

Salt Lake City Arts Council
Board Meeting Minutes
Aug 16, 2023
54 Finch Lane, Salt Lake City, Utah
Zoom Online
[Link to Recording of the Meeting](#)

Present:

Kate Jarman Gates
Ebay Hamilton
Thomas Kessinger
Sarah Longoria
Hannah Nielsen
Torle Nenbee
Cale Newhouse
Katherine Potter
Susan Rickman
Richard Taylor

Excused:

Matthew Coles
Kathy Davis
Jeff Driggs
Marti Woolford

Staff:

Felicia Baca, SLAC Director
Taylor Knuth, SLAC Deputy Director
Susan Campbell, SLAC Staff

Guest:

Sylvia Richards, Salt Lake City Staff

- I. Call to Order and Welcome
 - A. Ms. Susan Rickman, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.
- II. Arts Event Discussion
 - A. Ms. Susan Rickman began the discussion of recent arts events attendance.
 - B. Ms. Kate Jarmin Gates discussed Clever Cucumber's second quarterly arts supplies swap, and is working on their Love Your Block grant. In addition on August 26, the Fairpark is hosting their first arts festival. Discussion about whether Arts Council has been invited to the festival or not.

- C. Ms. Felicia Baca is attending a new gallery called Current. Owner by Tiffany Porter and a show by Jared Stephenson. In addition she is going to a quilt show in Springville and attending a Japan-Town festival.
- D. Ms. Hannah Nielson, attended an artist panel at house donated to UVU.
- E. Ms. Katherine Potter, saw a jazz show back east. Mr. Taylor Knuth recommended seeing "Jazz at the Station" in Ogden.
- F. Mr. Ebay Jamil Hamilton attended both Salt Lake and Ogden Twilight, in addition "a highlight was opening night of Beetlejuice at the Eccles... I loved it!" Finally he attended a private performance of Boygenius at their soundcheck.
- G. Ms. Susan Rickman saw Boz Skaggs at Red Butte.
- H. Ms. Baca clarified that as Council receives event invites that it is ok to email the Board members as needed. She then discussed an event called Mixtape on August 26 that the Board can attend.

III. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

- A. Ms. Jarman Gates made a motion to approve the June board meeting minutes. Ms. Torle Nenbee seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously at 5:39 with no discussion.

IV. Management

- A. Salt Lake Arts Council staff gave some updates and information about programs and administration within the organization.
 - 1. Ms. Baca announced a new employee Amy Childress as the Public Art Program Coordinator. The Council now has a full staff.
 - 2. Ms. Baca discussed Twilight and Monday's in the Park. With respect to Twilight, there have been issues with semi-trucks parking in areas where they are not allowed.
 - 3. Ms. Baca discussed recent success of Monday's in the Park with attendance as high as 400 people in one evening.
- B. Presentation from Grants Committee
 - 1. Ms. Nenbee presented the Fiscal Year 2024 City Arts Grants awards:

General Operating Support Grants

- Received 41 eligible requests totaling \$537,500, including Arts Learning Enhancement Fund Requests - we are recommending 34 awards totaling \$213,000;
- 7 organizations were new to this category. Three were recommended for funding.vbased on scores. The remaining 4 will be directed to round 2 project support.
- 33 applications requested Arts Learning Enhancement Funds (ALE) – we are recommending 18 awards for ALE totaling \$49,200.00;
- The remaining \$163,800 will be distributed as general operating support;
- Majority of applicants received funding similar to last year funding. The largest decrease for lower scoring applicants was 3 organizations receiving 10-13% less

than FY23. Funding did not vary by greater than 20% of their previous years funding;

- Applicants are scored on areas of Program Goals, Artistic Vibrancy, Value to the Community, Inclusive Practices, and Fiscal Responsibility.

Project Support Grants

- Received 47 eligible requests totaling \$251,718, including Arts Learning Enhancement Requests - we are recommending 23 awards totaling \$73,150;
- 15 applicants were brand new to the City Grants Program with 9 recommended for funding.
- 16 applicants self-identified as a BIPOC artist or BIPOC led organization/collective and 9 are recommended for funding.
- Eight organizations are receiving funding for arts learning enhancement equal to 20% of their project support award;
- Eleven projects will take place in districts 1 or 2.
- Applicants are scored on areas of Program Goals, Artistic Vibrancy, Value to the Community, Inclusive Practices, and Fiscal Responsibility.

Arts In the Classroom

- Board has already reviewed and approved these.
- No changes were made.
 - Received 7 eligible requests totaling \$21,000;
 - Two new artists/organizations applied in this category;
 - This program is reaching one new school this year;
 - Five of the schools are located in districts 1 or 2;
 - Applicants are scored on areas of Residency Description, Artist Qualifications, Arts Instruction, and Team Approach.

