, and a state-wide team of arts and culture leaders. Specific impacts of the emergency on programs are listed below.

Work continues to coordinate the reductions for the 2020 budget. Staff will provide full updates to the Arts Commission at the September and October meetings.

Staff supported Denver Arts and Venues to present a series of webinars about the role of equity and racial justice in cultural nonprofits. More than 500 people participated in the first event on August 3, 2020.

Staff continues to work on the collaboration: Arts Through It All. Please let leaders in your network know about the tools available at ArtsThroughItAll.org.

At the public hearing and second reading on the July 21, 2020, City Council unanimously approved the motion to put Ordinance 8405 on the November ballot. If approved, the changes to the City Charter will increase the number of members on the Arts Commission to seven. This will be the subject of discussion at the August 2020 meeting.
Grants and Programs for Organizations

The next <Virtual> Cultural Organizations Summit will be held on Thursday, Sept. 10 at Noon to 1 p.m. Staff of the Office of Arts and Culture will share and discuss our 2021 work plan, including public art projects, the cultural grants cycle, programs for artists, Boulder Arts Week, and Boulder Arts Online. RSVP required to Lauren Click, clickl@boulderlibrary.org.

The below Professional Development Grant Reports were approved prior to the meeting:
- Scott Willhite, Scott Christensen Painting Workshop: Developing Your Artistic Thoughts, Victor, ID, $1,000
- Kate Moore, Naropa University Somatic Training for the Performer, Online, $500
- Trent Poulsen, Dale Carnegie Successful Public Speaking, Online, $249

In Attachment Five please find a current grants program budget.

Sponsorship Updates:
- BCAA Business of the Arts: the program will be in progress through the end of the year, $6,000.00.
- Office Space Relocation Sponsorship: cancelled due to budget cuts.
- Creative Catalysts: complete, $800.00.
- Boulder Arts Week Artist Stipends: complete, $10,100.00.
- Indigenous Peoples Day: Request for Proposal released, applications due Aug. 20, $5,000.00.
- Immigration Heritage Day: due to the pandemic response, support of this event was cancelled by the Human Relations Commission.
- MLK Jr Day (2021): in planning, $5,000.00.
- Creative Neighborhoods: COVID19 Work Projects: the program is in progress through the end of the year, $20,000.00.

Public Art Program

The 2020-2025 Public Art Implementation Plan is underway and will include the proposed 2021 CIP projects. Staff is working with other departments to identify and allocate percent for art funds. A program overview will be included in the August meeting. Project details will be included in the September Arts Commission agenda.

Public Art Commissioning Updates:
- Civic Area 11th St. Spine Signature Artwork (Adam Kuby): Fabrication. Updates to ROW permit are pending review. Contract and budget adjustments have been made for project needs, and install is tracking for late-August through mid-October. www.adamkuby.com
- University Hill (ENVD 3300 Praxis): On hold and currently exploring outside funding. Per the May Arts Commission meeting, this project will officially close out with CU upon receiving the building permit. Once issued, the building permit is valid for three years, allowing time for solicitation of funds or putting the project out to bid. http://www.monthofmodern.com/community-livingroom/ https://www.rawdbf.com/commercial
- North Broadway (Sharon Dowell): Preliminary Design. Dowell’s updated concepts are being routed to Technical Review Committee. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, the project schedule is on hold.
- Arapahoe Underpass (Michelle Sparks): Fabrication. Floodplain permit has been received, waiting on electrical permit. Contract and budget adjustments have been made for project needs, with anticipated install mid-October. http://michellemsparks.com
- Urban Design - 30th and Colorado Underpass (Rosie Fivian and Ransom Beegles): Final Design. The project team is reviewing final design, budget, and implementation. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, the project is delayed, with feasibility of buildout to be reviewed once bids have been returned. http://www.architectista.com/ http://www.rdesignstudios.com/
- Urban Design - Foothills Underpass (Carolyn Braaksma): Fabrication and Installation of the artist’s scope is complete. Next in the schedule will be resolution of casting errors. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, the opening of the parent project is delayed. https://www.braaksmadesign.com/
- NoBo Library (Daily Tous Les Jours): Final Design. www.dailytouslesjours.com; Final Design submittals have been included in building Planning Board review.
- BCH Deconstruction: On Hold
- Experiments in Public Art: On Hold
- CAGID Garage Art Public Art Program: On Hold

Community-Initiated Projects Updates:
- Tim Eggert Soundpiece: Design, Fabrication, Permitting and Contracting underway.
- Nobel Circle Donation: Pre-approval Process. On hold due to the COVID-19. The Donor is evaluating next steps for fundraising, project development, and working to understand permitting requirements for the proposed artwork.
- Gordon Gamm Donation: Cancelled by the donor.

Maintenance and Conservation:
- Staff has allocated maintenance funds for on-call licensed contractors to support permitting requirements for maintenance and donation projects.
- The relocation and condition report of 2D collection is on hold due to the COVID-19 emergency.
- Dragonfly Giraffe (John King): Delayed due to permitting requirements (building permit submitted).
- 28th St. Transit by Robert Tully: Due to the COVID-19 emergency this project is delayed.

Murals
- Staff is working with the community on mural opportunities which respond to current issues, specifically concerning Black Lives Matter, COVID-19, and Pride Month. Please refer to the Standing Selection Panel report for mural details, sent separately to commissioners.
- The 2020 Mural Artist Roster is now available.

In Attachment Six, please find a current five-year program budget for public art commissioning.

> Programs for Artists

Staff hosted a Professional Artist Forum on Wednesday, July 29 welcoming staff from the staff from the City of Boulder Department of Planning & Development Services to hear your feedback on the Community Benefit Initiative.

Other programs for artists, including plans for author/writer workshops and the Dance Showcase are being evaluated and may be cancelled for the rest of the year.

> Creative Workforce and NoBo Art District

Staff continues to track the economic impacts of the pandemic and recession on creative occupations and the creative industries in Boulder.

> Creative Neighborhoods


Creative Neighborhoods: Murals - Residential applications are being matched with Artists. The “Mural Tutorial” meeting for homeowners was hosted the first week of August.
Venues

A temporary renewal of the lease for the Dairy Arts Center is complete. Staff will work on a long-term renewal of the lease in the coming 12 months.

Work continues in anticipation of a future ballot item for the community to decide on the renewal of the Community Culture and Safety Tax.

Staff continues to track impacts on Boulder venues from the State and County emergency orders.

Civic Dialog and Boulder Arts Week

Work continues on the arts components of the Climate Mobilization Action Plan.

