



Memorandum

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FROM: Kerry Adams Hapner

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED FY 2018-2019
TAKE PART GRANT AWARDS**

DATE: May 3, 2018

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the Arts Commission recommend that the City Council approve the proposed FY 2018-2019 *take pART* Grant awards specified in Attachment A and subject to the availability of funds appropriated in the City's FY 2018-2019 Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND

The *take pART* Grants are a support resource for specific arts activities offered by non-professional arts organizations and community service organizations with continuing arts programs, as well as very small semi-professional and professional arts organizations seeking to secure City support for specific arts activities, rather than general operating support.

take pART Grants are intended to encourage:

- Opportunities for public participation in arts and cultural activities;
- Life-long arts and cultural education programs outside the school setting;
- Expressions of culturally-specific traditions of San Jose's diverse population;
- Opportunities to experience the arts in neighborhood and community settings; and
- Programs that serve the needs of the clients of health and social service institutions.

The *take pART* program is a competitive grants program. Prior success in receiving a *take pART* Grant award is no assurance that an organization will be awarded a grant in any given year.

ANALYSIS

The Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) received 26 eligible applications in the FY 2018-2019 cycle of *take pART*. The applications included grant requests ranging between \$2,500 and \$15,000, the maximum possible individual grant amount in the program.

The Grant Review Panel met on March 28 - 29, 2018 to complete its evaluation of the *take pART* grant applications. The five-member panel considered each application against the four evaluation criteria established in the grant program guidelines: Project/Program Quality (40%); Organizational Capacity (30%); Appropriateness of Budget/Grant Request (20%); and Community Impact (10%).

The panel was comprised of the following experienced arts management professionals and a representative of the Arts Commission:

- **Jaime Cortez**, *Independent arts consultant, artist, writer, and arts program manager*
- **Valeria (Val) Miranda**, *Executive Director, Santa Cruz Art League*
- **Emma Moon**, *Development Director, Montalvo Arts Center*
- **Ron Muriera**, *San Jose Arts Commissioner*
- **Jace Wittig**, *Founder and Music Director, Gaude; Conductor, Cantabile Youth Singers of Silicon Valley*

Overall scores for the 26 applications ranged from a high of 94.1 to a low of 64.2, out of a maximum of 100. The panel considered applications with similar scores by clusters. Due to the City's pending development of the proposed Operating Budget for FY 2018-2019, the panel did not have specific dollar amounts to recommend for distribution at the time of its meeting. Instead, the panel made recommendations for approximate funding percentages, to be adjusted proportionally, when the final amount for distribution was available.

The percentage recommendations were translated into actual dollars after the specific funding amount was available. Given an increase over the previous year's funding for the *take pART* grants, adjustments to recommended percentages and specific dollar amounts were made that take into consideration panel evaluation/scoring, total funding available, and sustainability of program support over time. At its February 2018 meeting, the Arts Commission recommended that 7.75% of the available funds in the Cultural Funding Portfolio be allocated to the *take pART* program. This recommendation results in \$313,200 being available for *take pART*. The recommendations are contained in Attachment A.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Notices of granting opportunities were distributed to the OCA's e-mail contacts lists, posted on the OCA website, shared via social media, and published in multiple languages in several local newspapers prior to the grant application deadlines.


KERRY ADAMS HAPNER
Director of Cultural Affairs

Attachments

- A. List of grant applicants, in descending order of scores, with proposed grant awards
- B. Project descriptions for *take pART* applicants recommended for funding (listed in alphabetical order)
- C. Review panelist qualifications

