

**MINUTES**  
**Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2018 Hospitality Suite, Lincoln Park**

**Commissioners Present:** Betsy Brodak, Betsey Dick, Sarah Dishong, Andy Hamilton, Roseann Lyle, Merritt Kinsey, Ellen Moore, Sandie Nadelson, & Honora Thompson

**Absent:** Gary Ambrosier, Nora Hughes

**Others Present:** Lorie Gregor

Andy Hamilton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Sarah Dishong motioned to accept the minutes of the November 15 meeting. Betsy Brodak seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Writers Forum:** Virginia Jensen, board member presented on the Writers Forum events in 2017.

**Riverside Education:** Joy Hudak, Executive Director presented on Look What I Did.

**MusicSpark:** Gisela Flanigan, Executive Director presented on their music program.

**Culture Fest:** Karen Kllanxhja, presented on Culture Fest at the Library.

**Introduction of New Member** – tabled due to absence

**Open Studios Tour** – Lorie presented the idea that was brought to her by a coalition of artists, of a valley-wide Open Studios Tour involving a committee made up of Fruita Arts and Culture Board members, Palisade Art Vision members and the Commission. Sandie Nadelson agreed to be on a subcommittee to work on the idea.

**Art Grant Training** – Lorie provided training for the upcoming grant process.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Final review of Strategic Cultural Plan celebration:** Andy and Betsey reviewed the PowerPoint and logistics. All Commissioners except Merritt will be in attendance on Feb. 15. Thank you, Betsey, for creating the PowerPoint.

**Champion of the Arts:** Andy recapped: Presentation was Dec. 3 at the Avalon Theatre and the introduction to City Council took place January 17.

**Lions Club Sculpture:** Lorie announced that the Call to Artists went out on Side Arts, CCI, Facebook, Website and emails. Subcommittee will meet March 9 to pick 3 finalists.

**REPORTS**

**Committee Reports: Write On!:** Betsy recapped: Presentation was on January 12 at City Hall and then the winners went live on KAFM January 15. Everyone liked the new venue in the auditorium. KAFM has extended to the winners, participation in Stories next year.

**Public Art Exhibits:** Lorie gave an overview of the new exhibits and several partnerships for exhibits in 2018. Great response from new artists!

**Grand Valley Creative District Alliance:** Sarah updated the Commission on the progress of the Creative District process.

**Culture Fest:** Andy & Sandie attended Culture Fest. Evaluation is attached.

**Riverside Education:** Betsey reported on the event. Evaluation is attached.

**Music Spark:** Merritt attended and Gary conducted. Merritt reported on the event. Evaluation is attached.

The next special meeting will be February 26 at 4:00pm for grant presentations at the Hospitality Suite. The regular meeting of the GJCAC will be 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 28 at the Hospitality Suite. As there was no further business, Andy declared the meeting adjourned at 6:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lorie Gregor

GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE  
EVENT/PROJECT/PROGRAM EVALUATION

**Organization:** Mesa County Public Library Foundation  
**Name of event:** Culture Fest and Art Exhibition 2017  
**Your name:** Submitted by Roseann M Lyle (unable to attend) on behalf of Andy Hamilton and Sandie Nadelson  
**Date(s) of event:** November 3, 2017 (Art Exhibition), November 4, 2017 (Culture Fest)  
**Date attended:** Andy Hamilton – Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Sandie Nadelson – Nov 4<sup>th</sup>  
**Number of people in attendance:** Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> - 189  
Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - hundreds

**Number of participants (artists):**

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> - 52 artists submitted; 24 artists selected to show.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - multiple performance groups and booths representing different cultures.

**Describe the event:**

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> - An art exhibition and reception was held in the Community Rooms at the Mesa County Library. Refreshments were provided courtesy of D51 culinary students. Live music was provided by Javier de los Santos, and the art exhibition winners were announced around 7:30pm.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - The library was transformed into a cultural education center. There were table exhibits representing several cultures, many providing food samples.

**What were the strengths of the event?**

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – Excellent attendance, strong art show, good live music, ample parking. Overall, a professional reception.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – Lots of activities for kids and good food. Overall, a fantastic event and well worth the investment.