Staff continues to support Boulder Arts Online (boulderartsonline.org) promoting and encouraging arts programming that is sensitive to the Safer-at-Home guidelines keeping our community safe. The calendar averages 5 to 10 listings a day with nearly 200 events listed since being launched in March. A special thank you to Boulder County Arts Alliance for partnering on the website and calendar.
CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO

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MEMORANDUM

TO: City Employees

FROM: Jane S. Brautigam, City Manager
       Thomas A. Carr, City Attorney

SUBJECT: Participation in Election Campaigns

DATE: September 5, 2019

We are heading into election season. We wanted to take this opportunity to remind you about the rules governing elections as they apply to city employees. As city employees, we retain our first amendment rights to participate in the political process. We must, however, be careful not to use any city resources for campaign purposes. We can participate in campaigns, but we can only do so on our personal time, not at work. We cannot use city resources, including our time at work, to participate in any election in any way. The people who pay our salaries have a right to expect that we will not use our positions to help or hurt a candidate or ballot measure. What we do on our free time is our business; what we do at work is the people’s business. When in doubt, ask! Our offices are available to you if you have any question about something that you want to do.

The city has exempted itself from the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act, section 1-45-117 C.R.S., however, we aspire to meet the requirements of that Act. The Act limits the campaign activities of cities, city officials and city employees. A new city ordinance, B.R.C. 13-2-4(h), makes express the City’s prohibition against the use of city resources to make political contributions or to advocate for or against a candidate or ballot measures. Also, the city has adopted policies applicable to all employees regarding election campaigns. These laws apply to all ballot questions, not just those placed on the ballot by the city. This means that the policies discussed in this memo also apply to ballot measures of Boulder County, any school district, or any other city or political subdivision.

USE OF CITY RESOURCES

State law and city ordinance both prohibit the use of any city resources, including city letterhead, e-mail accounts, city vehicles, city webpages, or city uniforms to urge electors to vote in favor of or against any candidate or issue before the electorate. City employees should never engage in campaign activities during their work time or use equipment or materials for campaign purposes.

RE: Participation in Election Campaigns

CAMPAIGN MATERIALS

Wearing campaign buttons is not prohibited by the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act and there are First Amendment implications to any prohibition on their use. However, political buttons may not be worn on uniforms. Also, non-uniformed employees should refrain from wearing campaign buttons while on duty. This is particularly important for employees who have contact with the public. The reason for these rules is that it is not appropriate to suggest or imply that a personal political view of an employee is somehow endorsed by the city.

Similar rules apply with regard to campaign literature, and particularly to literature dealing with city ballot measures. The lobby of the municipal building is made available for campaign literature; otherwise no campaign literature should be in public areas of city property. City Council can pass a resolution endorsing or opposing a ballot measure. However, once passed, the council may use only “established means” to distribute that resolution. Therefore, no special or unusual distribution of materials containing political conclusions (even if council endorses a political position) may occur in city buildings or through the use of city resources.

PRESENTATION OR DISCUSSION OF BALLOT MEASURES

The city manager has designated the employees who may speak on behalf of the city regarding pending ballot measures, and has given them the appropriate parameters for such discussion. No other employees may make presentations or participate in discussions in their capacity as a city employee on ballot measures.

ANSWERING QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Fair Campaign Practices Act allows employees to respond to questions from members of the public about a local political issue so long as the “...employee has not solicited the question.” An employee may answer an unsolicited question factually without urging a vote for or against a particular ballot measure. However, it is prudent for public employees to exercise caution in such circumstances. A member of the public may become confused about an employee’s support of a particular candidate or initiative, and this may bring into question the ability of the employee to carry out his or her duties in an impartial and effective manner as a public employee.

EMPLOYEE FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS

The Act recognizes the

...right for individuals to express their own positions and to expend personal funds, make contributions in kind, or use personal time to urge electors to vote in favor of or against any issue before the electorate. §§ 1-45-117(1)(b)(I)(II)(C) C.R.S.

City employees are free to volunteer their time outside of office hours to work on a political campaign. As long as it is on their own time (and not using city equipment, or wearing city uniforms),
City Employees
Page 3
September 5, 2019

RE: Participation in Election Campaigns

city employees may sign petitions, participate in elections, donate funds and engage in all other manner of political activity. However, as employees engage in political activity outside of their employment, they should not suggest or imply that they represent the city. For that reason, the city’s Conflict of Interests Policy provides:

Individually or together with other City employees, employees may not identify their position or title or use their uniform while campaigning for or in support of any candidate for any public office, or knowingly permit themselves to be so used.

Questions? If any employee has questions with regard to this topic, both the city manager and the city attorney are available to respond to inquiries.
Emergency fund for Denver arts & culture organizations established; Bonfils-Stanton Foundation donates $1 million to cause

DENVER, CO (May 4, 2020) - As Denver arts & culture organizations are hit with an unprecedented loss in revenue due to the coronavirus pandemic, Bonfils-Stanton Foundation and The Denver Foundation have teamed up to create an emergency fund aimed at helping metro Denver small and mid-sized arts & culture organizations survive this crisis.

Bonfils-Stanton Foundation has committed $1 million toward the COVID-19 Arts & Culture Relief Fund and The Denver Foundation, which will also administer the fund, will donate $50,000. Other early donors to the fund are Denver Arts & Venues at $205,000, Gates Family Foundation at $100,000 and PNC Bank at $10,000. The fund also has commitments from individual donors, including Hal and Ann Logan and Jeremy and Susan Shamos, and seeks additional contributions from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

“The cultural sector is critical to our quality of life, to our humanity, to our community vibrancy and diversity, and touches all of us in so many ways,” says Gary Steuer, Bonfils-Stanton Foundation President and CEO. “We must ensure that when we come through this crisis, the diverse cultural ecosystem that makes our community so special is still there to enrich our lives.”

According to national research gathered by Americans for the Arts (AFTA), the median loss for nonprofit arts organization in the country was $38,000 as of April 7, so clearly it is already much greater than that. With about 450 organizations in Colorado, that equates to a $17 million hit to the arts and culture sector across the state, the bulk of it in the Denver metro area. The losses will only continue to mount as arts performances and gatherings and fundraising galas are canceled and sales tax revenues decline as this pandemic continues into the summer.

“The impact of this public health crisis on the arts and cultural sector has been acute. The COVID-19 Arts & Culture Relief Fund will offer financial relief to organizations that are an essential part of the fabric of our city,” explains Tariana Navas-Nieves, Director of Cultural Affairs, Denver Arts & Venues. “Through this cultural investment partnership, the City is proud to support arts and cultural groups that provide important resources for community engagement, arts learning, and social good, which will be crucial as we get through this crisis.”

Grant awards will range between $5,000 to $50,000 per organization, with the goal of injecting much-needed revenue to keep organizations afloat. Application details will be announced soon, but partners hope to open applications in early June with a deadline at the end of June. Decisions will be made by a panel in July with award distribution in August. With robust donations, a second application cycle could be opened in the fall.

