



Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission Meeting Agenda

May 29, 2025
12:00 PM

City Hall

Aspen Room, 1st Floor
415 W. 6th St
Vancouver, WA 98660

[Join the meeting via Microsoft Teams](#)

Dial in at [+1 347-941-5324,,773877706#](#)

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. April 10, 2025
3. **Community Forum**

To provide public testimony, please see instructions below.

 - a. Mark Ray
4. **Workshop**
 - a. Smith Tower Review and Advocacy for Mid-Century Buildings
Speaker: Jeronimo Roldan, DAHP
5. **Action Items**
 - a. Vancouver Cultural Access Program
Speakers: Staff and VCAP Task Force Members
6. **Commission and Staff Reports**
 - a. Cultural Services Manager
 - b. Commission President

Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission

MEMBERS

Brad Richardson, *President*

Linda Reid, *Vice President*

Lee Rafferty
Rebekah Percival
Ricky Gaspar
Rosalinda Mendoza
Michelle Tan
Shon-Lueiss Harris
Russell Ford, CACC

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

415 W. 6th Street
Vancouver, WA 98660
TTY: 711
www.cityofvancouver.us

c. Clark County Art Commission

7. Open Discussion & New Business

Adjournment

Community Forum Instructions

Time is reserved at each Commission meeting for Community Communications. During this time, the public may speak on any issue. Each speaker will have three minutes to address the Commission. Community members who wish to submit detailed testimony that may exceed three minutes of speaking time are encouraged to email their comments so they can be included with the meeting materials.

Community Communications participants are encouraged to pre-register by email at kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us or by phone at 1-360-487-8307, but may comment during this period without pre-registration; options for Community Communications are:

1. In Writing: Public comments can be submitted in writing via email to kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us by 5pm the day before the meeting.
2. Remotely: attend the Microsoft Teams meeting online; be prepared to speak online during the Commission meeting at the time of Community Communications.
3. In Person: Fill out a Public Comment form in person prior to the start of the Community Communications portion of the meeting.

City Hall is served by C-TRAN. Route information and schedules are available online at www.c-tran.com. You also may reach C-TRAN at (360) 695-0123 for more information on times, fares, and routes.

Anyone needing language interpretation services or accommodations with a disability at a Vancouver City Council meeting may contact the City Manager's staff at (360) 487-8600 (RELAY: 711). Assistive listening devices and live Closed Captioning are available for the deaf, hard of hearing and general public use. Please notify a staff person if you wish to use one of the devices. Every attempt at reasonable accommodation will be made. To request this agenda in another format, please also contact the phone numbers listed above.

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 10, 2025

12 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall

Aspen Room

415 W. 6th Street

Vancouver, WA

Commissioners Present:

Richardson, Reid, Rafferty, Percival, Gaspar, Ford and Tan

Commissioner Absent:

Mendoza, Harris

Item 1: Call to Order

President Richardson called the April 10, 2025, meeting of the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission to order at 12:04 p.m. The Commission met in Aspen Room at Vancouver City Hall using Microsoft Teams.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

Motion by Rafferty, seconded by Ford, and approved unanimously to adopt the minutes from March 13, 2025.

Item 3: Workshops

a. Performing Arts Center Evaluation

Natasha Ramras, Chief Financial Officer, gave an overview of the history of the current Performing Arts Center Evaluation which came out of the Downtown Redevelopment Authority's 2019 inquiry into adding a performing arts center into their Convention Center expansion project. The City had looked into building a performing arts center previously at two different sites, the Police Headquarters building on Evergreen Blvd and the library building on East Mill Plain Blvd (current arts hub building) but those were deemed too small for the community's aspirations at the time.

In 2019, the City and the DRA hired a consultant to assess the feasibility of expanding the convention center and adding a performing arts center to the site. The study indicated that model was uncommon due to

Members

Brad Richardson
President

Linda Reid
Vice President

Vacant
Vacant
Lee Rafferty
Rebekah Percival
Ricky Gaspar
Rosalinda Mendoza
Russell Ford, CCAC

**Parks, Recreation and
Cultural Services
Department**

P.O. Box 1995
Vancouver, WA 98668
360-487-8311
TTY: 711
cityofvancouver.us

To request accommodation or other formats, please contact:
Kirsten Hull | 360-487-8307 | TTY: 711 | kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us

competing uses during afternoons and evenings. In 2023, the DRA resumed the Convention Center expansion project, taking into consideration the City Center Redevelopment Authority's plan to develop the land behind City Hall which was confirmed not to include a performing arts center. In 2024, the City conducted another study looking at the need for a performing arts center in Vancouver more broadly and what level of facility could be supported by existing demand.

Ramras highlighted the results of that study as presented to City Council in late 2024. The study assumed that some performing arts space would also be incorporated into the arts hub within the next few years. The study concluded that there is support in the surrounding area for a performing arts facility and three different markets were identified: a small and affordable venue for emerging groups (assumed to be included in the arts hub), a 400-600 seat auditorium and multipurpose venue for local and touring performances, and a 1200-1500 seat facility to serve as a regional competitor.

City Council was supportive of the idea and a request for proposals was put out to find a contractor to validate the work done to date, and work with a stakeholder group to advance the project to a business plan that demonstrates a self-sufficient facility.

Tan noted the current trend in multidisciplinary performances and asked if the consultants also considered the demand from artists and performers. Ramras said that will be an important part of the next phase of the project. Ramras requested that a member of the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission join the stakeholder group as a liaison.

Further discussion included the role of the commission in this type of work. Richardson asked why the Commission was being briefed about this project so late in the analysis, noting that the role of the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission is to center and elevate the needs of the Culture, Arts & Heritage community. Other Commissioners shared that sentiment. Tan added that going forward the plans for the arts hub and the performing arts center will have to move forward in tandem and that the Commission will be a key player in keeping communication open between the two projects. Tan volunteered to serve as the project liaison.

b. Cultural Access Update

Reid summarized recent conversations at the Cultural Access Task Force. They will present a workshop to City Council on May 19th. Reid expressed concern that there is an assumption that the Cultural Access funds will be used to fund construction of the performing arts center and arts hub. Richardson added that he has shared other capital grant opportunities with Councilmember Paulsen.

Item 4: Community Forum

No community members pre-registered and no testimony was presented.

Item 5: May Meeting Rescheduled

The May meeting will be rescheduled for May 29 to avoid a conflict with the Parks Foundation Luncheon.

Item 6: Commission and Staff Reports

a. Cultural Services Manager

Donovan gave the following updates:

- Shon-Lueiss Harris was appointed to the Commission but could not attend this meeting on short notice.
- The Vancouver Art and Music Festival juried art exhibit application is still open. All other applications have closed, and staff has been reaching out to applicants to confirm availability and schedule performances.

