

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture
Minutes
February 28, 2000

Commissioners Present: Seth Brown Jeanne Killgore
 Beth Buys Priscilla Mangnall
 LeRoy Donegan Peter Ivanov
 Karen Kiefer Bill Whaley

Commissioners Absent: Bill Reidy

Others Present: Pat Kelley and Louise Burns (Grand Junction Senior Theatre)

A special meeting of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture was held on the above date. Chair Priscilla Mangnall called the meeting to order at 4:10pm. A motion was made by Bill Whaley, seconded by Seth Brown, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on February 23, 2000. The motion carried unanimously.

GRANTS: The Commission reviewed and discussed the 25 applications for financial support for local arts and cultural events, projects, and programs, and the presentations made February 23. Included in the discussion was the opportunity to bring a production by the University of Colorado's Theatre Works program of William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" to Grand Junction in August through the grant program, since it is an arts event and with the idea that El Pomar of Colorado Springs would probably fund half the \$10,000 cost. The Coordinator noted that the Commission has \$20,000 from the City plus \$3,500 from the Colorado Council on the Art allocated toward this grant program.

It was determined that various projects should receive less than full-funding or even no funding because of their failure to have a representative present to make a presentation or answer questions at the meeting, lack of proven artistic excellence, an overly ambitious project which might not actually be accomplished, an unreasonable reliance on funding only from the Commission, and/or lack of necessary commitment from the organization. Beth Buys had to leave the meeting about 5:00pm and Seth Brown had to leave the meeting about 6:30pm.

After extensive discussion and a straw vote of the members, a motion was made by Bill Whaley, seconded by Peter Ivanov, to make the following recommendations to City Council regarding financial support:

Recommendations for Full Funding (or almost) (requests in parenthesis):

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| Grand Valley Community Theater "Brigadoon" musical (\$1500) | \$1500 |
| Institute of Dancing Arts costumes for elder care facilities performances (\$1500) | \$1500 |
| Grand Junction Downtown Association Art & Jazz Festival (\$1000) | \$1000 |
| Grand Junction Senior Theatre annual talent showcase (\$1000) | \$1000 |
| Western Colorado Center for the Arts Summer Art Camp for kids (\$930) | \$ 900 |
| Thunder Mt. Camera Club slide presentation at the Avalon (\$750) | \$ 750 |
| Advocates for Children's Enrichment Creede Repertory Performances (\$500) | \$ 500 |
| Bookcliff Barbershop Harmony Chorus Regional Convention/Performance (\$500) | \$ 500 |
| Very Special Arts GJ Festival for Developmentally Disabled Adults (\$500) | \$ 500 |
| Valley Wide PTA Annual Reflections Student Art Exhibit (\$400) | \$ 400 |
| Western Colorado Botanical Gardens portable VCR/TV purchase (\$300) | \$ 300 |

Recommendations for Partial Funding (requests in parenthesis):

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| Theatre Works' Shakespeare in the Park "Twelfth Night" production (\$10,000) | \$4900 |
| Grand Junction Musical Arts Association/GJ Symphony opening concert (\$3500) | \$2000 |
| Italian Cultural Society second annual Festival Italiano concerts (\$3500) | \$2000 |

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| Museum of Western Colorado Pride of the Valley Art Festival (\$3000) | \$2000 |
| Celtic Festival & Highland Games (\$5000) | \$1500 |
| Friends of the Mesa County Public Library ethnic theme programs (\$1615) | \$1000 |
| Brush & Palette Club workshop/annual exhibit (\$3000) | \$ 750 |
| Grand Valley Blacksmith Guild monthly programs/Pride of the Valley (\$1370) | \$ 500 |
| Total: | \$23,500 |

The following projects were not recommended for funding for various reasons:
Mesa County Valley School District Art Experiences for Elementary Children Program (\$10,000)
Colorado West Quilters Guild quilt exhibition at Two Rivers (\$3,000)
Performing Arts Conservatory opening musical “Man of La Mancha” (\$3,000)
Grand Junction Jaycees Renaissance Festival (\$2,500)
Colorado West Dance/Performing Arts Saturday children’s dance workshops (\$2,000)
Doo Zoo Children’s Museum Saturday children’s art workshops (\$500)

Underwriting support for the Grand Valley Public Radio (KAFM) community entertainment calendar (\$1,000) will be done from the Commission’s advertising budget, not the grant program. The motion carried unanimously. Sarmo suggested that the Commission send a letter to all elementary school principals explaining why the Commission is not funding the Art Experiences for Children program this year, a program which the Commission started with the school district in 1995 and has contributed \$18,200 toward, but which the district no longer seems interested in supporting with administrative time. This idea was endorsed by consensus.

CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you letter was noted from Dave Davis for the reception the Commission hosted to celebrate his winning the Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts.

REPORTS: The Coordinator’s Report for January and a Year End Financial Report for 1999 were distributed.

As there was no further business to come before the Commission, the chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Cowan Sarmo
Cultural Arts Coordinator