“The Denver Foundation is pleased to partner with Bonfils-Stanton Foundation on this important and timely project,” says Javier Alberto Soto, President & CEO of The Denver Foundation. “We have a long history of supporting the arts including through our Community Grantmaking Program; many of our donors support the arts through donor-advised funds. We know that artists
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Erica Boniface
Phone: 303-717-8246
E-mail: Erica@ColoradoMediaNetwork.com

and the creative industries will play an important role in helping our community recover from the COVID-19 crisis. This Fund will help ensure they can continue to make Metro Denver better for everyone.”

COVID-19 Arts & Culture Relief Fund donations can be made on The Denver Foundation’s website here.

FOR THE MEDIA: Gary Steuer from Bonfils-Stanton Foundation is available for interviews – he’ll fine tune the messaging for your readers and viewers. Javier Soto, President & CEO from The Denver Foundation will also make for a helpful interview as he’ll explain how the Foundation will administer the funds.

####
NEWS

Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020

MEDIA CONTACTS:
Annie Zaruba, Media Relations, 720-822-9529
Matt Chasansky, Programs, Arts and Cultural Services Manager, 720-276-5984
Jan Burton, Create Boulder, 214-632-6289
Boulderarts.org

The City of Boulder’s Office of Arts and Culture and Create Boulder create partnership for arts nonprofits affected by COVID-19

BOULDER, Colo. – The City of Boulder’s Office of Arts and Culture, the Boulder Arts Commission and Create Boulder announce the successful completion of another strategic partnership that brings $165,000 to the Boulder arts community.

Create Boulder matched the City’s $20,000 in funds with $20,000 in donations from the community, fulfilling its mission to leverage support on behalf of artists and arts organizations in Boulder. The City and Create Boulder’s combined funds contributed to a regional partnership led by the Bonfils Stanton Foundation and the Denver Foundation called the COVID-19 Arts & Culture Relief Fund.

The money awarded to Boulder-based arts organizations is part of a grant fund of more than $1.4 million supplied by foundations and municipal governments and distributed across the Denver Metro area. Grant awards ranged between $5,000 to $50,000 per organization, injecting much-needed funding to keep organizations afloat during the public health crisis. Eight Boulder-based organizations received a total of $165,000.

The arts have seen a dramatic unexpected loss in revenue as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. According to a recent report from Colorado Creative Industries, arts and culture organizations across Colorado have experienced an estimated loss of 32,000 jobs and $823 million in revenue between April and July.

“This is a substantial and critical contribution to sustain our local arts non-profits and organizations that make a significant contribution to our local economy, and to our overall quality of life,” says Create Boulder board member Jan Burton. “We thank the Bonfils Stanton Foundation, the Denver Foundation and other donors for making these grants possible.”
Create Boulder is an independent non-profit arts service organization based in Boulder with a commitment to advocate for the arts, ignite investment in the arts, and increase participation in the City of Boulder’s creative culture. For more information visit: createboulder.org.

The Boulder Arts Commission and the Office of Arts and Culture are implementing the City’s Community Cultural Plan, with the mission to coordinate an alignment in the community around the vision for culture. “Together, we will craft Boulder’s social, physical, and cultural environment to include creativity as an essential ingredient for the wellbeing, prosperity, and joy of everyone in the community.”

-- CITY--
DRAFT 2020 – 2025 Public Art Implementation Plan
PUBLIC ART PROGRAM OVERVIEW
Boulder Arts Commission | August 19, 2020

The following is an overview of the Public Art Program. This overview will be included as the first chapter of the 2020-2025 Public Art Implementation Plan to serve as a landing point for its readers. Chapter 1 will be covered in the August Arts Commission meeting. Chapter 2: Projects will be reviewed in the Arts Commission meeting in September and will include updates on already approved projects, review for approval of new projects, and possibilities/concepts on the horizon.

Should you have any questions on the content of Chapter 1 or wish for clarification, please submit your questions to staff with the meeting packet Q&A, due to staff on August 14, 2020.

Chapter 1: Public Art Program Overview:
(Found on the following pages)

- General Program Information
- Community Participation and Involvement
  - Review Committees
    - Selection Panels: project-specific and standing selection panels
    - Technical Review Committees: project-specific and standing selection panels
- Program Portfolio:
  - Project Types
  - Processes
  - Staff Responsibility
- Planning, Funding, Programmatic
  - Draft project list
- Recent Accomplishments
- Community Engagement: 2020 Feedback

Draft Questions for Arts Commission Agenda Discussion:

- What information do you need on specific projects for review and approval of the Implementation Plan?
- What information do you need on the overall program for review and approval of the Implementation Plan?
- What did is missing?
The City of Boulder Public Art Program and its supporting policy is to commission a wide variety of artworks representing the most innovative approaches to contemporary practice in the arts, commission works of enduring value, and cultivate a diversity of artists and arts experiences within the city of Boulder.

The City will acquire works of art which encourage creativity, contribute to a sense of place, spark conversation, tell our shared stories and capture our moment in time, foster the enjoyment of diverse works of art, and are thoughtfully designed contributions to the urban environment of our vibrant city.

The public art program strives to support the following community priority of the Cultural Plan:

*Focus on the expression of culture and creativity in the public realm through public art, the urban landscape, culture in the neighborhoods, and serendipitous encounters with the arts.*

The full Community Cultural Plan can be found [https://boulderarts.org/about-us/community-cultural-plan/](https://boulderarts.org/about-us/community-cultural-plan/)

The public art program supports city-funded percent for art and urban design commissions, temporary projects, murals, community-initiated concepts, maintenance and conservation. Currently the Creative Neighborhoods program is also a component of the public art program. The City of Boulder Public Art Policy can be found [https://boulderarts.org/public-art/](https://boulderarts.org/public-art/)

This Public Art Implementation Plan outlines the Program’s focus in 2020 – 2025.

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**Acquisition Criteria** – The following criteria shall be used by all review bodies when considering acquisition of artwork by purchase, commission or donation, and additional criteria may be established at the discretion of the Office of Arts and Culture to meet the needs of individual projects.

1. Inherent Artistic Quality – The assessed aesthetic merit of the piece as an artwork, independent of other considerations.

2. Context – The compatibility of the artwork in scale, material, form and content with its surroundings. Consideration should be given to the architectural, historical, geographical and social/cultural context of the site.

3. Ability to Install and Maintain - The anticipated ability of the artist to complete the artwork and considerations towards the City’s ability to provide maintenance and conservation to maintain the asset over time. Considerations shall also apply to temporary projects.