ATTACHMENT A: FY 2018-2019 take pART Grant Recommendations

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Review Score</u>	<u>Grant Request</u>	<u>Panel Recommendation**</u>	<u>Proposed Award**</u>
San Jose Downtown Foundation	94.1	\$15,000	Fund at <u>approx. 100%</u> of request amount	\$15,000
Teatro Visión de San Jose	93.8	\$15,000		\$15,000
South Bay Guitar Society	88.1	\$13,000		\$13,000
SJ Center for Poetry and Literature	87.5	\$12,500		\$12,500
The New Ballet School	86.5	\$15,000		\$15,000
American Beethoven Society	85.4	\$15,000		\$15,000
Sangam Arts	83.8	\$15,000		\$15,000
Opera Cultura	83.1	\$15,000		\$15,000
SJSURF Center for Literary Arts	82.6	\$15,000		\$15,000
Alum Rock Educational Foundation	80.0	\$15,000	Fund at <u>approx. 95%</u> of request amount	\$14,250
San Jose Chamber Music Society	79.7	\$15,000		\$14,250
East Side Community Arts	78.6	\$10,000		\$9,500
Cambodian Cultural Dance Troupe (CARA)	78.6	\$8,638		\$8,200
Northside Theatre Council	78.3	\$15,000		\$14,250
Chamber Music Silicon Valley	76.9	\$15,000		\$14,250
iCAN	75.0	\$15,000	Fund at <u>approx. 90%</u> of request amount	\$13,500
Works San Jose	74.7	\$12,500		\$11,250
Winchester Orchestra	74.7	\$12,500		\$11,250
San Jose Choral Project	73.6	\$15,000		\$13,500
Gilbert & Sullivan Society	72.4	\$15,000		\$13,500
San Jose Youth Shakespeare	72.0	\$15,000		\$13,500
SCVPAA for Mission Chamber Orchestra	70.8	\$15,000		\$13,500
No. California Chinese Chorus Alliance	67.8	\$15,000	Fund at <u>approx. 70%</u> of request amount	\$10,500
San Jose Youth Ballet	64.2	\$15,000	Fund at <u>approx. 50%</u>	\$7,500
Global Artists' Creative Collab (GACCE)	54.4	\$10,000	No Funding Recommended	0

TOTAL \$313,200

**** Final recommendations pending approval of funds by City Council.
 Proposed dollar amounts calculated based on total available funds.**

**ATTACHMENT B: FY 2018-2019 *take pART* Grants
Project Descriptions**

Alum Rock Educational Foundation

Grant will support the Art & Design Thinking Camp, a project-based summer program engaging youth in exploring design thinking processes, art techniques, visual art and digital tools within various art projects and exhibitions. The series of seven one-week, full day camps will be held at Lee Mathson Middle School during July and August, 2018.

American Beethoven Society

Grant will support the 2018-19 educational project entitled “33 Years, 33 Variations” which celebrates 33 years of the Young Pianist’s Beethoven Competition and a new permanent media kiosk in the Beethoven Center at San Jose State University.

Cambodian American Resource Agency

Grant will support The Cambodian Cultural Dance Troupe’s provision of free bi-weekly Cambodian classical and folk dance lessons to the public at the Tully Branch Library and Live Yoga studio in San Jose, with three cultural dance performances proposed at San Jose venues.

Chamber Music Silicon Valley

Grant will support Chamber Music Silicon Valley’s season of four concert programs, free outreach associated with each program, and the 8th annual Silicon Valley Music Festival. All programs will take place in the Rotunda at San Jose City Hall.

East Side Community Arts

Grant will support free summer art camps for youth with classes including video production, history of Latino art, musical theatre, world music, theatre arts, textile crafts, graffiti art, and breakdancing. Camps will take place during July 2018 at Joseph George Middle School and San Antonio Elementary School in East San Jose.

Gilbert & Sullivan Society of San Jose

Grant will support three fully-staged shows to be produced and presented at the San Jose City College theater: “The Wizard of OZ” during October 13 - 28, 2018; “Yeomen of the Guard” during March 23 - 31, 2019; and “The Gondoliers” during June 22 - 30, 2019.

iCAN

Grant will support a pilot project to engage members of the Vietnamese community in San Jose to record and share their stories in the form of videos, images or written passages to ensure that future generations have access to the perspectives of South Vietnamese individuals and their lives, cultures and journeys through the Vietnam War and other experiences. The project includes six workshops to be held during August through October, 2018.

New Ballet School

Grant will support The New Ballet School’s New Ballet Kids (NBK) program to introduce new students to classical ballet. The program includes introductory classes at schools and other

community locations, continued study at the ballet studios, and invitations to attend professionally-produced performances in San Jose theaters.

Northern California Chinese Chorus Alliance

Grant will support the “Echoes of Songs” International Choral Festival to be held at Le Petit Trianon Theater on December 8 and 9, 2018. Choirs from the US and China will perform and offer professional development artistic workshops open to all participants. This event focuses on the artistic and cultural exchanges among the US and China choirs and their members.

Northside Theatre Council

Grant will support its five-play season for 2018-19 with a total of 80 performances, free ticket program, and mentorship program for 20 young, aspiring theatre professionals.

Opera Cultura

Grant will support the presentation of Hector Armienta’s musical drama “La Llorona” at the School of Arts and Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza during June 2019, including a live web audio stream of one of the performances. Production includes multiple community engagement activities including visual art and writing workshops at the Hub & MACLA.

