



**SAN DIEGO COUNTY
ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION**

MARCH 24, 2025, 11:30 AM

County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 402A, San Diego, CA 92101

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 11:32 PM.

1. ROLL CALL

Present:

Ladan Akbarnia

Jim Gilliam

Jennifer Jeffries

Bob Lehman

Lucas O'Connor

Sharlene O'Keefe

Renée Richetts

Felicia Shaw

Absent:

Jay Bell

Monica Hernandez

Juliet Rodriguez

Ada Shido

Annaleece Wakefield

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

3. APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES FEBRUARY 21, 2024 AND GRANTS SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 26, 2025

ACTION: Moved by Richetts, seconded by Hernandez, approve the minutes for the January 29, 2025 meeting.

AYES: Ladan Akbarnia, Jim Gilliam, Jennifer Jeffries, Bob Lehman, Lucas O'Connor, Sharlene O'Keefe, Renée Richetts, Felicia Shaw

OPPOSED: none

ACTION: Moved by Shaw, seconded by Akbarnia, approve the Grants subcommittee minutes for the January 29, 2025 meeting.

AYES: Ladan Akbarnia, Jim Gilliam, Jennifer Jeffries, Bob Lehman, Lucas O'Connor, Sharlene O'Keefe, Renée Richetts, Felicia Shaw

OPPOSED: none

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

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a. Proposal of Prebys Grants Funding

Public Comment:

- Wendy Wilson, Bonita Museum and Cultural Center – expressed concerns that organizations funded in District 1 may have left out unincorporated and rural areas, leading to a perception of inequity in the distribution of the funds
- Kaz – echoed the same concerns as Ms. Wilson
- Guadalupe Gonzales – San Diego County Office of Education – expressed concerns on the imbalance of funding in District 1
- Anna Siquieros – expressed concerns over artist confusion in the process and not receiving enough information

A review was conducted of all funded Community Enhancement organizations in the current fiscal year with arts and culture requests not fully funded. The Grants subcommittee used a formula to allocate \$50,000 per district to support as many proposals as possible.

Proposed funding by Grants Subcommittee:

District	Organization	Proposed Funding
1	Cygnnet Theatre Company	\$ 29,335.07
1	San Diego Chinese Historical Society & Museum	\$ 16,101.69
1	Teatro Mascara Magica: A Common Ground Company	\$ 4,563.23
2	East County Performing Arts Association	\$ 1,022.24
2	Free Thought Revolution	\$ 652.46
2	Poway Center for the Performing Arts Foundation	\$ 16,343.17
2	Poway Symphony Orchestra Foundation	\$ 11,358.19
2	San Diego Folk Heritage	\$ 1,693.63
2	Scripps Ranch Theatre	\$ 18,930.31
3	Campana Studios	\$ 592.89
3	Disco Riot	\$ 1,976.28
3	San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory	\$ 1,976.28
3	San Diego Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride aka San Diego Pride	\$ 4,940.71
3	New Village Arts, Inc.	\$ 1,976.28
3	North Shore Symphony	\$ 1,976.28
3	San Diego Children's Choir	\$ 4,940.71
3	Villa Musica	\$ 13,833.99
3	Washington Elementary School Foundation	\$ 11,857.71
3	Blue Water Institute	\$ 5,928.85
4	Casa De Oro Alliance	\$ 11,038.96
4	San Diego African American Museum of Fine Art, Inc.	\$ 35,714.29
4	Thrive Lemon Grove	\$ 3,246.75
5	California Center for the Arts, Escondido Foundation	\$ 30,428.94
5	Escondido Choral Arts Foundation	\$ 2,518.26
5	Oceanside Community Service Television Corporation	\$ 4,933.69

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5	Studio A.C.E.	\$ 2,098.55
5	The Classical Academy, Inc	\$ 2,098.55
5	Vista Chamber of Commerce	\$ 1,049.27
5	Palomar College Foundation	\$ 996.81
5	Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs (SEE), Inc	\$ 5,875.93

ACTION: Moved by Shaw, seconded by Jeffries, approve the Grants subcommittee recommendation for funding for the Prebys Grants.

AYES: Jim Gilliam, Jennifer Jeffries, Bob Lehman, , Felicia Shaw

ABSTAINED: Lucas O'Connor, Sharlene O'Keefe, Renée Richetts

b. Retreat Agenda

Brief overview of agenda for retreat and Commissioners were asked to hold June 5 as the potential retreat date.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:27 PM