



Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission Meeting Agenda

June 11, 2026
4:30 PM

City Hall

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

Virtual Meeting Credentials:

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Meeting ID:289 018 843 110 8

Passcode:dY2n4nc6

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approval of the May CAHC Minutes
3. **Workshop**
 - a. Inspire Vancouver: Grant Process Workgroup Update & Approval
 - b. Public School Cultural Access Programming
 - c. Ambassador Training
 - d. Arts Hub Update
 - e. Vancouver Art & Music Festival Update
 - f. America250 Update (Richardson)

Culture, Arts and Heritage Commission

MEMBERS

Ruby Lewis, *President*
Brad Richardson, *Vice President*

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

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

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

g. Discussion: Summer Volunteer Commitments

4. Community Forum

To provide public testimony, please see instructions below.

5. Commission and Staff Reports

a. Cultural Services Manager

b. Commission President

c. Clark County Art Commission

6. Open Discussion & New Business

7. Next Meeting

8. Between Now & Then

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 parksrecculture@cityofvancouver.us or by phone at 360-487-8311, 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 parksrecculture@cityofvancouver.us by 5:00 pm 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.

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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 14, 2026

4:30pm

City Hall, Aspen Room

415 W. 6th Street

Vancouver, WA 98660

Commissioners Present:

Lewis, Harris, Mendoza, Ford, Percival, Tan, Richardson, Gaspar

Commissioners Absent:

None

Item 1: Call to Order

President Lewis called the May 14, 2026, meeting of the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission to order at 4:33p.m. The Commission met in the main hall at the City Hall Aspen Room and via Microsoft Teams.

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

Motion by Percival, seconded by Richardson, and approved unanimously to adopt the minutes from April 9, 2026.

Item 3: Action Items

The application review subcommittee submitted candidates for Commission recommendations to City Council:

- Carmen Garcia Marshall
- Sam Garrison
- Tracy Fortmann
- Shannon Stewart

Harris shared that the review subcommittee reviewed applications based on skills and representations currently on the commission.

Members

Ruby Lewis
President

Brad Richardson
Vice President

Michelle Tan
Rebekah Percival
Ricky Gaspar
Rosalinda Mendoza
Russell Ford, CCAC
Shon-Lueiss Harris

**Parks, Recreation and
Cultural Services
Department**

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It was recommended that we keep in touch with the recommended applicant pool even if they are not appointed for this vacancy. It was suggested that we include a memo to Boards & Commissions office for applicants so share what aspects or programs of the commission's work they are the most passionate about.

Action: Richardson held a motion to approve the recommended slate of candidates to go forward to the City Council board recruitment subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Ford and unanimously approved.

Item 4: Workshop

a. Inspire Vancouver School Grants

Donovan, Carinn Ormson (Fine and Performing Arts Specialist, ESD), and Traci Young (Curriculum Specialist, VSD) updated the commission on the progress of the Inspire Vancouver School Grant program.

School district funding for 2026-2027:

- A public-school access program is required under state law
- The adopted Inspire Vancouver policy sets a minimum of 10% to be distributed equally to Evergreen and Vancouver School Districts
- Funds help cover field trip transportation and admission costs
- These resources supplement existing programs and expand access for all students
- Additional Opportunities for Eligible nonprofit organizations offering in-school programming for the 2027 school year

Elementary Field Trips

- Each class can choose 3 trips per year
- Each grade has an approved list to select from
- Reimbursement Process
- Funding sustains existing field trips

Secondary Field Trips

- Trip options available for each category: Culture, Heritage, Science, Art
- Local field trips prioritized
- District competitions and festival funding
- Individual Teacher Application process

Next Steps:

- Grant funding available for in-school programming starting in 2027
- Create roster for qualified nonprofits
- Create roster for teaching artists and performers
- Coordinate informational workshops for in-school programming

The floor was opened for discussion and questions among commissioners. Lewis asked how to ensure field trips will be inclusive of BIPOC activities and ensure that students aren't separated or excluded based on identity. Young shared that students are grouped by neighborhood and grades and not separated by identity. Culture and heritage experiences will be provided, as the school districts value inclusion.

Richardson asked how many categories each grade level can select, and how we can focus on locally based experiences that are based in Culture, Arts, and Heritage, as Science has a lot of designated funding across the river. Ormson confirmed that there are multiple choices for each category for each grade level with teacher

buy-in. The intent is to ensure that each school has opportunities to grow within our local area. An open discussion was held regarding providing local options in each category to support the local economy.

