



Memorandum

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FROM: Kerry Adams Hapner

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED FY 2019-2020
TAKE PART GRANT AWARDS**

DATE: May 6, 2019

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend that the Arts Commission recommend that the City Council approve the proposed FY 2019-2020 *take pART* Grant awards specified in Attachment A and subject to the availability of funds appropriated in the City's FY 2019-2020 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 31 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 27 - 28, 2019 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:

- **Lauren Baines**, *Artistic Director, Lauren Baines Dance/Theatre and Assistant Director, de Saisset Museum*
- **Demone Carter**, *MALI Program Director, School of Arts and Culture @ MHP*
- **Valeria (Val) Miranda**, *Executive Director, Santa Cruz Art League*
- **Emma Moon**, *Development Director, Montalvo Arts Center*
- **Jace Wittig**, *Founder and Music Director, Gaude; Conductor, Cantabile Youth Singers of Silicon Valley*

Overall scores for the 31 applications ranged from a high of 96.2 to a low of 66.3, 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 2019-2020, 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 2019 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 \$392,506 being available for *take pART*. The panel recommendation results in \$351,615, leaving a surplus of \$40,891 that will be used for other arts grants. 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 2019-2020 *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	96.2	\$15,000	Fund at <u>approx. 100%</u> of request amount	\$15,000
SJSURF Center for Literary Arts	93.6	\$15,000		\$15,000
Opera Cultura	93.5	\$15,000		\$15,000
Alliance for Youth Achievement	93.2	\$15,000		\$15,000
Sangam Arts	93.0	\$15,000		\$15,000
East Side Community Arts	92.6	\$12,000		\$12,000
Poetry Center San Jose	92.0	\$12,500		\$12,500
Chopsticks Alley Art	91.0	\$7,500		\$7,500
Chamber Music Silicon Valley	90.3	\$15,000		\$15,000
South Bay Guitar Society of San Jose	86.8	\$13,500	Fund at <u>approx. 95%</u> of request amount	\$12,825
College of Adaptive Arts	86.4	\$14,000		\$13,300
Works San Jose	86.4	\$12,500		\$11,875
Bay Area Showcase Chorus	85.8	\$4,500		\$4,275
Northside Theatre Council	85.6	\$15,000		\$14,250
Kala Vandana Dance Company	85.4	\$8,200		\$7,790
American Beethoven Society	84.4	\$15,000		\$14,250
San Jose Chamber Music Society	84.4	\$15,000		\$14,250
ICAN	84.4	\$15,000		\$14,250
San Jose Youth Shakespeare	83.4	\$12,500		\$11,875
San Jose Choral Project	83.0	\$15,000		\$14,250
SCVPAA for Mission Chamber Orchestra	82.2	\$15,000		\$14,250
Cambodian American Resource Agency	81.4	\$10,000		\$9,500
PARTI Program	79.4	\$14,500	Fund at <u>approx. 85%</u> of request amount	\$12,325
Cambrian Symphony	79.2	\$4,000		\$3,400
Winchester Orchestra	79.0	\$12,500		\$10,625
CreaTV San Jose	77.5	\$8,500		\$7,225
Noon Arts & Lectures	76.8	\$6,000		\$5,100
No. California Chinese Chorus Alliance	74.2	\$15,000	Fund at <u>approx. 80%</u> of request amount	\$12,000
Gilbert & Sullivan Society of San Jose	73.4	\$15,000		\$12,000
Villages Music Society	66.8	\$5,000	Fund at <u>approx. 50%</u> of request amount	\$2,500
San Jose Youth Ballet	66.3	\$15,000		\$7,500
TOTAL				\$351,615

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

ATTACHMENT B: FY 2019-2020 *take pART* Grants Project Descriptions

Alliance for Youth Achievement

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. There will be nine weeks of camp in 2019-2020 during summer and school breaks. All activities will be held at the Alliance for Youth Achievement Makerspace on the Mathson Middle School campus.

American Beethoven Society

Grant will support Beethoven@250, a celebration of the 250th birthday of the composer Ludwig van Beethoven. It will consist of educational and community-focused events in San Jose in Spring 2020 including free community concerts, the Young Pianist's Beethoven Competition and Concert, lecture and performance of the Takacs Quartet, free performance of Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony on Earth Day and a Beethoven nature hike.

Bay Area Showcase Chorus

Grant will support the 2019-2020 Community Engagement Series at the Bay Area Showcase Chorus rehearsal venue in Comunidad Cristiana del Silicon Valley on various dates. The program includes two "Friends & Family" performances, one "A Capella U" student workshop and performance, and one "Guest Program" performance.

Cambodian American Resource Agency

Grant will support the Cambodian Cultural Dance Troupe's provision of free Cambodian classical and folk dance lessons to the public at the Tully Branch Library, twice a month from September through April, with a performance in April 2020.

Cambrian Symphony

Grant will support two performances of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in celebration of his 250th birthday. One performance will be presented at San Jose State University in partnership with the Beethoven Center, and the second performance at a different venue in San Jose. The performances are free to the public and will take place in June 2020.