- The Arts Centered has been programming the arts hub for nearly a year now and that experience will be integrated into the building design process to start in Fall 2025. May First Friday will feature fiber arts. Richardson suggested having arts hub users attend the Commission's Community Forum period. He also suggested displaying art created at the arts hub at City Hall for increased publicity and Tan suggested including it on outreach materials.

b. Commission President

Richardson gave the following updates:

- The Fort Vancouver 200th Anniversary committee met recently. Visit Vancouver will host the main webpage for the events. The National Park Service, Fort Vancouver, and Friends of the Fort will be featured as the primary event organizers. Related events from affiliate organizations will be displayed on a shared calendar. Clark County History Museum and NPS are working on a traveling exhibit to be hosted by Fort Vancouver Regional Library starting in June. Richardson requested that the City of Vancouver contribute to marketing the primary events.

c. Clark County Arts Commission

Ford gave the following update:

- Ford requested nominees for the Clark County Arts Commission's Lifetime Achievement Award. Richardson suggested Kevin Weaver, owner of the former Art on the Boulevard Gallery.
- The Pacific Northwest Sculptors Guild will host a raku firing event at 6th and Broadway during VAMF.

Item 7: Open Discussion and New Business

None presented.

Adjourned

This meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.



Laying the Foundation: Vancouver Cultural Access Program Overview

Stacey Donovan

Cultural Services Manager

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

May 29, 2025

Workshop Agenda



Background &
Legislative
Context



Public Benefits
& Eligibility



Funding Criteria
& Allocation



Feedback &
Discussion



Background & Legislative Context

What is Cultural Access?

Cultural Access is a publicly funded program that expands community access to cultural programs in science, heritage and the arts.

- Created by state legislature in 2015, providing taxing authorities to cities and counties to expand cultural access for 7 years
- Up to 0.1% increased sales tax or equivalent amount through property tax
- City or county council authorizes by a public vote or councilmanic authority



Background & Legislative Context

What is the Legislative Intent?

- Increase public access to cultural activities
- Expand cultural education activities for public school students at schools and cultural facilities, including transportation costs
- Provide sustainable funding for community nonprofit science, heritage and arts organizations
- Greater economic prosperity and competitiveness within the community through broad community investment



Background & Legislative Context

Vancouver's Ordinance

- Ordinance M-4480 councilmanic approval on Dec. 2, 2024
- Strong public support to build capacity for culturally specific nonprofits
- Up to \$7 million in annual funding
- Collection began April 1
- Policy proposal due July 1; Policy adoption by Oct. 1



Cultural Access Programs at a Glance

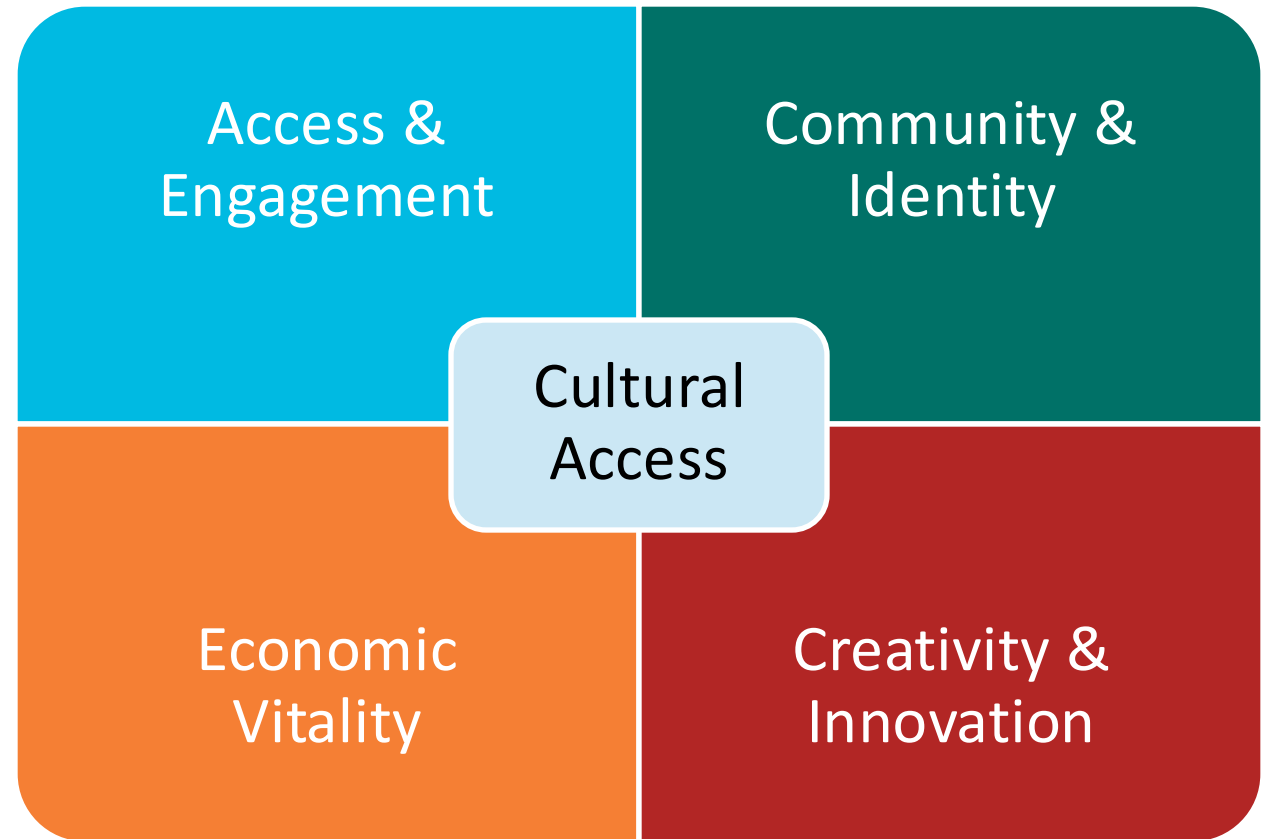
Feature	Vancouver	Tacoma Creates	Inspire Olympia	Doors Open King County
Initiation	Councilmanic	Vote	Vote	Councilmanic 6 years after failed vote
Est. Annual Revenue	\$7 million	\$6 million	\$4 million	\$100 million
School Allocation	5% Transportation	8% Transportation	21% CAPS	15%
Grant Model	TBD	2 Categories	2 Categories	7 Categories
Funding	TBD	Impact: \$3,000-\$60,000 Comprehensive: 15% of total org. budget, up to \$400,000 annually	Impact: \$3,000-\$30,000; 1:1 match required Comprehensive: 15% of total org. budget up to \$75,000 biennially	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained • Public Schools • Public Free Access • Building for Equity • Countywide • Launch • Outside Seattle
2024-25 Grants	N/A	74 Organizations	60 Organizations	TBD

Public Benefits

Purpose and Themes

Outcomes

- Widespread access to arts, culture, heritage and science
- Programs for schools and underserved communities
- Local cultural identity and pride
- Regional leadership in arts and culture



