

Honorable Mayor and Members  
of the City Council  
Torrance City Hall  
Torrance, California

**Members of the City Council:**

**SUBJECT: Community Services - Approval of funding under the FY 2008-09  
Grant Program for Non-profit Arts Organizations**

**EXPENDITURE: \$4,000.00**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the Cultural Arts Commission and the Community Services Director that City Council approve funding of \$4,000 under the FY2008-09 Grant Program for Non-Profit Arts Organizations.

**FUNDING**

Funding is available in the Cultural Arts Commission Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

**BACKGROUND**

The Grant Program for Non-Profit Arts Organizations is in its ninth year. The Cultural Services Division sent announcements of the grant program, application forms and grant guidelines to more than 60 non-profit organizations that could potentially be eligible for the grant under the guidelines of the program. The deadline for submitting applications was May 8, 2008.

A total of four applications were received requesting a total of \$4,000. Attached for your review is a copy of the Council approved Grant Guidelines that were sent to non-profit organizations to announce the grant opportunity (Attachment A). In addition, a list of the Commission's funding recommendations is included at the end of this report.

The Cultural Arts Commission Grant Committee conducted a screening of applications on May 19, 2008, and made its recommendation to the full Commission at the May 19, 2008, meeting. The full Commission voted on the recommendation herein. The Community Services Department's Cultural Services Division staff were in attendance during the Commission meeting.

The Commission is planning to reconvene its grant committee later this summer to review the grant program guidelines and criteria. Areas which will be discussed include expanding the award categories, increasing the amount available per grantee, and loosening the restriction on allowing groups to apply for no more than two consecutive

years. The Committee will also review with staff the procedures for advertising and publicity, in order to ensure that the process is as broad and inclusive as possible.

The Committee will bring back their findings and recommendations to the full body of the Commission. Once approved by the entire Cultural Arts Commission, these new proposed guidelines and criteria will be brought to the Council for consideration. At this time the Commission will consider whether or not additional funding is needed for FY2009-10.

### **ANALYSIS**

Following the application process as approved by Council, the Cultural Arts Commission's Grant Review Committee examined each application in detail and recommended to the full Commission grant awards to non-profit arts organizations that best met the published criteria as approved by the City Council. The criteria are:

- Artistic quality
- Ability to demonstrate evidence of unmet need for which the grant funding is being sought
- Appropriateness and clarity of scope regarding the project or program to be funded
- The availability of the service to Torrance residents
- Impact of grant on organization and public

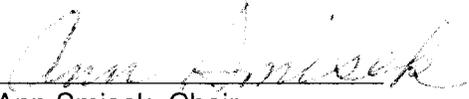
It is important to note that an organization need not be located within Torrance City limits to qualify for grant funding as long as it is demonstrated that the project or program serves Torrance residents in a significant way. Evidence of this would be if the project or program is held in Torrance at, for example, the Cultural Arts Center, or is otherwise open and available to Torrance residents. Each non-profit arts organization recommended by the Cultural Arts Commission for funding was unanimously approved.

The Commission has an annual budget of \$5,000 for Non-Profit Arts Grants, however, only \$4,000 is being granted this year. Therefore \$1,000 will be rolled over to support the next fiscal year grant program. The following summarizes the joint recommendation of the Cultural Arts Commission and the Community Services Director for the \$4,000 in grants to be awarded in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 grant program.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amt Requested</b>	<b>Funding Recommendation</b>
<b>Art Attack Foundation</b> Adopt-a-kid outreach program	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
<b>Regina Klenjoski Dance Company</b> Sola 2008 Student Ticket Outreach	\$1000.00	\$1000.00

<b>South Bay Conservatory</b> Youth Musical Theatre Production of Cinderella	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
<b>Ted Tanouye Memorial Foundation</b> My Friend Ted	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4000.00</b>	<b>\$4000.00</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Cultural Arts Commission

By   
Ann Smisek, Chair

JOHN JONES  
Community Services Director

By   
Eve Rappoport  
Cultural Services Manager

CONCUR:

  
John Jones  
Community Services Director

NOTED:

  
LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager

Attachment: A) Grant Guidelines

## CITY OF TORRANCE 2008 GRANT PROGRAM FOR NON-PROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

The City of Torrance announces a grant program for Non-Profit Arts Organizations serving Torrance residents. A total of \$5,000 has been allocated by the City Council for the grants. No grant amount awarded will exceed \$1,000.

Qualifying non-profit arts organizations are invited to apply for funding under the Grants Program for Non-Profit Arts Organizations as authorized by the Torrance City Council and administered through the Torrance Cultural Arts Commission.

Organizations are eligible to receive up to \$1,000 in City grant funds to assist the development and presentation of programs and projects in the visual, performing and literary arts. All grant funds must be matched 1 to 1 by the recipient. Individuals are not eligible for funding. Priority will be given to projects demonstrating the greatest artistic quality, service to the Torrance public and diversity of audiences.

### **Qualifications for Grants:**

- ◆ The organization must be Torrance based or must provide proof of significant service to Torrance residents.
- ◆ All grants will be for one-time projects, programs, exhibits or other qualifying ventures.
- ◆ A grant should be for a particular program or project of the organization, rather than for general support of a multi-purpose organization.
- ◆ Arts Organizations seeking grant funding must provide proof with the application of non-profit status under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and Section 2370 Id of the California Franchise Tax Code.
- ◆ Successful applicants may reapply for a grant the following year by the same process, but not to exceed two consecutive years of funding.
- ◆ All programs and projects must be open to the general public.

### **Evaluation Criteria:**

- ◆ Artistic quality
- ◆ Ability to demonstrate evidence of unmet need for which the grant funding is being sought.
- ◆ Appropriateness and clarity of scope regarding the project or program to be funded.
- ◆ History of past performance and service by the applicant organization.
- ◆ The availability of the service to Torrance residents.
- ◆ Impact of grant on organization and public.