Ms. Nenbee thanked everyone for their hard work on the grant committee and expressed her appreciation for the Grants Committee for their ability to come to a consensus for how to allocate grants.

Ms. Rickman asks whether unfunded applicants have heard they are not receiving funding and Ms. Campbell explained that they have not heard the news, but will be delivering the news via telephone.

Ms. Campbell explained that several applicants switched from asking for Project Support to General Operating Support.

Ms. Rickman asks for a motion to approve the Grants Committee recommendations.

Katherine Potter moves to approve Grants Committee recommendations.

Thomas Kessinger seconds.

Unanimous at 5:51 with no discussion on the motion.

C. Presentation from Susan Campbell on the American Rescue Plan grants

Ms. Campbell provides an overview of the grant.

- November 2021 received \$500,000 grant from NEA
- Purpose is to sub-grant to individual artists and arts organizations
- Up to 10% of grant could be used for administrative costs
- Overall about 95% of funds were distributed to artists and the remainder was used for administrative costs.

2022 Grant Recipients

ARTIST CAREER EMPOWERMENT

- 10 Grantees received \$15,000 each
- Produced 18 events from January 1 - June 30, 2023
- 60% self-identify as BIPOC, 50% as LGBTQIA+
- 50% of projects produced in Dist. 1 & 2

RACIAL EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- 12 Organizations received between \$3,500 - \$11,000
- Organizations developed new programming focused on REI
- 50% of grantee orgs have significant BIPOC representation

Ms. Campbell discusses that after the 2022 grants were awarded they collected feedback from artists to expand the scope of funding to include educational opportunities etc.

The amount of applicants increased dramatically.

2023 Grant Recipients

ARTIST CAREER EMPOWERMENT

- 25 Grantees
 - 9 received - \$10,000
 - 11 received - \$5,000
 - 5 received - \$2,000
- 56% self-identify as BIPOC
- 44% of grantees are new to our grants program
- 17 projects take place in part or fully in Dist 1 & 2

RACIAL EQUITY AND INCLUSION

- 12 Organizations received between \$2,500 - \$10,000
- Organizations programming focuses on REI.
- Projects to take place in all 7 districts.

Ms. Campbell concluded by discussing the overall impact of the grants.

- Enhanced artistic careers and opportunities
- Improved racial equity and inclusion in local arts scene
- Strengthened community engagement and appreciation for the arts

Ms. Campbell highlighted the project entitled “Más allá de los márgenes | Beyond the Margins” This show will be traveling to Boise, ID, where it will be exhibited at Blue Galleries at Boise State, August - October 2023. This was an unplanned extension of the project that provides additional opportunities for both me, the curator and the artists.

Ms. Rickman suggests that we present to the full City Council.

Ms. Campbell stated that artists finally had a meaningful budget to work with. Ms. Baca and Mr. Knuth stated that by taking the “Más allá de los márgenes | Beyond the Margins” on the road, they are finding new audience and new ways to get compensated.

Mr. Knuth stated “this is exactly what we wanted to accomplish with the program when we developed it three years ago.”

V. Budget/Financial

- A. Mr. Cale reviewed the financials, however because we are only one month into fiscal year there is not a lot to extrapolate.
- B. The financial position of the Foundation is a strong one.
- C. Ms. Baca stated that due to an oncoming audit, we are only seeing revenue/expenses and not the actual budget.
- D. Mr. Cale stated that a small group of council staff met with their auditors. Auditors are requesting documents, and council staff will prepare responses to their document requests. Mr. Newhouse stated that we should expect a smooth audit this year.
- E. Financial Management Policies and Procedures Manual Revisions – (Action)
 - a. Mr. Newhouse explains what the purpose of the policy being voted on. He explained that it codifies the processes for how expenses are handled, for example, how vendors are paid. It also includes updates to mitigate any potential audit findings in the future. Mr. Knuth explains that the changes are due to staff changes and general clean up and codification of current practices.

- b. Mr. Newhouse made the motion to approve the Policy and Procedures Manual. Ms. Potter seconds. Ms. Longoria abstains. The motion passes unanimously at 6:19.

VI. Board Management

- A. Vacancies & Recruitment – Board Member Nomination-(Action)
 - 1. Kaityn Tressik has been nominated to sit on the Board.
 - 2. Ms. Tressik is interested in replacing Mr. Newhouse as Treasurer, however at this stage the Board is only taking action on whether to appoint her to the Board.
 - 3. Ms. Nenbee makes the motion to approve, Mr. Hamilton makes the second. The motion passes unanimously.
- B. Ms. Rickman states that Board still has a vacancy in District 4. District 5 is also a need. Ms. Baca let the Board know that we can help recruitment. She also highlighted that we have a dearth of representation in the film and television arts.

VII. Public Comment/Other Business

- A. No public comments were made.
- B. Mr. Hamilton moves to adjourn. Ms. Nenbee seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.