**What were the weaknesses of the event?**

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> - None noticed.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> - The event was so crowded that access to the tables and people managing them was not possible at times. Parking for the event was difficult.

**What suggestions do you have to improve this event?**

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> - None at this time.

Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – More space; maybe a tent outside (to ease the congestion in the future).

**Publicity: Was the GJCOAC logo used in: Check appropriate boxes (Please attach samples)**

- X Posters
- Program/brochure
- X GJCAC listed as a donor/supporter
- Received professional pictures from organization
- Public Service Announcement mentions GJCAC
- X GJCAC link on organization's website
- Is the organization's website linked on our website
- X Organization worked with you before/during/after event

GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE  
EVENT/PROJECT/PROGRAM EVALUATION

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Music Sparks

Name of event/program/project: Christmas concert

Your name: Gary Ambrosier

Date(s) of event: September to December

Date you attended: November 31, Dec 11 and Dec 12

Number of people in attendance: 150 to 200

Number of participants (artists): roughly 35 performers

Describe the event: The Children of the Music Sparks orchestra began music rehearsals in September, learning how to hold the instrument, bowing, music reading and compositions to perform. On Tuesday evening, December 12, 2017, all of the ensembles did a combined concert at Riverside Elementary/ Duel Immersion Academy

What were the strengths of the event?

Students who normally aren't involved with outside organization have the opportunity to be in a structured organization. Students range from Kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. These students have an excellent opportunity to learn about music and play a string instrument. They learn to be dependable, responsibility, team player, hand and eye movement and reading and listening skills.

What were the weaknesses of the event?

The only weakness was not having the music arranged in a timely manner for outside wind players to join and support the music event. There were only 4 musician who attended the evening rehearsal.

What suggestions do you have to improve this event?

If outside players are going to perform, have the music ready for them 6 weeks prior to the performance.

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Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture

Event Evaluation

Organization: MusicSpark

Event: Holiday Program, held at Dual Immersion Academy

H. Merritt Kinsey

Date: December 12, 2017

Approx. attendance: 120-140 (photos attached)

Participants: 33 children, ages 5 to 10

This event was a concert for supporters and family of youngsters who have been involved in the MusicSpark music program, which emphasizes learning of music by violin. It is currently focused on at-risk youth, often of immigrant parents, and who do not often have an opportunity to experience such things as orchestral music.

**Strengths:**

**Strong Community and Parental support**

**Excellent teaching volunteers: Gisela and Sean Flanigan, Allison Kitto**

**Perfect choice of Guest Conductor, Mr. Gary Ambrosier**

**Kids have learned good form and bow position, some excellent. High degree of discipline. Music reading has been learned. All children VERY engaged with program. Good Concert etiquette. By showing different age classes and experiences, able to track progress as these children become more proficient. VERY strong family support evidenced. Spoke to several parents, uncles, grandparents, all very proud of their children's musical accomplishment, and the ways the children react to the program.**

**Weaknesses:**

**Needs to be expanded to include more of these children, and I believe there is not enough instruments or teachers to do so. It would good to see if there is any way for children to take instruments home with them for practice.**

**No suggestions for improvement at this time. GJCAC funds well spent! The program clearly acknowledged the GJCAC grant, and it was also announced to the guests at the concert. I also noticed this group has garnered some significant community support from donors and other non profits, such as service clubs, and seems well organized.**

Photos attached,

Merritt Kinsey

**Many thanks to our friends at DIA:**

Principal Monica Heptner and the wonderful faculty members of DIA  
Ramona Sawyer

**Many thanks to our Volunteers:**

Kim Navarrette April Larson  
Cooper Riddell-Brosig

**Special thanks to the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture for  
their generous grant to expand the program this year!**

**First Funders Circle (\$500 +)**

Chuck & Robbie Breaux, *MusicSpark* Board of Directors President  
Paul and Melba Wubben, *MusicSpark* Board Director

Ron Beckman	Dave & Mary Wood Fund
Bob & Kate Denning Foundation	Dr. Gisela Flanigan
Western CO Community Found.	Dr. Sean Flanigan
Dr. Michael Neste	Alpine Bank
Michael & Paula McCormick	Wells Fargo Bank
Linda & Brian Mahoney	Fidelity Mortgage
Grand Junction Rotary Club	David H Farny & Sharon S. Farny
Colorado Creative Industries	Revocable Trust
Donnamarie	Elizabeth Rowen/Bennett Boeschenstein