Tan echoed concerns about distribution between the different genres based on different limitations. It was recommended that the task force makes a special effort to emphasize less-established institutions and categories that would bring more balanced infrastructural opportunities. Commissioners discussed considerations for assessing organization capacity and partnership for developing student experiences.

b. Grant Process Workgroup Updates

Donovan (Cultural Services Manager) and Hull (Grants Coordinator, Inspire Vancouver) gave an overview of the grant process development.

The Grant Process Workgroup represents organizations of different sizes and budgets. Members include Rose Mendoza, Rebekah Percival, Linda Reid, Jenny Thompson, and Erica Schwenneker. The workgroup tasks are to develop program performance measures, grant guidelines, grant applications and reports, the application score card, and review process.

Workgroup guidance:

- Grantmaking is a relationship
- Simplify applications and reports
- Use plain language
- Communicate in person and over the phone
- Provide definitions and examples

During the grant process, applicants will choose their own contract deliverables and goals.

1. Applicants will suggest their own contract deliverables, goals, and budget
2. Deliverables, goals and budget will become the contract scope of the work
3. Grantees receive funding upfront, after the contract is signed
4. Progress tracked with programming summary chart, expenditure chart, and reports each quarter

Applications will also ask about mission, public benefit, partnerships, community engagement, work to reduce barriers to access, and organization capacity.

The score card will be organized into two parts, with customizable bonus points:

- Alignment Section
 - Public benefit
 - Proposal feasibility
 - Community engagement and trust
 - Equitable access
 - Sustainable operations and management
- Impact Section (examples)
 - Community needs
 - Youth focus
 - Priority audience
 - Geographic diversity on the equity index map

Next steps include the approval of the score card, grant guidelines, and approval of the review committee process.

Richardson suggested including median incomes in the equity index map as a factor, including levels of school funding in specific areas.

Hull will integrate commissioner feedback and bring back a final draft of the scorecard and a preview of grant guidelines at the next commission meeting.

c. Inspire Vancouver Outreach Update

The first wave of community outreach for Inspire Vancouver is off to a strong start. Right now, our primary focus is connecting with people and organizations who are eligible to apply for grants. We want to make sure they have enough time to learn about the program and begin considering grant opportunities before the applications open later this summer.

We are using social media and email to encourage people to follow Inspire Vancouver social media, visit the website, join the mailing list and attend one of our community information sessions. There have been three information sessions so far, with four more scheduled in May and June. We have an updated flyer available for you to see the dates, times and locations of those sessions.

We've welcomed between 10-25 people each time. The information session includes a short presentation and Q&A. After that, staff and ambassadors stick around to meet people and answer any additional questions they may have related to their specific situation.

We've been receiving positive feedback from the sessions so far, and people who have attended are helping spread the word about our remaining sessions through their networks.

There is a lot of learning happening both ways at these information sessions. We are there to educate people about the program, but we are also learning a lot from the questions community members are asking. This real-time feedback has already identified new information to add to the website and helped us recognize areas where more research is needed before the grant applications open.

Commissioner Lewis was thanked for leading one of the sessions already. She will be leading two more in June. Some of our other Inspire Vancouver ambassadors will be leading the remaining May sessions. Commissioners are encouraged to attend any of the sessions. It's a great way to support this work and connect with the people and organizations that are interested in the program.

We're looking forward to having Inspire Vancouver staff on board soon to help create the outreach plan for the summer and fall. We know that the primary focus during that period will be to encourage people to apply and promote supporting services and events like grant workshops. After the grants are awarded in the fall, the outreach strategy will broaden to include the whole community, as we start promoting all the exciting new arts, culture, heritage and science experiences that Inspire Vancouver is helping make possible in Vancouver.

Here's how commissioners can help with community engagement in May and June:

- Complete the ambassador training and plan presentations with your networks
- Attend scheduled information sessions to connect with the community
- Visit inspirevancouver.org to join the email list and encourage others to do the same

- Follow Inspire Vancouver on Instagram and LinkedIn and share our posts

Item 4: Community Forum

None presented.

