


REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: January 10, 2020

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso  Assignment No: 19-11-1009
Chief Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: Federal and State Legislative Support for the Arts

CLA RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council, subject to the concurrence of the Mayor, adopt the attached Resolutions to:

1. Include in the 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program support for any legislation or administration action that protects the current funding level, and increases future budgets for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
2. Include in the 2019-2020 State Legislative Program support for any legislation or administrative action that protects the current funding level, and increases future budgets, for the California Arts Council and for Department of Education Arts and Educational Programming.

SUMMARY

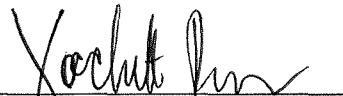
The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) has submitted two proposals that the Department recommends be included in the City's Federal and State Legislative programs for 2019-2020. As the philanthropic sector continues to decrease funding available to arts organizations, grant funding from federal and State agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the California Arts Council (CAC), and the Department of Education Arts and Educational Programming continue to grow in importance to DCA.

At the federal level, the DCA reports that the City has received \$3.8M in funding over the last 12 fiscal years from several NEA grant categories. The DCA has traditionally received an annual grant in the *NEA Artwork* category to support initiatives such as: visual art exhibitions, publications, artist residencies, and neighborhood cultural events. Most recently, the DCA was awarded grant funding in the *NEA Our Town* category for Promise Zone Arts, which supports community development objectives in the Federally Designated Promise Zones in Los Angeles. The City has two dedicated Promise Zones, Central LA and South LA. Additionally, the DCA has received grant funding from the *NEA Big Read* category to support literacy and arts education.

For the current 2019-2020 fiscal year, the Department will be requesting a minimum of \$115K to support arts and arts educational projects. This funding augments base-line support for DCA Neighborhood Community Arts Centers, and allows for more expansive programming and supports larger numbers of program participants.

At the State level, the DCA receives financial support from the California Arts Council (CAC) and the Department of Education Arts and Educational Programming. Over the last 12 fiscal years, the DCA has received \$344K in funding from the California Arts Council to support a variety of programs, including Music LA, the Sony Pictures Media Arts Program, and the Big Read Program in Los Angeles.

The DCA recommends support for all legislative or administrative actions that propose funding for each of the federal and State organizations noted above. Council's support for the arts, as proposed by the DCA, would be consistent with prior Council legislative action (CF 17-0002-S46)



Xochitl Ramirez
Analyst

SMT:xr

Attachment: 1. Resolution

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, as the philanthropic sector continues to decrease funding available to arts organizations, grant funding from federal and state agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the California Arts Council and the Department of Education Arts and Educational Programming continue to grow in importance to the Department of Cultural Affairs, and

WHEREAS, for the third consecutive year, the President's proposed budget has suggested the elimination of federal funding for the National Endowment of the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services; and

WHEREAS, public funding for each of these organizations is often used to leverage private dollars in support of a network of art organizations, educational entities, museums and libraries and public broadcasting affiliates that reach urban and rural populations across the country; and

WHEREAS, funding from each of these arts organizations has provided financial support to a wide variety of arts programs and services, including Music LA, the Sony Pictures Media Arts Program, the Big Read Program in Los Angeles, and Promise Zone Arts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program support for any legislation or administrative action that protects the current funding level and increases the budget for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 State Legislative program support for any legislation or administrative action that protects the current funding level and increases the budget for the California Arts Council and for Department of Education Arts and Educational Programming.