**Individual Donors**

Kay and Lee Ambrose	Deborah Keller
Ed and Linda Arnos	Stephen and Connie Kelly
Laurel Bartholomay and John Meer	Allison and Charles Kitto, <i>MusicSpark</i> faculty
Gunilla Bishop	Mike & Jeanne Kruger
Tom & Diana Acker	Diana Langdon & Carl Jacobson
Catherine Burkey	Verena & Virgil Larson
Charles Buss	Truus & J.J. Leendertse
Judy and George Callison	Ann & Ryan Leonard
Gudrun Rice & Charles Kerr	Vanni Lowdenslager
Doug and Gaynell Colaric	Michael & Blakely Mechau
Janet & Jim Comerford	Brian and Linda Mahoney
Greg & Jean Dillon	Lance & Margaret Oswald
Peggy Ekrem	Tony and Sally Prinster
Stephen and Sibylle Doyle	Wanda Putnam
Liz Elam	Kirk and Janine Rider
Ildiko Frigay	Naomi and Steve Smith
Richard Gordon	Noelle Smith
Ruth Gormley	Jeanne Urbach
Bob and Nancy Hackett	Mary and Richard Vail
Ken and Margie Heitt	Western CO Latino Chamber of Commerce
Alberta Husch & Wayne W. Westerson	Melinda Wilson
The Ink Store	Cosmo Club
Annette & Stephen Ferriole	



**HOLIDAY CONCERT**

**Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

**6:15 pm**

**Dual Immersion Academy**

**Mr. Gary Ambrosier, Guest Conductor**

**Teaching Staff:**

**Allison Kitto, Lead String Specialist**

**Dr. Gisela Flanigan, Executive director**

**Dr. Sean Flanigan, Artistic Director**









GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE  
EVENT/PROJECT/PROGRAM EVALUATION

Organization: Riverside Educational Center

Name of event/program/project: Look What I Did

Your name: Betsey Dick

Date(s) of event: December 7, 2017 – Classes go for 14 weeks September - December

Date you attended: December 7, 2017

Number of people in attendance: 60-80 (estimated)

Number of participants (artists): Fifty K-8 students instructed by seven local artists

Describe the event:

Riverside hires seven local artists to provide high quality, small group classes to fifty K-8<sup>th</sup> grade students one night a week for fourteen weeks during the fall semester. The art activities culminate in our "Look What I Did" event which allows students to showcase their artwork in an art walk and also to perform on stage in a variety of mediums for friends, family, and the community.

What were the strengths of the event?

There was a lot of love and a lot of pride in that room. Attendees were mostly, as to be expected, family of students. There was applause, cheering and appreciation after every performance. The students were encouraging to one another. They exhibited confidence. The instructors led the students but it was student-driven. I really enjoyed the drumming performance. Students took turns describing the rhythm they would perform, where it came from, its significance, etc. It was about culture as much as it was about the music. They also had a staff member translate everything in Spanish, which always received a strong response, and it was clear that these families appreciate Riverside, their staff, and everything they do for their kids.

What were the weaknesses of the event?

The event is also a potluck dinner, which is an understandable draw and no doubt intended to encourage socialization, but it seemed to be "about" the food, which was a little distracting. It doesn't seem intended for outside community members to attend. I had to ask a few times if I was headed towards the right place. The Commission's logo was not on the event's poster, nor was the Commission mentioned at any time during the evening.

What suggestions do you have to improve this event?

A student art show is bound to attract their parents, families and maybe not many outside of that, but that seems perfectly fine. It's an event to celebrate the kids' accomplishments, and it was terrific at doing that. If food will remain an emphasis, it would be cool if kids had a hand in that, too. (Maybe "culinary arts" is a part of the program?) I feel as if the artists/instructors were not introduced, and that would have been nice to include. I also would like to have heard the Commission's support mentioned.

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I was in contact with Joy ahead of time. She supplied a flyer and I posted to the Commission's Facebook. I didn't have any contact with the organization while in attendance. I followed up to invite Joy to present.