Sangam Arts

Grant will support the “3L: Love, Life, Loss” program produced by Sangam Arts as part of the Mosaic Silicon Valley initiative. 3L is the inspiring story of Vietnamese immigrants in San Jose, and shares their history and contributions to the vibrant cultural tapestry of San Jose through music, dance and spoken word.

San Jose Center for Poetry and Literature (Poetry Center San Jose)

Grant will support poetry and spoken word community engagement projects including the Well-RED Series at WORKS San Jose, Veterans Write, the Willow Glen Library Poetry Series, publication of 2018 Caesura, and workshops at Markham House in History Park.

San Jose Chamber Music Society

Grant will support its 2018-19 season of presenting six chamber music concerts and student matinee concerts targeted to elementary and middle school students. The concerts feature music from the pre-Baroque to 21st Century period, and take place at Le Petit Trianon Theatre.

San Jose Choral Project

Grant will support a performance by Lisa Vroman and the San Jose Choral Project in February 2019 at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph in downtown San Jose. Ms. Vroman will also present a master class for local high school students interested in musical theater.

San Jose Downtown Foundation

Grant will support the Downtown Doors youth art exhibit/competition in downtown San Jose. The project involves hundreds of middle and high school artists from Santa Clara County to create work specifically meant to fit onto plain single- and double-paneled service doors and utility boxes. The program includes over 100 sites, 24 schools and more than 250 different installations.

San Jose State University Research Foundation (Center for Literary Arts)

Grant will support the Center for Literary Arts' reading series and presentations of major and emerging authors in downtown San Jose and Mt. Pleasant High School. The 2018-19 season is still in development, but featured authors include Ta-Nehesi Coates, Jesmyn Ward and Jenny Zhang.

San Jose Youth Ballet

Grant will support the 15th annual Nutcracker production at the Mexican Heritage Plaza for performances on December 1 and 2, 2018. The production showcases youth dancers from the local community who are classically trained in ballet. Principal dancers from New York City Ballet also perform in the production.

San Jose Youth Shakespeare

Grant will support production of two Shakespeare plays and one Christmas performance. A workshop program using theatrical warmups and Shakespearean text will be offered to bring Shakespeare into schools, care centers, and enrichment programs.

Santa Clara Valley Performing Arts Association (Mission Chamber Orchestra)

Grant will support the presentation of Mission Chamber Orchestra in four orchestral concerts featuring Mission Chamber Orchestra and professional soloists at Le Petit Trianon Theatre and other San Jose venues between September 2018 and June 2019.

South Bay Guitar Society of San Jose

Grant will support five guitar concerts by world class and local artists; five master classes; four free library lecture/demonstrations; and 11 free Open Mics where both amateurs and professionals can perform. Programming takes place at a variety of venues in San Jose.

Teatro Visión de San Jose

Grant will support the production of the original musical play "Dejara" as the annual Dia de los Muertos program at the School of Arts and Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza. There will be nine performances during October 11 through 21, 2018. Teatro Visión will partner with local nonprofit and grassroots organizations to host events and activities designed to involve the community with the production and themes of the play.

Winchester Orchestra

Grant will support its 19th season, including four concerts at Lincoln Glen Church in San Jose and the Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph. Performances will take place in October and December 2018, and March and May 2019.

Works/San Jose

Grant will support Works/San Jose's Exhibition and Performance Series which combines exhibitions with curatorial and artists' workshops and multiple performance events. Exhibitions will run three to six weeks beginning on the South First Fridays art walks in the SoFA district. Performances are one to three times per month with 20 events scheduled for 2018.

**ATTACHMENT C: FY 2017-2018 take pART Grants
Review Panelist Qualifications**

Jaime Cortez

Independent Arts Consultant, Artist, Writer, Grantmaker and Arts Program Manager

Mr. Cortez has been involved in Northern California arts grantmaking for eleven years. He has served as the Arts and Culture Fellow at The San Francisco Foundation, and has since worked on a consultant basis for the San Francisco Foundation on several occasions. He also consulted for the San Francisco Arts Commission where he managed a grant program and provided support to grant programs for programming, facilities, and planning for arts organizations and artists. Mr. Cortez has served as a grant panelist and juror for the Center for Cultural Innovation, the Evelyn and Walter Hass Jr. Fund, the Headlands Center for the Arts, and the Alameda County Arts Commission. He has experience evaluating and funding projects and organizations in the visual, literary, performing, media and cross-disciplinary arts. Mr. Cortez is also a working artist, exhibiting art and participating in literary events and readings throughout the Bay Area.