4. Time Horizon of Artwork – The anticipated lifespan of the project and/or its host site.

5. Diversity – The City is committed to commissioning and acquiring artworks that reflect diverse perspectives and approaches to art. To that end, the City shall seek opportunities accessible to a broad audience. The City shall seek artwork from artists of diverse racial, gender and cultural identities, and strive for diversity of experiences through a variety of styles, scales, narratives, and media. The City shall also encourage both experimental and established art forms.

6. Uniqueness – To ensure that the artwork will not be duplicated, the City shall require the artist to warrant that the work is unique and limited to an edition of one unless stated to the contrary in a contract.

7. Collection – The review of how the proposed work fits into the collection as related to the program’s mission (above).
Selection Panels – Individual projects will have a unique selection panel featuring an artist, arts professional, Art Commissioner, and community members. Additionally, some unique opportunities may arise that require a Standing Selection Panel (SSP). These opportunities include donations, maintenance, temporary projects, etc. Both of these types of selection panels will be supported by a non-voting, advisory Technical Review Committee (TRC) comprised of city staff and project representatives. Selection panels will be presented to the Arts Commission for approval prior to initiating the project. If you are interested in serving on a selection panel, please submit a one-page letter of interest and current resume or CV to publicart@bouldercolorado.gov

Public Art Opportunities – will be advertised through the Office of Arts and Culture. Open calls will include application criteria. To receive information for public art opportunities, please visit: http://boulderarts.org/about-us/community-cultural-plan/join-up/

Community Engagement – Sharing a community’s perspective on project locations helps inform artists’ proposals and assists in finding the best artist for each public art project. Each public art project and additionally the public art program will have scaled opportunities for the larger community to engage in the process – specifically designed to the project(s) and community: public forum, town hall meetings, public lectures and presentations, and digital engagement platforms.

Arts Commission – The Arts Commission plays an active role in the public art process.

The Arts Commission will initially review and recommend Public Art Implementation Plans to the City Manager. This serves as the work plan for public art staff.

Next, the Arts Commission will review individual city-initiated projects, donations, and non-temporary community-initiated projects to ensure the public art policy and process was followed appropriately. This includes reviewing which artist(s) the project selection panel recommend, and advancing that recommendation to the City Manager.

The Arts Commission reviews maintenance and conservation projects which include recommendations of either removal (deaccession) and relocation.

At times, agenda items will simply be for discussion. Staff will also provide non-agenda updates in the Arts Commission packet which including project initiation and selection panel participants, project developments and timeline updates, budget tracking, etc. Staff will email standing selection panel reports to the Arts Commission as updates. Should any Arts Commissioner have questions on public art content, please email staff in advance of the Arts Commission meeting.

PUBLIC ART PROGRAM: Program Portfolio
Percent for Art Commissions:
Percent for art projects are funded through percentage of a parent project’s overall construction budget. Percent for art commissions have a narrative specific to the site and that has criteria which can entirely be accomplished through a work of art. Each percent for art commission will include a community selection panel unique to each project.

Staff is responsible to confirm budgets, collaborate with departments on project overview, initiate and manage selection process and community engagement as identified in the public art policy, and project management from contracting to installation.

Urban Design Commissions:
Urban Design commissions are ever so slightly different from Percent-for-Art projects: These are projects hosted and funded by city through a parent project construction budget, an enhancement to base infrastructure which has the goal of better addressing the criteria of that parent project through the tools of design and aesthetics. Each urban design commission will include a community selection panel unique to each project.

Staff is responsible to confirm budgets, initiate and manage selection process and community engagement, however there is reduced project management from contracting to installation as these responsibilities typically remain with the parent project.

Experiments in Public Art - Temporary Commissions:
Experiments in Public Art is the umbrella name for city-initiated temporary projects, commissions, and/or the loan of existing artworks. This program helps support art forms that are temporary in nature and presented as public art experiences. A unique selection panel may be used for a program of commissions or the standing selection panel may be deployed for individual opportunities.

Staff is responsible to confirm budgets, initiate and manage selection process and community engagement, project management from contracting to installation to removal.

Murals:
Murals are often 2D or relief artworks and quick to deploy. Murals may be either city-initiated or community-initiated, and funding sources vary with each project. Murals are considered temporary, typically with 2-5 year duration agreements. Any murals that are hosted on city-maintained property or involve city funding will be reviewed by the standing selection panel.

Staff is responsible to confirm city funding, initiate and manage community engagement and when applicable selection process, some project management and project agreements. Staff must also notify mural artists of any vandalism or mural removal.

Community-Initiated Projects:
A successful public art program requires the investment from the city and its community. Projects initiated by the community include temporary art in public places, donations, murals, and concepts. The Office of Arts and Culture supports community-initiated projects that ultimately interface with city property and or city funding. For an overview of community-initiated donation process, please visit the Donations Policy https://boulderarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Donations.pdf

Most temporary community-initiated projects are reviewed by the standing selection panel. This authority was granted by the Arts Commission in 2017 as means to expedite goodwill and community spirit. Donations and concepts with permanent intent will be reviewed by the standing selection panel and the Arts Commission.

Concepts/Site-Specific Commissions: Concepts that are not yet realized but are seeking support and approval from the city of Boulder to ultimately be accepted into the public art collection. Often logistics, artist, artwork, location to be determined with support of the city.

Staff is responsible to confirm project feasibility, provide updates to donors and impacted departments, support donors with selection process and community engagement as identified in the public art policy, and support project management
from contracting to installation.

**Donations**: Existing artwork offered to city by donor; logistics to be determined.

Staff is responsible to confirm project feasibility, provide updates to donors and impacted departments, support donors with installation project management, complete donation contracts.

**Temporary/Community Projects**: Temporary art in public places including two-dimensional and wheat paste, artwork installations, sculptural projects, etc. Temporary exhibitions are exempt from policy processes and still may require agreements.

Staff is responsible to confirm project feasibility, provide updates to donors and impacted departments, support donors with installation project management, complete temporary project agreements.

**Creative Neighborhoods Program:**

**Murals**: The program facilitates a collaboration between homeowners and artists to create new artwork on residential properties, visible from public paths and streets, throughout Boulder. Using a first come, first served selection process, mural sites are identified for residential properties throughout all of Boulder’s subcommunities. Homeowners select regional artists to work with from the City-approved mural artist roster.

Staff is responsible to maintain the mural artist roster, oversee applications for program, facilitate partnering of artists with property owners, and program community engagement.

**COVID-19 Work Projects**: Projects to support artists and bolster the “social infrastructure” of our community. In the spirit of the Work Projects Administration of the 1930s, this program quickly delivers funding to artists who have been put in a vulnerable position due to the necessary restrictions to control the COVID-19 Pandemic. At the same time, the projects will leverage the talent of artists to unite and vitalize our neighborhoods with the goal of either a) helping their neighbors stay connected during the restrictions, or b) after restrictions are lifted, helping people to reconnect, recover and adjust to new social conditions.