Item 5: Commission and Staff Reports

a. Cultural Services Manager

Donovan gave the following updates:

- In June, commissioners will receive updates on VAMF, including volunteer opportunities.
- Sharon Svec, a local gallery curator, is offering workshops at the Arts Hub to help vendors understand how to run booths at the park on May 14, 15, 20, and 23.
- You are invited to the Arts Hub to experience the sculpture and watercolor exhibits in the gallery.

b. Commission President

President Lewis had no updates at this time.

c. Clark County Arts Commission

Ford gave the following updates on CCAC:

- Recent discussions have been centered around Poet Laureate selection, events, lifetime achievements, and art talks.
- Celebration for sculpture event at the Arts Hub happened on May 1st, featuring 3 arts educators to give art talks.
- James Lee Hanson, Lifetime Achievement Award winner – his spouse will present on sculptures.

Item 6: Open Discussion and New Business

None presented.

Item 7: Next Meeting – June 11, 2026

Donovan gave a brief summary of agenda items planned for the June meeting.

Item 8: Between Now & Then

Commissioners and Staff shared any known events:

- Staff will be sending commissioners calendar invitations for the work group.
- Metropolitan Performing Arts –
 - o Footloose, May 8-26 at the Magenta Theater
 - o Broadway Minis: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, May 30
 - o Broadway Jr: Beauty and the Beast, June 6-7
- Black History Month Fashion Show, May 23 at 10am – 4:30pm
- The performing arts stakeholders group will be reconvening on 5/21.
- VAMF – call for artists is still open until the end of June.
- Next week the museum is having their History on Tap program in Ridgefield, featuring Beth Harrington next Thursday at the Old Liberty Theater.

This meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.



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Grant Process Update

Kirsten Hull

Grants Coordinator, Inspire Vancouver

June 11, 2026





Agenda

- Review committee process
- Score card
- Grant guidelines



Grant Process Work Group

Representing organizations of different sizes, budgets

Members

- Rose Mendoza
- Rebekah Percival
- Linda Reid
- Jenny Thompson
- Erica Schwenneker

Tasks

- Program performance measures
- Grant applications and reports
- Application review process
- Application score card
- Grant guidelines



Application review process

Process includes new features to strengthen equity

What we've heard from you:

- Center equity and transparency in process
- Create new opportunities, especially for underserved communities
- Minimize perceived conflict of interest

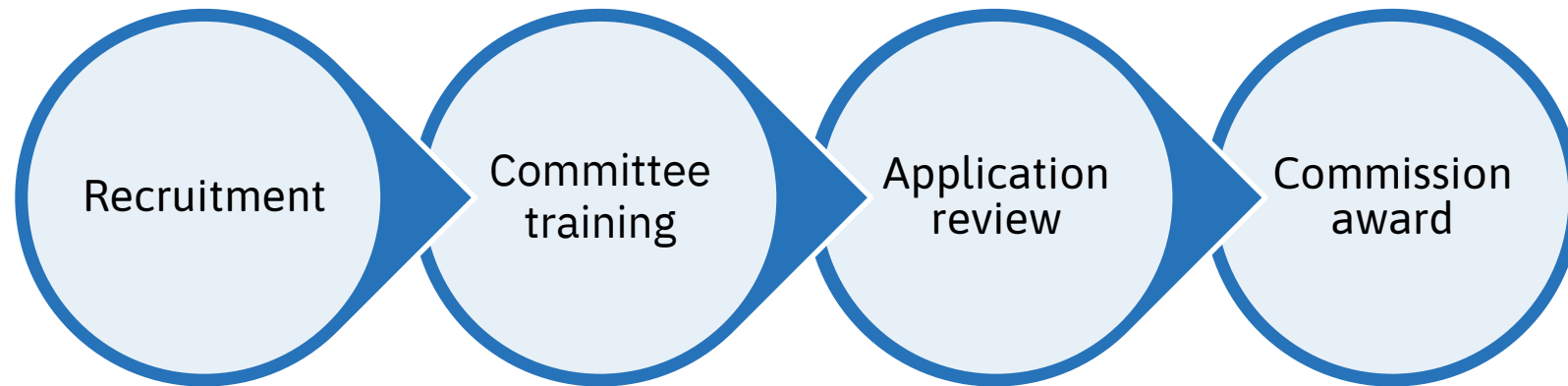
Outcomes:

- Bias training
- Shared facilitation duties
- Scoring calibration meetings
- Anonymous grant awards



Process Overview

Commission determines category amounts, committee, and awards



Award process: Commission appoints committee members, committee scores applications, commission awards grants based on committee review.