Public Benefits

Expanding Access & Engagement

- School-based programs for K-12
- Free/low-cost admissions
- Transportation to cultural events

Strengthening the Cultural Ecosystem

- Operating support for cultural non-profits
- Capital investments in accessible cultural spaces
- Long-term sustainability and outreach programs

Driving Economic & Community Vitality

- Job creation in creative sectors
- Cultural tourism & business growth
- Community events foster civic pride

Fostering Innovation & Creativity

- Lifelong learning and creating exploration for all ages
- Cross-sector partnerships between schools, non-profits and the City
- Platforms for diverse voices and community storytelling



Organizational Eligibility

Core Eligibility Requirements

- Have a primary mission focused on arts, culture, heritage or science
- Be a 501(c)(3) non-profit incorporated in Washington or apply with a qualified fiscal sponsor
- Be located within Vancouver city limits or deliver at least 55% of programming within city limits
- Provide cultural programming directly to people who live within Vancouver city limits



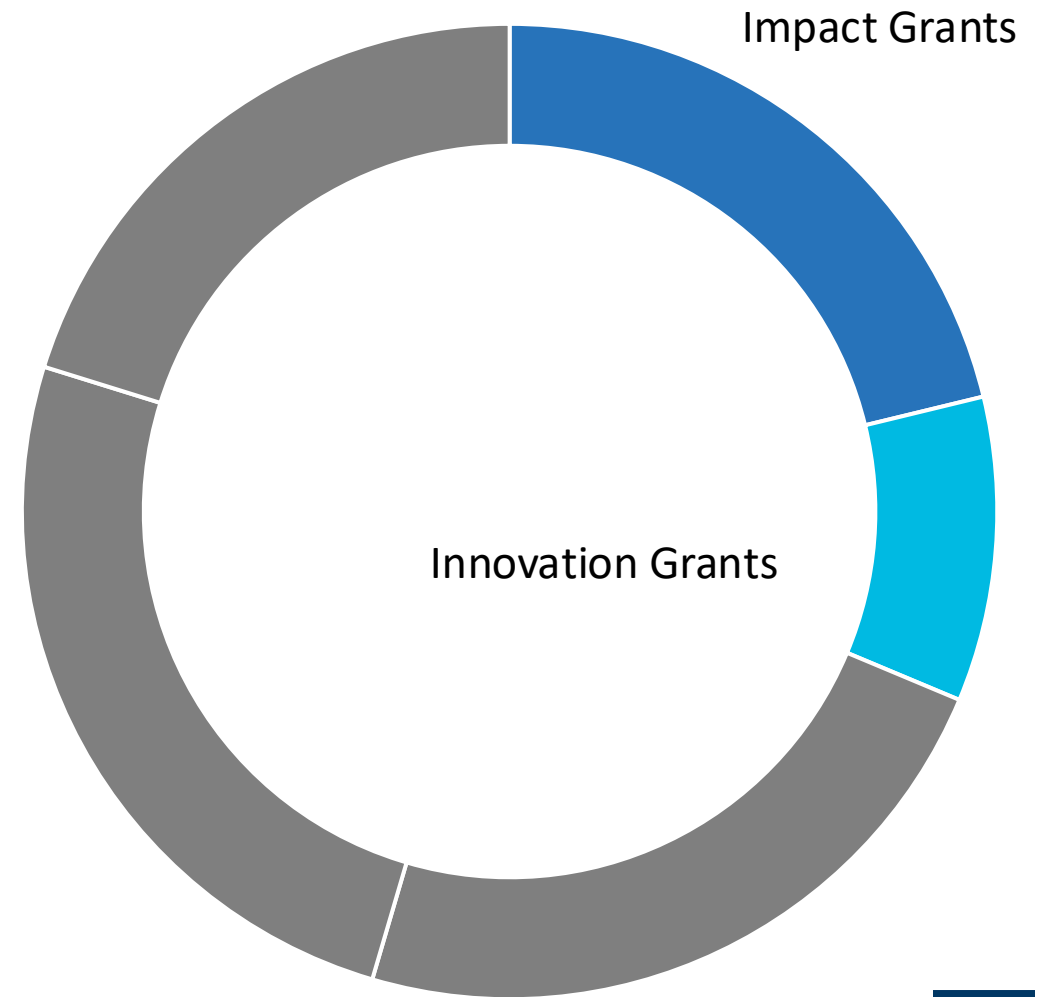
Funding Criteria and Allocation

Supporting Creativity and New Ideas

Impact Grants: \$10,000-75,000

Innovation Grants: \$5,000-\$25,000

- Eligible non-profit/fiscal sponsor
- Located in Vancouver or deliver at least 55% of programming in city
- Serve Vancouver public
- Annual grant cycle