Staff is responsible to maintain the mural artist roster, oversee applications for program, facilitate partnering of artists with property owners, and program community engagement.

**Maintenance and Conservation:**

Artworks which are not considered temporary in nature and are officially within the city’s collection will inevitably require regular and technical maintenance. At times, some projects may require review for removal (deaccession) or relocation. This process is outlined in the public art policy.

Staff is responsible to review budget availability for maintenance and conservation, conduct biannual condition reports, and initiate maintenance projects. Projects identified for removal (deaccession) or relocation will be reviewed by the standing selection panel, technical review committee, Arts Commission, and City Manager.

**PUBLIC ART PROGRAM: Planning, Funding, Programmatic**

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**Programmatic Planning**

* Program planning, policy, advocacy
* Budget management
Capacity Planning
To ensure the quality of the program and projects, work towards no more than six projects, including donations, per project manager at any time as requested by the Arts Commission during the 2019 Retreat

* Selection process * Contracting * Project management

Funding Planning
The Community Cultural Plan recommends the following fund mix for a successful public art program:

The following funds have been utilized for the public art program to date, however the program is not tracking to meet the annual allocations identified in the Community Cultural Plan.

Percent for Art
In 2018, the public art policy was updated to include percent for art allocations. One (1) percent of construction budgets of qualifying New Capital and Capital Enhancement projects will be allocated for the express purpose of commissioning works of art. Using projections from the 2019-2025 Capital Improvements Program, roughly $142,000 annually is the projected allocation.

One percent is the minimum budget, but at times will not meet the scale of the site. Commissioning budgets should range from: $50,000 - $200,000 for smaller, human-scale projects; $300,000 - $600,000 for grander, civic-scale projects; $750,000 and higher for larger projects at complex sites. Percent for art projects are required to have a minimum lifespan of five years and currently includes budget allocation for permitting requirements.

General Fund
General Fund allocations support strategy programming (above) and temporary programs like Experiments in Public Art and the Creative Neighborhoods Programs. General Fund allocations occurred in 2017 in the amount of $100,000 for Experiments in Public Art and other Civic Area opportunities and $25,000 in 2020 for Creative Neighborhoods, totaling $125,000. These funds are most suitable for temporary projects. They must be used the year they are allocated.

A $30,000 annual allocation from the General Fund was introduced in 2018 for maintenance, with five-year commitment. This annual allocation is set to sunset in 2022.

Community, Culture, Safety Tax
Funding for public art from the Community, Culture, and Safety Tax was identified in 2014 and 2017 ballot items, resulting in an average of $167,000 annually. This tax is set to sunset in 2021 and may be proposed for renewal.

Fund Opportunities
* Public Art in Private Development
* Donations

Overview of 2020 – 2022 Public Art Programs and Projects Schedule
### Anticipated Timeline

The following is an anticipated timeline for known projects:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Q3</td>
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**Key:**
- **Molded unmarked but not delayed** will not be initiated until feasible.
- **Notic** will not be initiated until feasible.
- **HOLD** is a hold until capacity/funding is secured.
- **DELAYED** means project timeline results in delay, delays on projects due to capacity.
- **Completion Process**
- **Design**
- **Funding**
- **Install**
- **Planning / Ongoing (temporary)**
- **Study / Review (inception)**
- **Coordination Support**
PUBLIC ART PROGRAM: Recent Accomplishments

2018 - 2019
* Implementation of percent for art rule
* 3 permanent installations:
  Elks Park
  All-gender Boulder Public Library Restroom Renovations
  Foothills Underpass
* 6 temporary installations
  Experiments in Public Art
* 36 murals: 22 city-initiated murals; 14 community murals
  10 Creative Neighborhoods: Murals
  4 Boulder Community Health (BCH) Deconstruction
* 2 community donations
* 8 temporary/community projects
* 9 community engagement events

2020
* 5 active percent for art projects underway: Civic Area, Arapahoe Underpass, 30th and Colorado Underpass, North Boulder Branch Library, North Boulder Corridor Project, BCH Deconstruction. University Hill is on hold.
* Debuted Creative Neighborhoods: COVID-19 Work Projects
* Creative Neighborhoods: 2020 Murals
* 4 Community-initiated Projects: Nobel Circle, Tim Eggert Soundpiece, Rotary, Los Seis
* Murals: Paint the Pavement and Community-initiated
* Solicited Public Feedback in the Canyon Ramp Exhibition and Online

Images: (top) Hi Boulder by Parisa Bashakori, an Experiment in Public Art project; (bottom) Spring’s Promise (partial) by Chris Huang, Boulder Public Library All-gender Restrooms, 2nd Floor
A public-feedback exhibition was installed in the Canyon Ramp of the Boulder Public Library from December 2019 – February 2020. The same content is available through an online survey for engagement. The following is a brief snapshot of reoccurring feedback.

**Opportunities to keep growing**
- more diversity in artists/experience/marginalized narratives and locations
- “desire art works that invite you to figure out, learn, mentally/emotionally connect with”
- “public art in Boulder is very safe”
- “higher quality work to improve experience; more intellectually compelling”
- “get beyond one – liners/lowest common denominator; “existing work is pretty safe, simple…”
- “sophistication level in Boulder needs to come up: fewer pieces, bigger budget, etc.”

**Desire for more projects in variety of medium/place/experience**
- consistent desire for environmental/earthworks; more technology-enabled/interactive art
- lower votes for traditional projects: architecturally-integrated; signature artworks; park projects
- “Are murals public art? Noticing a lot of those.”

**Where do you want to see it?**
- “Where is it currently?”
- more neighborhoods; public spaces; green space/parks; multi-use path
## Attachment Four

**Arts Education Grant Final Scores**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Applicant Name</th>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Kathleen</th>
<th>Bruce</th>
<th>Georgia</th>
<th>Belgio</th>
<th>Cynthia</th>
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</table>

*Threshold is 35*
Hello Commission,

Please find below information on the Arts Town Hall with updated date. Please put it in your calendars to listen hard!

Thank you, Lauren

Arts Town Hall: The Boulder Arts Commission LISTENS HARD
Wednesday, August 26
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

The Boulder Arts Commission wants to hear from you. Many artists and arts organizations are having a tough time right now, emotionally and financially. The artists and arts leaders of our community all have boots on the ground; you know what you need now and as you look to the future. The Boulder Arts Commission would like to hear from the community to help us by letting us know where we should be heading, trends we should be looking at, and where artists and organizations see need growing. Free and open to the public. RSVP required to clickl@boulderlibrary.org.

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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
www.bouldercolorado.gov
Hello Boulder Arts Commission,

Please find below some information about documents to review for the Commission meeting on Wednesday, August 19 at 6pm.