Chamber Music Silicon Valley

Grant will support Chamber Music Silicon Valley's 2019-20 season of four concert programs: Los Muertos del Mundo on November 2, 2019; 3rd Annual Brandenburgs on January 18, 2020; Cabaret Collective on March 21, 2020; and Brahms Remix on May 16, 2020. Free outreach and pop-up performances curated by the Emerging Artist Fellowship roster will be offered. Performances will take place at the Glasshouse in downtown San Jose.

Chopsticks Alley

Grant will support "Adventures in Contemporary Art" a program engaging Vietnamese and low-income Southeast Asian seniors to learn and actively participate in contemporary arts within and beyond the classroom.

College of Adaptive Arts

Grant will support the College of Adaptive Arts “Showcasing Artistic Abilities in the School of Art” project, which strives to expand art course offerings to adults with special needs as well as expanding educational outreach and collaboration opportunities with community organizations.

CreaTV San Jose

Grant will support CreaTV San Jose’s Screening and Speaker Series that provides monthly media screenings, workshops, and speaker/discussion opportunities to elevate conversation and creativity through local media arts. The program will run July 2019 through June 2020 with all programs held at the Community Media Center in downtown San Jose.

East Side Community Arts

Grant will support free four-week summer art camps for East Side San Jose youth ages 8 to 18, led by credentialed teachers and community artists. This will be the eighth year of half-day summer camps with classes that have included Improvisational and Shakespearean theater, Aztec dance, video production, various of visual art classes, Afro-Latin percussion and STEAM crafts. Camps will take place during July 2019 at Joseph George Middle School and San Antonio Elementary School.

Gilbert & Sullivan Society of San Jose (Lyric Theatre)

Grant will support one semi-staged and three mainstage shows to be produced and presented at the San Jose City College theater: “Thespis” during August 3 - 4, 2019; “The Sorcerer” during October 5 - 13, 2019; “El Capitan” during March 21 - 29, 2020; and “H.M.S. Pinafore” during June 20 - 28, 2020.

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, 2019.

Kala Vandana Dance Company

Grant will support “Highlights of 30 Years” a Bharatanatyam dance production that will take place on September 7, 2019 at the Mexican Heritage Plaza. The production celebrates 30 years that Kala Vandana has been teaching Bharatanatyam and presenting productions in the Bay Area.

Noon Arts & Lectures

Grant will support the Noon Arts & Lecture series of 38 free “Meet-The-Artist” performances on mid-weekdays for office workers, university students, residents, and visitors in downtown San Jose at various venues.

Northern California Chinese Chorus Alliance

Grant will support the 2020 “Echoes of Songs” International Choral Festival to be held at Le Petit Trianon Theater on March 14 and 15, 2020. Choirs from the US and other areas will be invited to

this event for performance and exchange. Professional workshops to improve musical and choral skills will be offered. The event focuses on artistic and cultural exchanges among participating choirs and their members.

[Northside Theatre Council](#)

Grant will support its five-play season from October 2019 to July 2020, with a total of 80 performances; mentorships for young aspiring theatre professionals and free ticket programs to local schools, non-profit arts organizations and charities serving low-income families, giving them the opportunity to experience quality theatre for free.

[Opera Cultura](#)

Grant will support three performances of Robert Xavier Rodriguez's bilingual opera "Frida" at the School of Arts and Culture at Mexican Heritage Plaza during May 8 through 10, 2020. The opera is based on the life of iconic Mexican painter Frida Kahlo. Community engagement events will include a visual arts workshop, discussion forums, and preview performances. Opportunities for community members to participate as performers will also be provided.

[PARTI Program](#)

Grant request will support the Fusion program for San Jose youth ages eight through 20. The program is focused around an African-Western style of dance called Step-Dancing. Classes will span 16 weeks from June through December 2019 at the African American Community Services Agency center and two high schools in East Side Union High School District.

[Sangam Arts](#)

Grant will support the "Precious Scars" production of a new work incorporating world music, spoken word, and visual imagery to capture lived experiences of the Japanese Americans during World War II and beyond. Sangam Arts is working with Common Sounds – a composer-performer collection led by Vico Diaz, Ray Furuta and Amr Selim on this project.

[San Jose Center for Poetry and Literature](#) (Poetry Center San Jose)

Grant will support poetry & spoken word community engagement projects including Veterans Write, the Well-RED Readings at WORKS San Jose, the Willow Glen Library Poetry Series, publication of Caesura, weekly Live Lit Writers Open Mic, monthly San Jose Poetry Slam, and workshops and writing groups at Markham House in History Park.

[San Jose Chamber Music Society](#)

Grant will support the presentation of its 2019-20 season, a series of six public concerts of classical chamber music by local, national, and international performing ensembles. All concerts will take place in San Jose and potential student concerts will take place at participating schools.

[San Jose Choral Project](#)

Grant will support a joint project with the San Jose State University Choraliers in a presentation of Craig Hella Johnson's magnificent work "Considering Matthew Shepard" for a San Jose premier. Two performances will take place during May 8 - 10, 2020 at the Hammer Theatre.