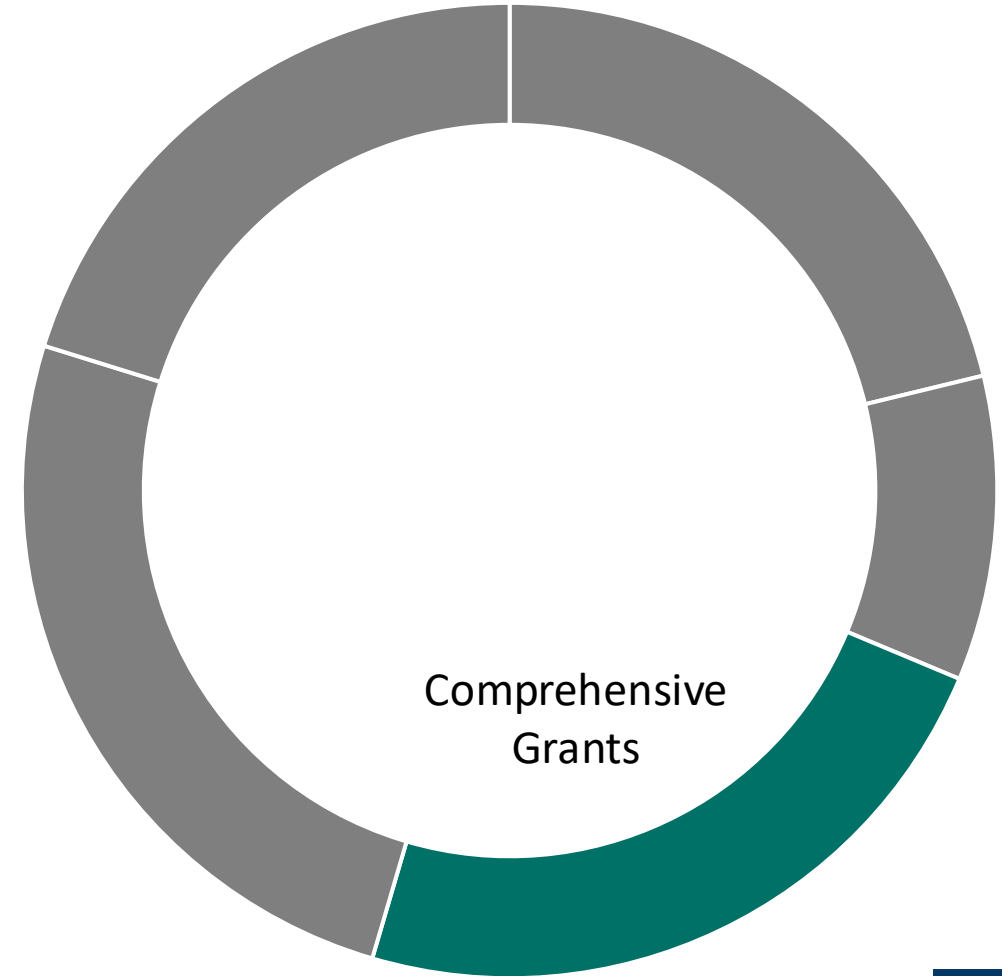


Funding Criteria and Allocation

Investing in Growth and Capacity

Comprehensive Grants: \$100,000-\$300,000

- Eligible non-profit/fiscal sponsor
- Located in Vancouver or deliver at least 55% of programming in city
- Serve Vancouver public
- At least two years experience
- Multiyear grant cycle

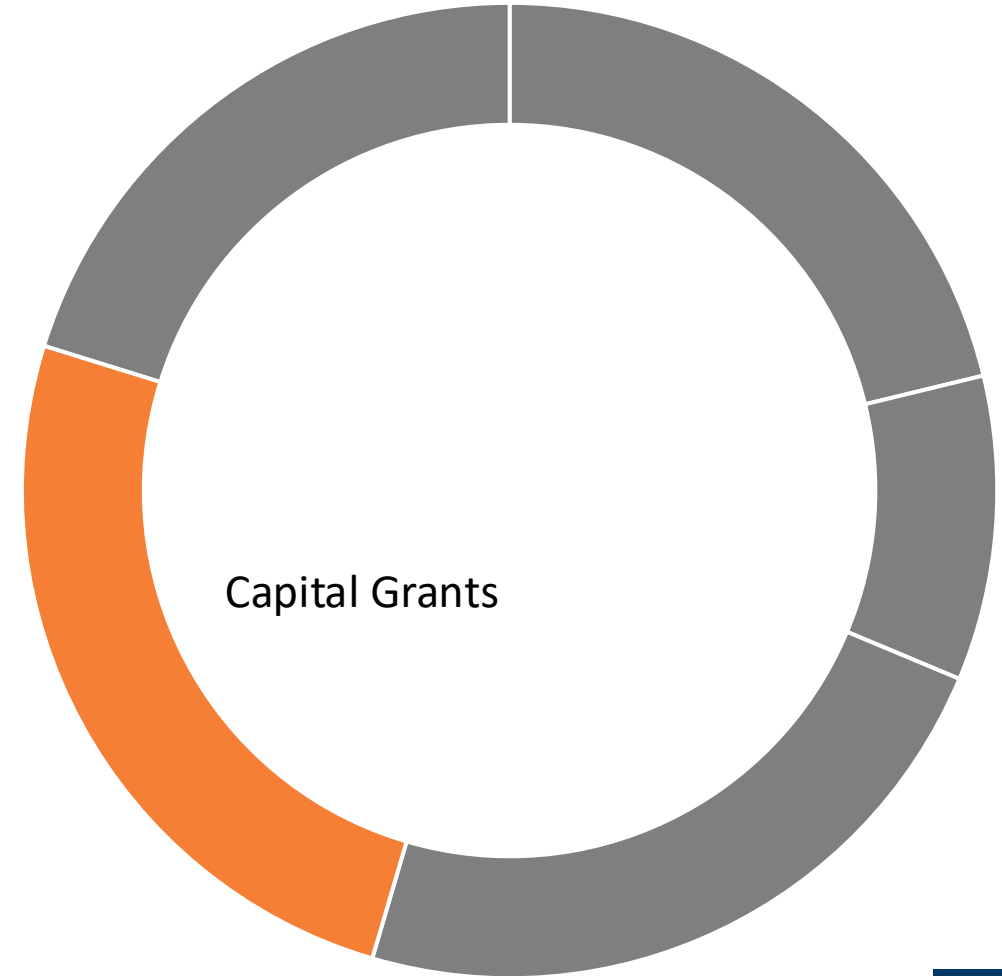


Funding Criteria and Allocation

Investing in Growth and Sustainability

Capital Grants: Up to \$1.5 million

- Eligible non-profit
- Located in Vancouver city limits
- Serve Vancouver public
- At least two years experience
- Two-year grant cycle, allow multi-year projects

