

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF COMMISSION ON THE ARTS (COTA) SPECIAL GRANTS FOR SPRING 2020

BACKGROUND:

On November 4, 2019, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for the Spring 2020 Special Project Grants. Seven grant requests were received, totaling \$5,950 in requests. COTA has \$4,680 in funding available for these grants.

Special Project grant awards are limited to \$1,000 per project. Grant applicants are required to attend a COTA meeting to present their project. Based on the merits of each application and the criteria established for the special grants, COTA recommended the following allocations:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Award</u>
ACTORS	Ken Ludwig's "Leading Ladies"	\$ 700	\$ 316.20
Ames Town & Gown	Master Classes by Anthony and Demarre McGill	1,000	777.40
Central Iowa Touring Ensemble	Junie B. Jones the Musical	1,000	877.40
Ames Children's Choirs Association	Alumni Benefit Concert	900	759.60
India Cultural Association of Central Iowa	Indian Theater	1,000	757.40
Octagon Center for the Arts	Business of Art Seminar	1,000	857.40
Story Theater Company	ASL Interpretation - Performance of Frozen, Jr	350	334.60
Total		\$ 5,950	\$ 4,680

Contracts were sent to the awarded organizations for approval and have been returned. The contracts are now presented for City Council's approval.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the COTA Spring Special Project Grant contracts as recommended by Commission on the Arts.
2. Delay approval of these contracts and ask the Commission for further information.
3. Do not approve the contracts.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

These projects help advance participation in and awareness of the arts in the Ames community, which is a key goal of the Commission on the Arts. COTA has reviewed the requests and has recommended the approval of the contracts now presented to the City Council.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the COTA Spring Special Project Grant contracts as recommended by the Commission on the Arts.