- In the Shared Documents folder in the online grant software you'll find the two applications for the University of Colorado at Boulder Graduate Certificate in Arts Administration Scholarships. At the meeting you'll interview the applicants, asking each a question.
  - Carlisle Isley
  - Elaine Waterman
- Also in the Shared Documents folder are the below reports and report follow ups for review. They will be discussed at the August meeting.
  - Report: Special Facilities Grant 2019, Museum of Boulder, General Operating Facility Support, $43,000
  - Report: Special Facilities Grant 2019, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Expansion of impact of BMoCA exhibitions and associated programs through collaborations and outreach, $75,000
  - Report Follow Up: Special Facilities Grant 2019, Dairy Arts Center, $50,000 and Report Follow Up: Community Project Grant 2019, Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company, $10,000 (in one document)

Also, a final, friendly reminder that the second round of Arts Education Grant evaluations are due tomorrow, Wednesday, August 5 at noon. I've attached the response letters from the applicants to this email.

Please let me know if you have any questions and thank you!

Cheers, Lauren

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Lauren Click
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Office of Arts + Culture

Cell 660-553-7289
clickl@boulderlibrary.org
www.boulderarts.org

Library & Arts Department
Dear Commissioners,

I'm reaching out for advice on the General Operating Support report as mentioned in our meeting last week.

As a refresher and background (and for Georgia, since this is her first time through!) the 37 General Operating Support grantees have received three and two-year grants. So, instead of a closing report, the grantees complete an annual report that the Commission uses to recertify their annual grants. The next report is due February 1, 2021. The Commission will then review the reports for the meeting on February 17, 2021.

Attached is the report that was approved last October for the GOS grantees. We would like to know if there are any questions you think would be useful to add to the report in regards to the pandemic. If we add questions it will be one or two only, as we don't want to overburden them, and staff will make a final decision on what to include.

Please send me any thoughts or questions no later than next **Wednesday, July 29 at noon**.

Thank you all! Lauren

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Library & Arts Department
1001 Arapahoe Avenue  |  Boulder, CO  |  80302
www.bouldercolorado.gov
Hello Commission and Panel,

A note that the Manhattan Middle School has asked to rescind their application for an Arts Education Grant. The principal cited having too many other obligations trying to open the school safely, and was concerned about not being able to fulfill the grant agreement thoroughly should they receive the grant. I have removed the grant from the evaluations assigned in the grant software.

Also, a friendly reminder that the second round of evaluations are due on Wednesday, August 5 at noon.

Please log into the Boulder Arts Commission online grant system to complete and submit your final evaluations. You will update your scores in the software and may add final comments if you’d like. The Scoring System and Rubric can be found here.

Thank you for all that you do for the arts in Boulder!

Cheers, Lauren

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Library & Arts Department
1001 Arapahoe Avenue | Boulder, CO | 80302
www.boulderlibrary.org
Alison—

Thank you very much for the important message. You may hear from individual commissioners in response to your email.

A quick note that, due to Arts Commission transparency practices, any letter to three or more commissioners will be included in the public record. We will publish a copy of your email in the next commission packet. Please let me know if you have any questions.

—Matt

Matt Chasansky
Manager,
Office of Arts and Culture

City of Boulder
Library & Arts

303-441-4113 office voicemail
chasanskym@boulderlibrary.org

Please note that, during the COVID-19 emergency, I will be working from home. The best way to reach me during this time will be by email.

he/him/his
boulderarts.org

Library & Arts Department
1001 Arapahoe Avenue | Boulder, CO 80302
bouldercolorado.gov
From: Alison Palmer <alison@localtheaterco.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 4:23 PM
To: Mark Villarreal <flynvartranch@comcast.net>; fonthead1@gmail.com; devin@devinpatrickhughes.com; bruce@boulderdigitalarts.com; georgiamichelle@hotmail.com; Chasansky, Matthew <ChasanskyM@boulderlibrary.org>
Cc: Click, Lauren <ClickL@boulderlibrary.org>; Pesha Rudnick <pesha@localtheaterco.org>; deborah.malden@boulderchamber.com
Subject: Bonfils Stanton / Denver Foundation COVID-19 Relief Grant

External Sender
August 4, 2020

Dear Boulder Arts Commissioners,

I am writing to follow up on Pesha Rudnick’s letter to you regarding BAC’s $20,000 contribution to the Bonfils Stanton/Denver Foundation. As the Executive Producer of Local Theater Company, I oversee the grant and fundraising efforts for our organization.

Last Friday, Local Theater Company learned that we were not selected by the Bonfils Stanton/Denver Foundation COVID-19 non-profit relief fund to receive support. You can imagine our disappointment. Out of the 42 organizations that received support, six are Boulder-based and only one is a performing arts organization (Boulder Ballet). Five of the organizations selected (BMOCA, the Dairy, Open Studios, Studio Arts Boulder and KGNU) currently have permission from the state to operate because they provide visual art or programming safely, from a distance. Local Theater Company unfortunately does not have that option. As a member of Actor’s Equity Association, we are not in a position to hire exclusively non-Equity actors for our productions.

To date, the only Boulder-based organization to offer support to Local Theater Company is Boulder Chamber COVID-19 Small Business Relief Fund, in the amount of $2,500. LTC applied for but was denied support from the Colorado Creative Industries Covid-19 Fund and CARES Humanities Relief Grants (funded by the NEA through the CARES Act).

As Pesha mentioned in her letter, each grant application we submit takes us approximately 30-40 hours and requires a unique rubric. Moreover, it takes years to build relationships and trust with Foundations; development data shows that foundations tend to favor large organizations with name recognition or those with a personal relationship to the company. We knew the Bonfils Stanton/Denver Foundation was a long shot but we wrote an excellent application and then simply crossed our fingers.

Local Theater Company is doing everything imaginable to provide accessible and excellent programming to our stakeholders and our community during this frightening time. Please see our website for our 10th Season offerings (www.LocalTheaterCo.org). We are heartbroken that our own Boulder Arts Commission has, at this point, offered no specific Covid19-related support. We implore you to reconsider giving to performing arts, especially since the reality of sitting inside a theater anytime soon is remote.

We intend to serve our community now, and in the future, and we ask for your support. Please let
me know if you would like to discuss this matter further by phone or Zoom.