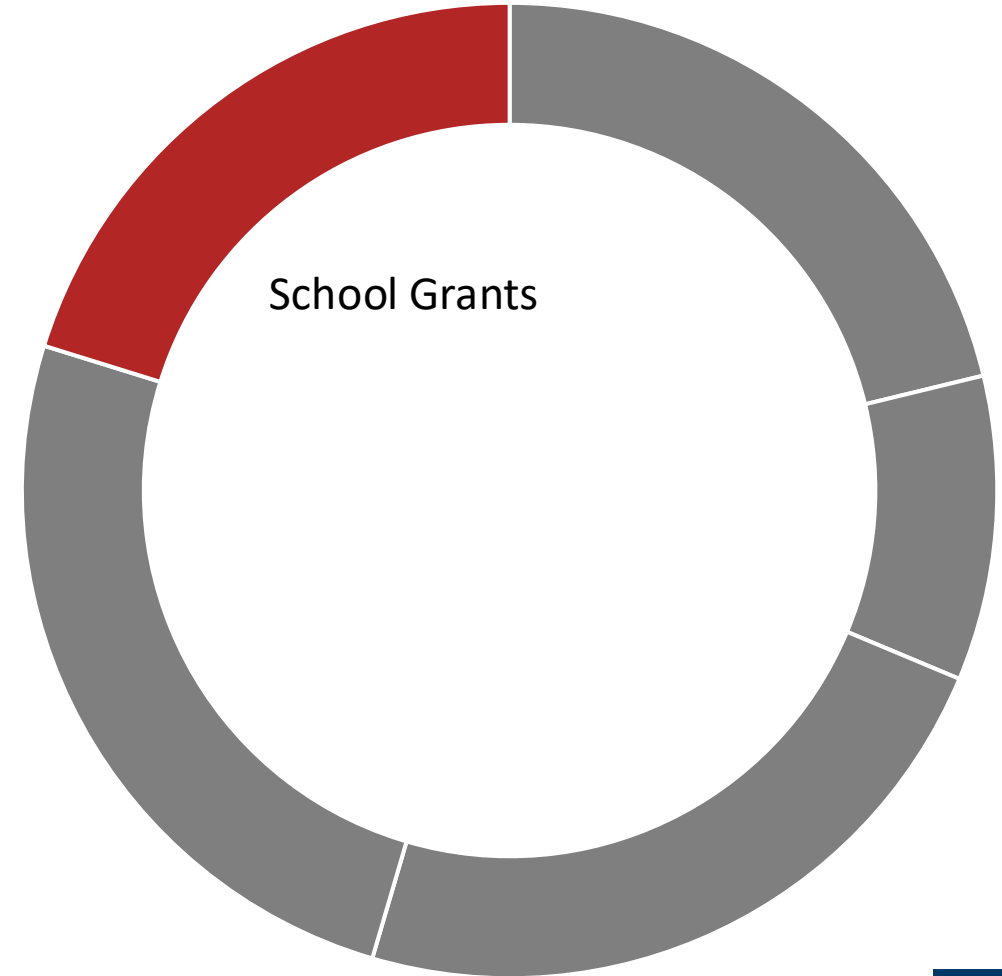


Funding Criteria and Allocation

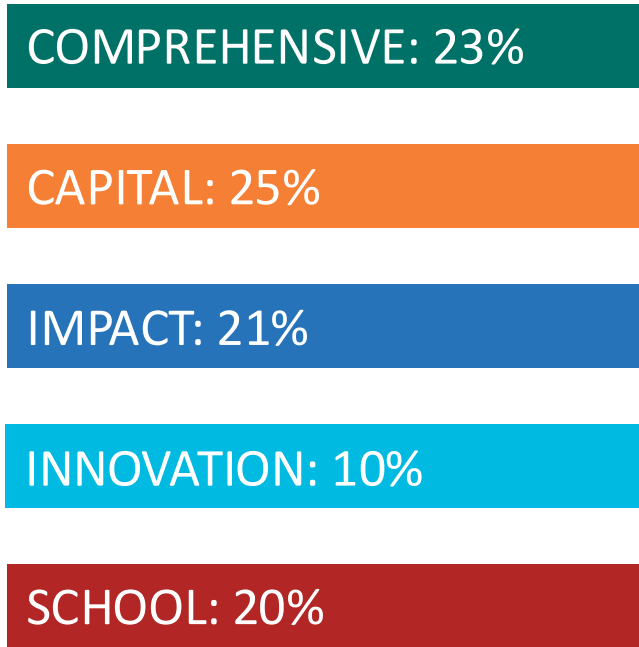
Expanding Youth Access with School-based Cultural Grants

School Grants: 20% available funding

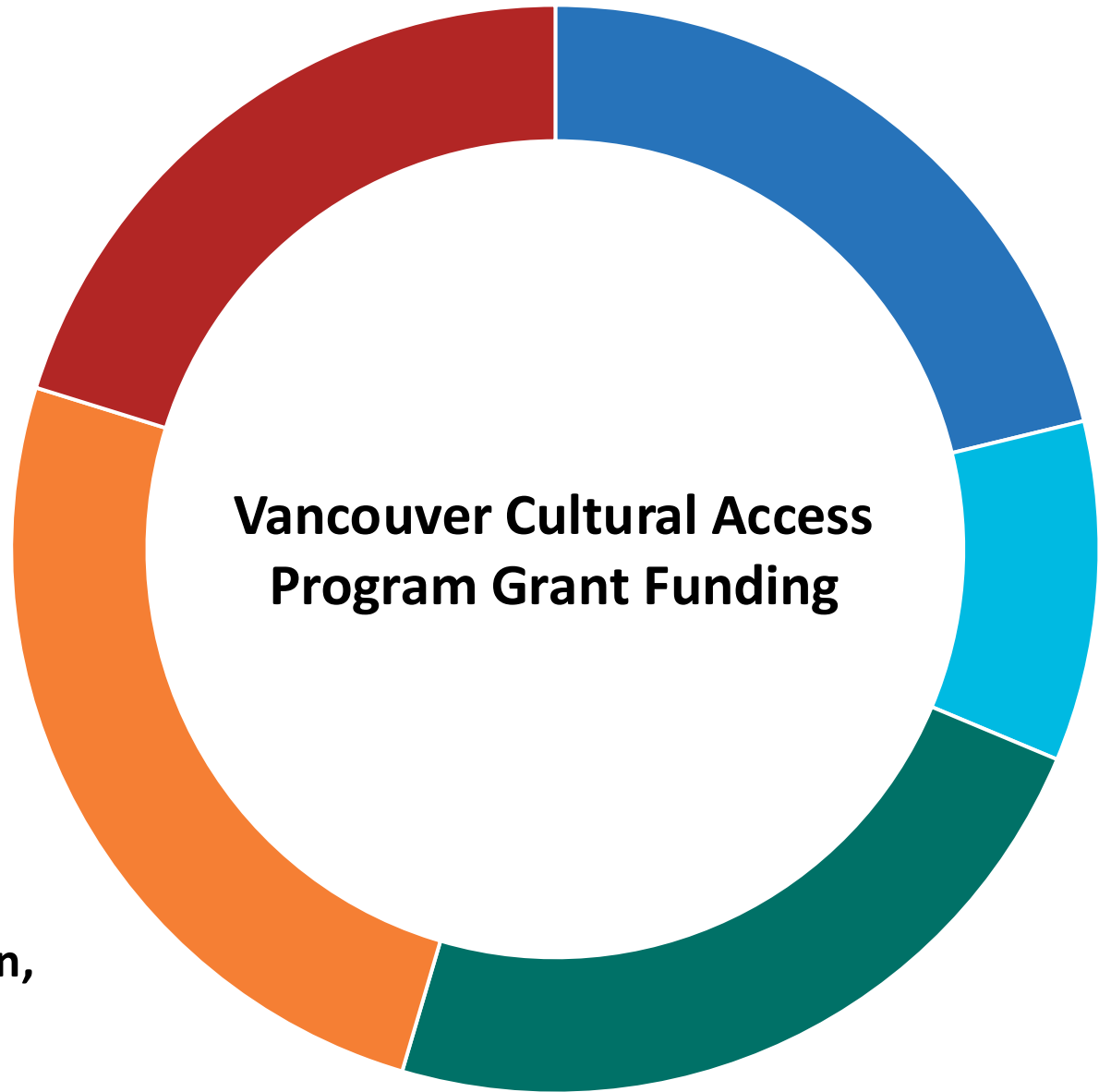
- 10% Transportation funding split between Vancouver and Evergreen public schools
- 10% eligible organizations providing in-school programming
- Annual grant cycle



Funding Criteria and Allocation



Vancouver Cultural Access Program Grant Funding



10% of total is set aside for administration, remaining is the available grant funding