Valéria (“Val”) Miranda

Executive Director, Santa Cruz Art League

Ms. Miranda is the executive director of the Santa Cruz Art League, an arts nonprofit in California’s Central Coast that has been providing support to artists at all career levels since 1919. She teaches graduate art and museum education at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco. Ms. Miranda also consults on sustainable growth for arts and educational organizations in the San Francisco and Monterey Bay Area such as MACLA, Japanese American Museum, and Computer History Museum. She was the director of education at the San Jose Museum of Art and at the Monterey Museum of Art, and Development Coordinator at CreaTV San Jose. Ms. Miranda is a 2013 graduate of the Multicultural Artists Leadership Institute at the School of Arts & Culture @ Mexican Heritage Plaza, and a 2001 graduate of Packard-funded Arts Leadership for the Future. She holds a MBA in Sustainable Management from Presidio Graduate School in San Francisco. Since 2012 Ms. Miranda has worked with men and women in the Santa Cruz jail facilities teaching communication and parenting. She volunteers teaching parenting at the local Homeless Family Shelter. She was the co-founder of Food for Change, a Santa Cruz-based social enterprise that hires former inmates to work in a food truck. A native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Ms. Miranda’s artistic practice is in dance. She is also an avid urban homesteader, and spends lots of time in the art spaces, beaches and woods of Santa Cruz County with her son and many friends.

Emma Moon

Development Director, Montalvo Arts Center

Ms. Moon currently serves as the Director of Development at the Montalvo Arts Center where she has worked for the past five years. Previously, she held Senior Development positions at Other Minds New Music Festival and Stern Grove Festival in San Francisco. In addition, Emma is a classical flutist, formerly with the Honolulu and Utah Symphonies and currently with the Freeway Philharmonic. She is a flute instructor at UC Berkeley.

Ron Muriera

San Jose Arts Commissioner

Non-profit administrator, educator, grants professional, performing artist (actor, musician, dancer and comedian), community activist, advocate for children and youth -- for the last 20 years, Mr. Muriera has integrated his various experiences and knowledge into his current calling serving communities locally in the San Francisco Bay Area, California and throughout the nation. As an education and grants consultant based in San José, he offers a wide range of services and solutions which include: grants research/identification, grant proposal writing, program evaluation, nonprofit systems assessment, board development, diversity training and group facilitation. Mr. Muriera has more than 15 years of experience in grant writing (federal, state, local, corporate, and foundation grants) and has been a reviewer for numerous organizations including the U.S. *Department of Education; California Volunteers/AmeriCorps; Arts Council of Silicon Valley (now Silicon Valley Creates) and the San Francisco Arts Commission.*

Mr. Muriera also volunteers his service on several boards/commissions: *San José Arts Commission; California History Center and Foundation (Trustee); Mission College and De Anza College's Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI) Federal Initiative; Filipino American National Historical Society (National Trustee); History San José (Advisory Board member); and the San Francisco Filipino American Jazz Festival (Board Member).* Mr. Muriera is a member of the *Grant Professionals Association, the American Evaluation Association,* and is a long-standing member of *Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television & Radio Artists (SAG-AFTRA), and Actors Equity Association (AEA).* *He is the current Chair of the San Jose Public Art Committee.*

Jace Wittig

Founder and Music Director, Gaude; Conductor, Cantabile Youth Singers of Silicon Valley; and former Interim Music Director, Chanticleer

Mr. Wittig is an educator, conductor, baritone, clinician, and arranger based in San Francisco, California. He performed around the world for eight seasons with the Grammy Award-winning ensemble, Chanticleer. During his tenure with the ensemble (five years as a singer followed by three years as Interim Music Director), he performed or directed over one thousand concerts in many of the world's preeminent concert halls, including the Vienna Musikverein, the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, the National Grand Theatre in Beijing, Los Angeles' Disney Hall, and the Kennedy Center, among many others. Mr. Wittig maintains a dynamic presence in the San Francisco Bay Area choral community. He is a conductor with the Cantabile Youth Singers of Silicon Valley, where he directs the Young Men's Division and the elite treble ensemble, Aria. He is also an Artist in Residence at the San Francisco School of the Arts and maintains a private voice studio. In 2015, he served as Principal Conductor for the International Orange Chorale of San Francisco, an acclaimed chamber choir dedicated to the commissioning and performance of new choral repertoire in San Francisco and the surrounding communities. In 2015, Wittig founded GAUDE out of his love for *a cappella* choral music of the Renaissance.