Best wishes,

ALISON PALMER  She / Her / Hers
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
323-804-6286

WORLD PREMIERES ONLY
One of the five reasons this region’s theater scene is on the national map.
–The Denver Post

From: Pesha Rudnick <pesha@localtheaterco.org>
Subject: Create Boulder proposal
Date: May 30, 2020 at 9:20:09 AM MDT
To: Mark Villarreal <flynvartranch@comcast.net>, fonthead1@gmail.com, devin@devinpatrickhughes.com, bruce@boulderdigitalarts.com, georgiamichelle@hotmail.com, "Chasansky, Matthew" <ChasanskyM@boulderlibrary.org>
Cc: "Click, Lauren" <ClickL@boulderlibrary.org>, Alison Palmer <Alison@localtheaterco.org>

May 30th 2020

Dear Boulder Arts Commissioners,

I hope this finds you and your families healthy. I just had the opportunity to view the Zoom recording of your last meeting on May 20th; first and foremost, I want to thank you all for your dedication to the arts community in Boulder County. Your commitment—and willingness to show up—during this precarious time is deeply appreciated.

The conversation about BAC reallocating $20,000 from education, indigenous arts and GOS grants to Create Boulder in order to be part of Bonfils Stanton/Denver Foundation non-profit relief and stabilization is confusing to me. Local Theater Company, and many other local companies, recently submitted Community Projects Grants which were rejected. After spending years to understand and authentically integrate the Community Cultural Plan into our core mission, Local’s Community Project for 2020/21 met all the needs of the BAC. Receiving this grant would have had immediate stabilization impact to ensure that when it is safe to open the doors—be it outdoors, or next spring—Boulder County will have accessible, high-quality, equitable, inclusive and home-grown performing arts for all ages.

While I appreciate Create Boulder’s mission to amplify and distribute private sector funds in the future, my fear is that this will take months, even years, to distribute independently or through the Bonfils Stanton Fund, which currently is not open to Boulder-based companies. As you know, it takes companies years and countless hours
— and proven projects—to build meaningful relationships with granting organizations.

In addition, by redistributing existing BAC funds you are essentially asking Boulder-based non-profits to allot (yet again) valuable staff time to a new application during a time when we are literally running on empty. The Community Projects Grant took our staff and community at least 40 hours to write, request and assemble support letters, confirm venues, gather and collate media materials, prepare financials, define marketing strategies, identify unique evaluation plans, copy edit, and upload the grant into the BAC portal. If Create Boulder and/or Bonfil Stanton/Denver Foundation even allocate money this summer, I suspect we will spend at minimum an additional 40 hours preparing a new application to meet their grant specifics. This assumes a significant portion of their grants are even accessible to Boulder-based performing arts companies at all.

To offer BAC a counterpoint, when Local Theater Company was forced to cancel our major annual event, Local Lab New Play Festival, on March 12th, within 3 weeks we received an unsolicited check from the American Theatre Wing for emergency support. There was no application, no lengthy financials, no justification for our value; they simply sent us a check because we were a grant recipient this year and we are in good standing as a 501c3. They know we are desperate to retain essential staff and augment our programming swiftly, which we have done.

Local Theater Company has responded to Covid19 nimbly. We applied for a PPP loan and received it. We started a relief fund called the “Local Love Relief Fund” and raised $12,000 in two weeks. We unveiled new and innovative arts online programming (see the Daily Camera and Boulder Weekly articles from April and May) and we worked with our board to overhaul our 2020/21 budget. We also created new financial models for the next 36 months. We’re calling this our “germinate not terminate” phase. We are cautious and optimistic.

Ultimately, I am writing to request that rather than reassign valuable funds to a private granting organization with their own set of community priorities, you increase GOS support or reconsider any Community Project Grant that specifically involves the performing arts. Until Coloradans are able to gather safely, we desperately need your immediate aid or we will fail to thrive. I sincerely hope that our long and secure history with the BAC warrants this support.

Please feel free to reach out directly if you have any questions or would like to discuss further. I am also available to talk via phone or Zoom for a group conversation.

Yours truly,

Pesha
Honored to be Editor’s Choice for Colorado Theater and “Best of the West” by 5280 Magazine.
From: Click, Lauren
To: Angie Eng
Cc: Seaton, Celia; Chasansky, Matthew
Subject: Re: Earthwear Press Release
Date: Friday, July 31, 2020 11:34:47 AM

Received, thank you! Lauren

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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
www.bouldercolorado.gov

From: Angie Eng <eng_angie@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Click, Lauren <ClickL@boulderlibrary.org>
Subject: Re: Earthwear Press Release

Hi Lauren,

Sorry I'm multitasking and forgot to cc you. Here is the screenshot of the email I just sent the commission. (The same email I sent to the staff, with a couple additions.)

Angie

angieeng.com
info@angieeng.com
skype ID engangie

On Friday, July 31, 2020, 09:37:51 AM MDT, Click, Lauren <clickl@boulderlibrary.org> wrote:

Good morning Angie,

The project looks like it is moving along really well. I'll post about it on our socials.
Also, please feel free to email the Commission directly with the Press Release. Their emails are on our website here. A reminder to please CC me if you email them all at once; it is considered public record to send them a group email.

Thank you! Lauren

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Lauren Click
she/her/hers
Cultural Grants Program
Office of Arts + Culture

720-564-2355
clickl@boulderlibrary.org
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Library & Arts Department
1001 Arapahoe Avenue  |  Boulder, CO  |  80302
www.bouldercolorado.gov

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From: Angie Eng <eng_angie@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2020 4:18 PM
To: Click, Lauren <ClickL@boulderlibrary.org>
Cc: Chasansky, Matthew <ChasanskyM@boulderlibrary.org>; haanm@boulderlibrary.org
    <haanm@boulderlibrary.org>; Vink, Mandy <VinkM@boulderlibrary.org>; Seaton, Celia
    <SeatonC@boulderlibrary.org>
Subject: Earthwear Press Release

**External Sender**

Hi BAC Commission,

I'd like to thank all of you for supporting the community art project, 'Earth Wear'.

Attached is the press release. We are installing phase I on August 8/9th. It will be ready August 10th and be up until August 30th. (Because of the fragility of the wraps and the fact that they will be reinstalled May 2021 and I don't want them up too long and get too damaged by weather and insects.) There will be 3 of the trees wrapped along 26th Street north of Iris. (possibly 4 if Mother House finishes on time.) The May 2021 version will have at least 6. I will have a on-line version of a survey that visitors can fill out. I will send more documentation on August 10th once it is up.
Thank you!
Angie

angieeng.com
info@angieeng.com
skype ID engangie
Arts Commission Members—

Thanks for taking a look at the July 2020 meeting packet. Below are staff responses to the questions we received. We can address any follow up discussion during Wednesday’s meeting. Also, please note that this email will be published in the August 2020 memo.

—Matt

1. Where possible, could you include “and culture” with arts, as in the BVCP policy ("spaces for the arts and culture") and on pg. 2: “Affordable space for arts and culture-related…” Also in Summary of Community Benefits page: Space for Arts and Culture” in title and in text. This has been an issue with cultural organizations, and we’d like the language to be inclusive!

   Yes, we will refer to the use option as “Arts and Cultural Uses” moving forward.