Funding Criteria and Allocation

Emerging Themes for Competitive Proposals

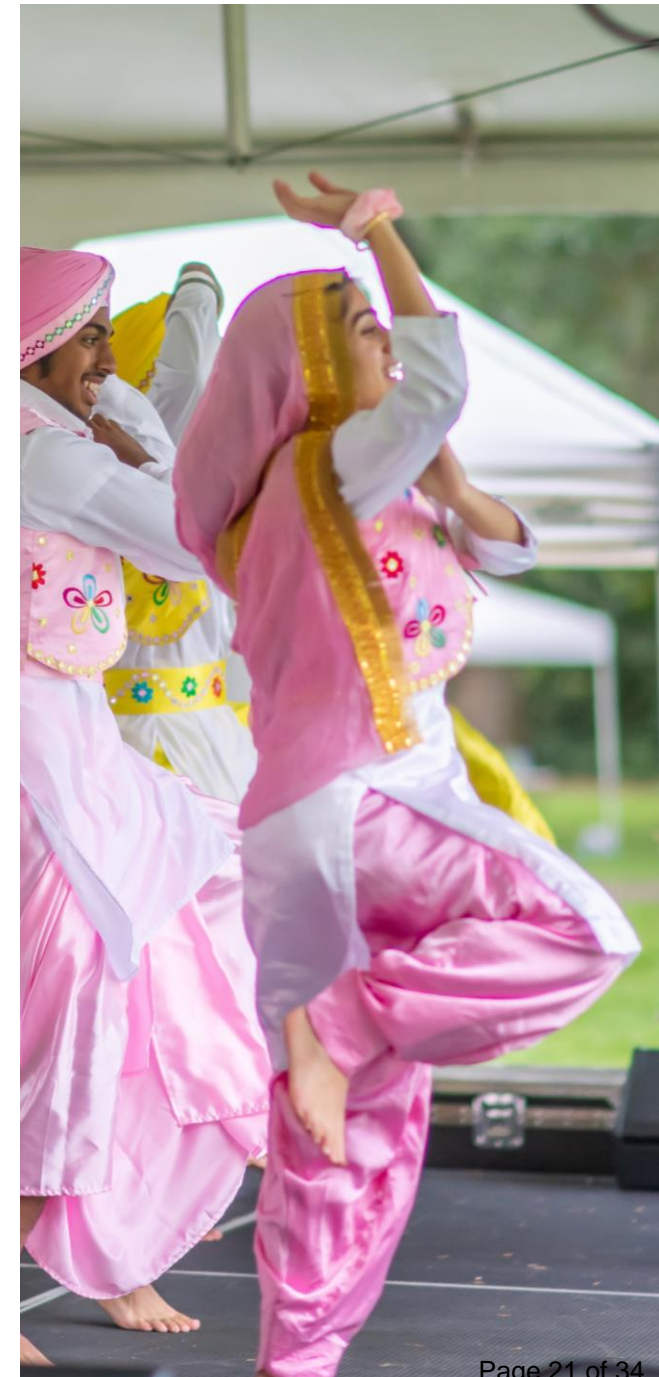
- Geographic Diversity & Public Access
- Creative and Cultural Variety
- Collaboration & Innovation
- Capital Impact



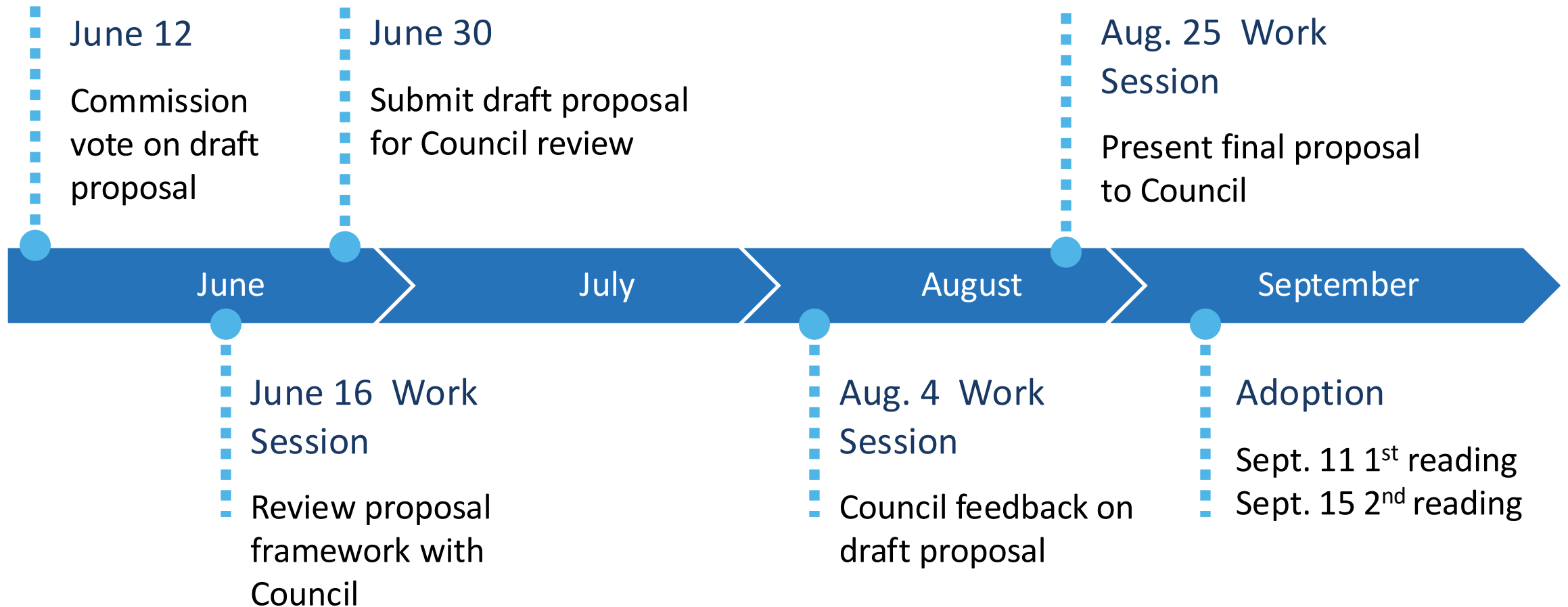
Application Considerations

Application, Review & Awarding

- Guided by Adopted Policy
- Partnering with Experts
- Community Voice
- Accessible and Transparent



Cultural Access Program Policy Timeline



Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission will receive regular updates at monthly meetings.





Discussion

We would like your feedback on initial components of the draft proposal.

- Public Benefits
- Organization Eligibility
- Funding Criteria & Allocation

Is there anything else you would like to share to direct the work of the task force at this time?

Thank You



DRAFT Vancouver Cultural Access Program Public Benefits

The City of Vancouver, Washington, recognizes the importance of enhancing access to arts, culture, and heritage as a fundamental public benefit. Drawing inspiration from successful programs across the state, Vancouver seeks to create more equitable opportunities for all residents to engage in cultural experiences.

Public benefit in Vancouver will focus on making arts, culture, and heritage accessible to everyone, particularly those often excluded due to barriers such as cost, transportation, and accessibility. By supporting programs in public schools and investing in community-based initiatives, Vancouver's Cultural Access Program aims to ensure that all residents can engage with and benefit from vibrant cultural activities, educational programs, and public performances.