San Jose Downtown Foundation

Grant will support the Downtown Doors outdoor 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. As of February 2019, passersby have enjoyed 272 works by students from 25 schools on 115 sites over 15 years.

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

Grant will support the Center for Literary Arts' major and emerging authors presentations in downtown San Jose venues and local high schools. The 2019-20 season is still in development, but featured authors include Arundathi Roy, Carmen Maria Machado, tyehimba Jess, Harmony Holiday, Tommy Orange, Rita Bullwinkle, and Ta-Nehisi Coates.

San Jose Youth Ballet

Grant will support the annual Nutcracker production at the Mexican Heritage Plaza in December 2019 and community outreach for arts education. This project aims to expand community awareness of ballet and the joy of the Nutcracker with collaborations with other local arts organizations.

San Jose Youth Shakespeare

Grant will support production of two Shakespeare plays and one holiday production of "A Christmas Carol" as well as workshops with Hope Services to provide speech and movement exercises based on Shakespearean text for adults with developmental disabilities. Training workshops for company members to gain skills in leading sessions at Hope Services will also be offered.

Santa Clara Valley Performing Arts Association (Mission Chamber Orchestra)

Grant will support the presentation of Mission Chamber Orchestra in five orchestral concerts featuring Mission Chamber Orchestra and professional soloists at Le Petit Trianon or other local venues between September 2019 and June 2020. The theme for this season is "Women's Voices" with each concert featuring women performers and/or composers.

South Bay Guitar Society of San Jose

Grant will support five ticketed guitar concerts, one free Guitar Story concert for elementary school students; five master classes, four free library lecture/demonstrations, three First Friday performances and 11 free Open Mics. Programming takes place at a variety of venues in San Jose.

Villages Music Society

Grant will support the Fall and Spring concerts as part of an annual music series connecting audiences to the spiritual approach of jazz and the natural healing processes inherent in music. Concerts will take place at the Cribari Auditorium featuring the Villages Concert Band in collaboration with Dawan Muhammad and the Lifeforce Jazz Collective.

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Winchester Orchestra

Grant will support its 20th season, including four concerts at Lincoln Glen Church for a season of classical, Pops and thematic music. Performance dates are slated for October 2019, December 2019, and March and May 2020.

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 24 events scheduled for 2019.

**ATTACHMENT C: FY 2019-2020 take pART Grants
Review Panelist Qualifications**

Lauren Baines

Artistic Director, Lauren Baines Dance/Theatre

Assistant Director, de Saisset Museum

Ms. Baines is a choreographer, performer, and interdisciplinary artist based in San Jose, CA, immersed in creating and producing theatre and dance throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. She is the Artistic Director of Lauren Baines Dance/Theatre and performs with other companies and artists in the region. In 2013, Ms. Baines was named an inaugural recipient of the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artists Awards by the San Jose Rotary Club and she has enjoyed residencies at Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, Milkbar Project Room, Gulkistan Residency for Creative People (Laugarvatn, Iceland), and Montalvo Arts Center. In addition, Ms. Baines has multidisciplinary arts management experience in the Silicon Valley (non-profit) arts sector. She is currently the Assistant Director at the de Saisset Museum, Santa Clara University and the Co-Chair of genARTS Silicon Valley. Previously, she has worked at Montalvo Arts Center and the Palo Alto Art Center. Ms. Baines holds a MFA in Dance (Choreography & Performance) from Mills College and BA and BS degrees from Santa Clara University where she triple majored in Theatre Arts with a Dance Emphasis, Art History, and Psychology.

Demone Carter

MALI Program Director, School of Arts and Culture @ MHP

Mr. Carter has played many roles within the Silicon Valley arts, education, and entertainment circles for the past twenty years. Performing under the name DEM ONE, he has released several albums and collaborated with notable hip-hop artists like D-Styles, Motion Man, Chali Tuna, and Bambu. In 2014, he was given the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artist award from San Jose Rotary Club. In 2004 Mr. Carter co-founded Unity Care's Hip Hop 360 after-school program. From 2004 to 2010, Hip Hop 360 provided over 1,000 youth the opportunity to express themselves through the four elements of hip-hop. Building on his experiences with Hip Hop 360, he started FutureArtsNow!, a for-profit social entrepreneurship venture that seeks to fill the void left by vanishing school arts and programming by giving local youth an outlet for expression. FutureArtsNow! has received recognition from San Jose Job Corps (2013 Service to Youth Award) and the City of San Jose (2016 State of The City Honoree). More recently Mr. Carter has joined the staff of The School of Arts and Culture at MHP, serving as lead for two of its signature programs The Multicultural Leadership Institute and Mayferia, a hyperlocal creative placemaking project funded by the Knight and Irvine Foundations. Metro Magazine named him "Silicon Valley's Best Mentor" for 2013 and he is also a 2016 Silicon Valley Artist Laureate.

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.

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.