2. I had trouble deciphering the map. Would NoBo Arts District be included for extra height/density regarding community benefits? East Arapahoe area (55th and Araphahoe)? 29th Street? Downtown? Uni-Hill? 15-minute neighborhood cores like Table Mesa, Community Plaza, etc?

   The applicability of the Community Benefit program is a policy question for City Council. At present, the Appendix J map in the Land Use Code allows applicants to request height modifications (35 feet up to 55 feet) in limited areas of the city including but not limited to Downtown, Uni-Hill, parts of 29th Street and a small part of NoBo. The limiting map was adopted in 2015 as an interim measure that could be lifted once a broader number of Community Benefits were added to the code. Planning staff will be doing a zoning analysis of each zone to figure out the implications of applying the program citywide and that will help inform the council’s ultimate decision about whether to remove the limiting map, modify the map to include more areas of the city or keep the map as is.

3. Would a project that would provide affordable commercial space along with arts and culture benefit (like an office for an arts nonprofit) be given any extra consideration for qualifying for additional height/density beyond qualifying for only one community benefit?
We are not sure at this time what the amount requirements would be for each of the Community Benefit uses including the option of combining such uses. An economic consultant is helping us evaluate the feasibility of each use applied to a height modification project and will advise on each of the uses. This will inform whether there are possibilities to include multiple community benefit uses or not.

4. I agree with the idea of having BAC review development/redevelopment proposals that include arts/culture as a community benefit. It’s another layer of review for developers, but it would help as a reality check for the need and usefulness of the proposal. Maybe there’s a way to expedite, or have BAC review while other city bodies are reviewing?

   The idea is that the applicant could bring the proposal before BAC either before their land use application or during the staff review of the application. That way, the city would have added assurance of the value of the use and affirmation that the use is a benefit to the local community. This would be required before staff makes any recommendation to the Planning Board.

5. Melanie Yazzi ($2,000+ in addition to budget max already spent?) Where will these funds come from?

   Public art budgets/projects cover multiple years. In this budget document, we hope to show both the overall project costs as well as how that is interpreted in an annual budget cycle. Thus, the “projected 2020 spending” is what is anticipated to be spent for the year while the multi-year budget totals are under “Amount Appropriated” and current status is found in “Amount Paid to Date.” Any project with an active budget for the calendar year will be included until the year closes out.

   The Yazzie project had some lingering install costs in 2020, with the bulk of the budget spent in 2019. You will not see the Yazzie project in 2021 public art budget updates, as it has fully financially closed out.

6. Civic Area/Kuby (we’re budgeting $285,000+ even though only $11,000+ is left in the budget?)

   This calculation is also the result of multi-year budgeting and is accomplished through two funds (therefore two line items), General Fund and CCSv1.

7. North Broadway/Dowell (what will she be producing for $50,000, and where are we in the project?)

   Staff continues to work with Dowell on her final design and precise site locations. We expect
8. Uni-Hill/ENVD ($95,000 in addition to $24,500 already spent? will the project be completed in 2020?)

As mentioned in the May meeting, this project is on hold as it cannot be constructed with its given budget without students having an active hand. To complete it, we will either need to: solicit funds for the cost difference (as discussed in the April commission meeting) or revisit it down the line with CU. We are also considering the possibility of having to cancel the project.

9. NoBo Library/Tous les jours (what will the firm produce for $91,000? What happens if the library project is delayed or value-engineered to reduce costs because of the city budget or general economy?)

NoBo Library parent project and public art project are moving along, slightly delayed. The public art components are rolled into the parent project for review, permitting, etc. Because of this, the artwork timeline will be determined by the library timeline.

10. CCv2 balance of ~$105,000 (Available and we’re just not planning to spend it, or withdrawn?)

For a portion of this amount, we not making decisions on these funds quite yet due to possible impacts in the budget reductions process. Also, some of these funds are being held for contingencies in support of other projects. And, another portion is tentatively assigned to projects which are on hold or delayed.

11. Arapahoe Underpass/Sparks indicates $17,000+ remaining in budget, but the 2020 budget indicates we’ll spend $35,000: why, and where will the additional funds come from?

This, too, is the result of multi-year budgeting.

12. 30th and Colorado: what is the additional $6,000 for, and where will the funds come from?

$6,000 is the amount we anticipated to roll over for spending in 2020, and you will see by the project’s zero balance, this was accomplished.

13. BCH: have art funds related to deconstruction been put on hold, or withdrawn?

No funding was allocated this year as the parent project is not very active (due to COVID-19
and budget reductions). Additional public art funding is anticipated in future phased work.

14. CAGID: We have $25,000 here for public art. Can we do anything else with this funding?

This is a proposed budget which would fund the Art in Parking Garages plan development. However capacity issues from both Community Development and the Office of Arts and Culture has put this program on hold. We have not removed it, just in case the project might be reconsidered in the near future.

15. The totals: what we’ve actually paid for, what remains to be paid, and what we may need to cut, as expenditures look to exceed funds on hand.

Because of the multi-year budgeting format, the totals represent the sum of all projects across all years. As most projects are multi-year, our annual budgets are a best estimate based on anticipated project development. These estimates are tied to the individual contract’s milestone payments. If a project is not fully funded, it does not move forward to be included on the budget chart.

Matt Chasansky
Manager, Office of Arts and Culture

City of Boulder Library & Arts

303-441-4113 office voicemail
chasanskym@boulderlibrary.org

Please note that, during the COVID-19 emergency, I will be working from home. The best way to reach me during this time will be by email.

he/him/his
boulderarts.org

Library & Arts Department
1001 Arapahoe Avenue | Boulder, CO 80302
bouldercolorado.gov
### Current Cultural Grants Program Budget as of August 12, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRANT CATEGORY</th>
<th>ASSIGNED BUDGET</th>
<th>ACTUAL BUDGET</th>
<th>GRANTS AWARDED</th>
<th>COVID-19 Colorado Arts &amp; Culture Relief Fund*</th>
<th>BALANCE</th>
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There are 9 free rentals still available for the Macky Auditorium.

* A total of $20,000 from these grant categories has been shifted to the sponsorships program to fund the collaboration with Create Boulder, the Bonfils Stanton Foundation, and The Denver Foundation on the COVID-19 Colorado Arts & Culture Relief Fund.
### Current Public Art Program 5 Year Budget as of August 12, 2020

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FUNDING SOURCE</th>
<th>PROJECT/ARTIST</th>
<th>TOTAL APPROPRIATED</th>
<th>AMOUNT PAID TO DATE</th>
<th>BALANCE REMAINING</th>
<th>2020 PROJECTED SPENDING</th>
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CCS: Community Culture and Safety Tax.
*Multiple funding sources.
Additional maintenance projects are not represented.