Additionally, this initiative positions Vancouver as a cultural leader in the region, drawing visitors and residents alike to experience the city's growing cultural scene. By investing in cultural infrastructure and a thriving creative economy, Vancouver will foster innovation, attract creative talent, and strengthen its reputation as a leading destination for arts and culture.

Increased Educational Engagement for K-12 Students

- **Access to Arts, Culture, Science, and Heritage Programs:** Ensuring that students in Vancouver Public Schools and Evergreen Public Schools districts (K-12) have greater access to arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations through in-school, after-school and summer programs.
- **Improved Academic Outcomes:** Greater engagement in the classroom, improved educational attainment and expanding learning beyond the classroom supports better student performance, social and emotional growth, and higher graduation rates.

Support for School Transportation to Cultural Activities

- **Eliminating Transportation Barriers:** Non-supplanting funding transportation to arts, culture, science, and heritage programs for school-age children, particularly those in underserved communities, to overcome barriers to participation.
- **Ensuring Equitable Access:** Providing transportation support ensures that all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, can access enriching cultural experiences.

Community-Centric Arts, Culture, and Heritage Programming

- **Neighborhood Engagement:** Creating new resources and funding for local neighborhoods to support or promote cultural activities, events, or projects that reflect diverse cultural backgrounds, lifestyles, and interests.
- **Strengthening Cultural Identity:** Empowering communities to celebrate and reflect their unique cultural, historical, and social narratives through arts and heritage projects.

Equitable Access for Underserved Populations

- **Support for Economically and Geographically Underserved Communities:** Ensuring that all community members, including seniors, students, and low-income populations, have access to cultural events, performances, exhibits, and other related programs.
- **Inclusive Programs:** Offering specialized opportunities for people on fixed incomes and those in underserved areas to participate in community cultural life, fostering inclusivity and diversity.

Economic Growth and Cultural Tourism

- **Boosting Local Economy:** Enhancing the local economy by fostering a vibrant cultural community, which will drive increased tourism and attract visitors to cultural events and activities, benefiting local businesses.
- **Job Creation:** Supporting creative jobs within the arts, culture, science, and heritage sectors, contributing to the broader economy and workforce development.

Strengthening the Financial Health of Cultural Organizations

- **Sustaining Local Arts and Heritage Organizations:** Providing consistent funding to ensure the financial stability of arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations, enabling them to offer high-quality public programs and services year-round.
- **Fostering Long-Term Sustainability:** Strengthening the capacity of these organizations to expand access to their facilities and outreach programs, especially in underserved areas.

Civic Engagement and Community Building

- **Encouraging Civic Participation:** By increasing access to arts and culture, the program will foster a greater sense of community pride, connection, and civic engagement, leading to a healthier, more vibrant community.
- **Promoting Shared Experiences:** Creating opportunities for residents from diverse backgrounds to come together through cultural festivals, performances, and exhibits, encouraging mutual respect and understanding.

Enriching Public Programs and Services

- **Expanding Access to Cultural Institutions:** Ensuring that arts, culture, science, and heritage organizations remain accessible to all, providing free or discounted admission to cultural institutions for public school students, seniors, and economically disadvantaged groups.
- **Public Programming Outreach:** Enabling organizations to take their programs and exhibits beyond their facilities to reach more people in communities, schools, and public spaces.

Fostering Creativity and Innovation

- **Supporting Creativity and Personal Development:** Providing individuals of all ages with the opportunity to explore personal creativity, through arts programs, science exhibitions, and heritage education, fostering individual growth and lifelong learning.
- **Building Creative Communities:** Promoting environments where individuals and communities can creatively engage with arts and culture, leading to innovative community-driven solutions and artistic expressions.

Strengthened Partnerships

- **Collaboration Between City Government and Cultural Institutions:** Encouraging partnerships between the City of Vancouver, schools, and local cultural institutions to maximize the impact of cultural access programs.
- **Shared Resources and Networks:** Facilitating the sharing of resources and information among different municipalities to create a coordinated and equitable cultural access program across the region.

Capital Investments for Arts and Culture

- **Creating Accessible Cultural Venues:** Fund the development or renovation of economical and accessible spaces to host performances, art exhibitions, workshops, and educational programs, enriching the community's cultural life and providing ongoing opportunities for learning and creative expression.

Eligibility Requirements for Impact Grants and Innovation Grants

To be eligible to apply for Impact Grant or Innovation Grant funding under Vancouver's cultural access program, your organization must meet the following criteria:

Primary Purpose of the Organization

Your organization's primary purpose — meaning the overall mission and majority of your activities — must be to advance and/or preserve arts, culture, heritage, and/or science. Organizations with primary purposes focused on areas other than arts, culture, heritage or science, such as education, social services, health, or youth development, are not eligible for Impact Grant or Innovation Grant funding, even if they offer programs related to arts, culture, heritage, or science.

Non-Profit Status and Fiscal Sponsorship

Your organization must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of Washington State and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

- If you/your organization does not have 501(c)(3) status, you may apply for Impact Grant or Innovation Grant funding using a non-profit **Fiscal Sponsor**. The Fiscal Sponsor must have a mission aligned with advancing or preserving arts, culture, heritage, or science. You must submit a letter of commitment from your Fiscal Sponsor to apply.

Organization Location

Your organization's official business address must be within Vancouver city limits.

- If your organization is located outside Vancouver but provides at least 55% of its public programming within Vancouver, you are eligible to apply for Impact Grant or Innovation Grant funding.

Program Delivery

Your organization must directly provide cultural programming or experiences to the people who live within Vancouver city limits. This includes events, performances, exhibits, educational programs or other public-facing cultural activities.

Exclusions from Eligibility

Organizations that are excluded from eligibility for cultural access program funding include:

- Any agency of the state or political subdivisions
- A municipal corporation
- Any organization that raises funds for redistribution to multiple cultural organizations
- Radio or television broadcasting networks or stations, cable communications systems, internet-based communications ventures or services, newspapers, or magazines

Program Eligibility Requirements for Comprehensive Grants

To be eligible to apply for Comprehensive Grant funding under the City of Vancouver's cultural access program, your organization must meet the following criteria:

Primary Purpose of the Organization

Your organization's primary purpose — meaning the overall mission and majority of your activities — must be to advance and/or preserve arts, culture, heritage, and/or science. Organizations with primary purposes focused on areas other than arts, culture, heritage or science, such as education, social services, health, or youth development, are not eligible for Comprehensive Grant funding, even if they offer programs related to arts, culture, heritage, or science.

Non-Profit Status and Fiscal Sponsorship

Your organization must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of Washington State and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

- If you/your organization does not have 501(c)(3) status, you may apply for Comprehensive Grant funding using a non-profit **Fiscal Sponsor**. The Fiscal Sponsor must have a mission aligned with advancing or preserving arts, culture, heritage, or science. You must submit a letter of commitment from your Fiscal Sponsor to apply.

Organization Location

Your organization's official business address must be within Vancouver city limits.

- If your organization is located outside Vancouver but provides at least 55% of its public programming within Vancouver, you are eligible to apply for a Comprehensive Grant.

Program Delivery

Your organization must directly provide cultural programming or experiences to the people who live within Vancouver city limits. This includes events, performances, exhibits, educational programs or other public-facing cultural activities.

Track Record

Your organization must have at least two years of experience providing cultural programming or experiences to the public within Vancouver city limits.

Exclusions from Eligibility

Organizations that are excluded from eligibility for cultural access program funding include:

- Any agency of the state or political subdivisions
- A municipal corporation
- Any organization that raises funds for redistribution to multiple cultural organizations
- Radio or television broadcasting networks or stations, cable communications systems, internet-based communications ventures or services, newspapers, or magazines

If your organization does not meet all the above criteria for Comprehensive Grant funding, please check the eligibility requirements for Impact and Innovation Grants to see if you qualify for one of those categories.

DRAFT

Program Eligibility Requirements for Capital Grants

To be eligible to apply for Capital Grant funding under the City of Vancouver's cultural access program, your organization must meet the following criteria:

Primary Purpose of the Organization

Your organization's primary purpose — meaning the overall mission and majority of your activities — must be to advance and/or preserve arts, culture, heritage, and/or science. Organizations with primary purposes focused on areas other than arts, culture, heritage or science, such as education, social services, health, or youth development, are not eligible for Capital Grant funding, even if they offer programs related to arts, culture, heritage, or science.

Non-Profit Status and Fiscal Sponsorship

Your organization must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of Washington State and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Organization Location

Your organization's official business address must be within Vancouver city limits.

Program Delivery

Your organization must directly provide cultural programming or experiences to the people who live within Vancouver city limits. This includes events, performances, exhibits, educational programs or other public-facing cultural activities.

Track Record

Your organization must have at least two years of experience providing cultural programming or experiences to the public within Vancouver city limits.

Exclusions from Eligibility

Organizations that are excluded from eligibility for cultural access program funding include:

- Any agency of the state or political subdivisions
- A municipal corporation
- Any organization that raises funds for redistribution to multiple cultural organizations
- Radio or television broadcasting networks or stations, cable communications systems, internet-based communications ventures or services, newspapers, or magazines

If your organization does not meet all the above criteria for Capital Grant funding, please check the eligibility requirements for Comprehensive Grants to see if you qualify in a different category.

Eligibility Requirements for School Grants

To be eligible to apply for School Grant funding under Vancouver's cultural access program, your organization must meet the following criteria:

Primary Purpose of the Organization

Your organization's primary purpose — meaning the overall mission and majority of your activities — must be to advance and/or preserve arts, culture, heritage, and/or science. Organizations with primary purposes focused on areas other than arts, culture, heritage or science, such as education, social services, health, or youth development, are not eligible for School Grant funding, even if they offer programs related to arts, culture, heritage, or science.

Non-Profit Status and Fiscal Sponsorship

Your organization must be a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of Washington State and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

- If you/your organization does not have 501(c)(3) status, you may apply for School Grant funding using a non-profit **Fiscal Sponsor**. The Fiscal Sponsor must have a mission aligned with advancing or preserving arts, culture, heritage, or science. You must submit a letter of commitment from your Fiscal Sponsor to apply.

Organization Location

Your organization's official business address must be within Vancouver city limits.

- If your organization is located outside Vancouver but provides at least 55% of its public programming within Vancouver, you are eligible to apply for School Grant funding.

Program Delivery

Your organization must provide in-school cultural programming or experiences to K-12 students in the Evergreen and/or Vancouver Public Schools districts. This includes events, performances, exhibits, educational programs or other in-school cultural activities.

Exclusions from Eligibility

Organizations that are excluded from eligibility for cultural access program funding include:

- Any agency of the state or political subdivisions
- A municipal corporation
- Any organization that raises funds for redistribution to multiple cultural organizations
- Radio or television broadcasting networks or stations, cable communications systems, internet-based communications ventures or services, newspapers, or magazines

DRAFT Grant Category and Allocation Summary

5/27 Task Force Proposal

Capital grants

- **Purpose:** Seed or match funding to build new space, remodel or make accessibility enhancements
- **Audience:** eligible nonprofits
- **Timing:** applications open on a two-year cycle and allow for multi-year projects
- **Size:** Up to \$1.5M per grant
- **Allocation:** 25%; Could look like two \$1.5M grants awarded every two years

Comprehensive grants

- **Purpose:** Unrestricted multi-year funding for nonprofit operations and/or programming *with a focus on organizational strengthening and capacity growth.*
- **Audience:** eligible nonprofits of all sizes with established history plus individuals working with an eligible fiscal sponsor
- **Timing:** applications for multi-year grants open on an annual cycle. Grant progress monitored with annual accountability checks.
- **Size:** \$100,000-\$300,000
- **Allocation:** 23%; Could look like five \$300,000 grants awarded annually

Impact grants

- **Purpose:** Unrestricted funding for nonprofit programming
- **Audience:** eligible nonprofits of all sizes and experience levels plus individuals working with an eligible fiscal sponsor
- **Timing:** applications open on an annual cycle with a one-year project window
- **Size:** \$10,000-\$75,000
- **Allocation:** 21%; Could look like eighteen \$75,000 grants awarded annually

Innovation grants

- **Purpose:** Funding that allows nonprofits to take on opportunities with more uncertainty like new collaborations, innovations, or experimental programming
- **Audience:** eligible nonprofits of all sizes and experience levels plus individuals working with an eligible fiscal sponsor
- **Timing:** applications open on an annual cycle
- **Size:** \$5000-\$25,000
- **Allocation:** 10%; Could look like 25 \$25,000 grants awarded annually

School grants

- **Purpose:** Funding that supports access for school age youth which could include funding school districts to support field trip transportation and admissions costs, funding

nonprofits to host in-school programming, or funding for youth programs operating outside of the public school system. Program will work with school districts to prioritize a program that maximizes benefit and supports existing curriculum strategies.

- **Audience:** eligible nonprofits plus some funding direct to support all public schools in VPS and EPS. Additional consideration needed for eligibility of non-public schools or organizations that support school age students.
- **Timing:** not discussed
- **Allocation:** 20%; Could look like 36 \$20,000 grants awarded to nonprofits annually plus \$350,000 paid directly to each school district annually to support transportation and admissions costs

Other Considerations

Admin Costs

10% of revenue will be set aside for program administration costs.

Evaluation Criteria Themes

The categories above describe the grant format and audience for each category, but they do not describe what attributes make a program or project competitive for funding in their category. Specific scoring criteria for grant applications will be established during the implementation phase of the process, but common themes have arisen from the work done to date:

- Ensure a broad geographic spread of experiences (e.g., at least X% of grants for programs outside of downtown)
- Ensure a variety of creative disciplines/experiences are represented in funding each cycle
- Prioritize funding activities that take place within City limits