Anonymous grant awards

Awards grants based on:

- One-sentence proposal
- Location
- Request amount
- Alignment score, Impact score, and total score
- Y/N/Partial from committee

Committee representative present for questions



Score card

Two-part score card, with customizable bonus points

Alignment Section

- Public benefit
- Proposal feasibility
- Community engagement and trust
- Equitable access
- Sustainable operations and management

Impact Section

- Community need
- Youth focus
- Priority audience
- Geographic diversity



Score card refinement

Revision to geography section requested 5/14

- Support for two-part score card
- Support for 5-10-15-20, 1-2-3-4 weighting
- Support for criteria
- Revision to geography scoring
 - Consider median income of neighborhoods
 - Consider availability of school funding
 - Map against equity index to show geographic distribution



Grant guidelines

Added layer of detail

Three audiences

- Inspire Vancouver staff – the guidelines provide Inspire Vancouver staff with enforceable rules and guidelines that keep the program aligned with the vision outlined in the policy
- Applicants - the guidelines give applicants a sense of what will be expected from them as grantees
- Auditors – the guidelines provide City/State auditors an overview of the program rules and policies to compare program actions against



Guideline components

Three primary sections

About the funding

- Program goals
- Use of funds
- Funding restrictions
- Definitions

Process

- Application
- Review
- Contracting
- Reporting

Special Circumstances

- Eligibility clarifications
- Fiscal sponsor process
- Contract amendments



Thank You



kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us | 360-487-8723 | inspirevancouver.org





MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 11, 2026

TO: Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission

FROM: Kirsten Hull, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department

RE: **Inspire Vancouver grant process**

CC: Stacey Donovan, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department

Background

Inspire Vancouver is a grant program that uses public funding to support nonprofit arts, culture, heritage, and science organizations so community members can have greater access to their offerings. The grant program prioritizes opportunities that improve equity and increase access. Over the last two months, the Grant Process Work Group has built a grant process guided by program policy. This memo outlines the process for application review and scoring. The application score card and grant guidelines are included as attachments.

Application review process

The Grant Process Work Group met on May 15 to determine a process for application review and scoring. To determine a process, the work group looked at:

- the scoring and award process for other Cultural Access Programs in the state
- the scoring and award process for other City of Vancouver grants
- an equity evaluation of the previous Culture, Arts and Heritage grant process, and
- values and concerns expressed by the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission so far.

The work group has drafted a process that prioritizes equity and addresses the commission's desire to limit opportunities for perceived conflict of interest between commission members and potential grantees.

To meet these priorities, the scoring process includes several new features:

- bias training for all review committee members
- shared facilitation duties among committee members
- a score calibration meeting midway through the scoring process
- anonymous grant awards by the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission.

Process Summary

1. The Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission will appoint members to a review committee.
2. The review committee will attend an orientation meeting. The orientation meeting will cover the program goals and score card, committee expectations, and scoring process. The second half of the orientation will include a bias workshop.
3. The review committee will score applications and hold two review meetings to refine their scores.
4. Staff will prepare a scoring results table that includes:
 - a. a sentence describing the proposed programming,
 - b. its primary location,
 - c. the request amount,
 - d. the alignment and impact section scores, and
 - e. the review committee's recommendation for full, partial or no funding.
 - f. The organization's name will be omitted for anonymity.
5. The Commission will consider the scores and vote on a slate of grants to fund. A member of the review committee will attend the meeting so they can answer any questions that arise.

Role of the Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission in anonymous grant awards

An anonymous award process creates an ethical separation between the funder and the grantees so that the funder can prioritize its vision and intention for the program throughout the award process. Anonymous awards also reduce opportunities for perceived conflict of interest between a commissioner's role as a funder and other roles they may serve in the community as advocates and advisors. (A separate policy will address financial conflicts of interest). The Culture, Arts & Heritage Commission maintains direct influence over grant awards by:

- Deciding the grant pool amounts allocated to each grant category for each cycle
- Appointing the review committee members
- Establishing the score card used by the review committee
- Awarding Inspire Vancouver grants based on application score and programming need
- Advising staff on areas for continuous improvement

Next steps

- July: set funding amounts for three grant categories and approve pilot cycle schedule

Staff contact

Kirsten Hull, Grants Coordinator, kirsten.hull@cityofvancouver.us, 360-487-8723

Attachment

Attachment A: Revised Score Card

Attachment B: Grant Guidelines

Application Score Card – Final Draft

Alignment Section

Point Value	5	10	15	20
Public Benefit	Public benefits are limited or unlikely.	Public benefits are general or vague.	Public benefits are meaningful and tangible.	Public benefits are detailed and effects are measurable.
Proposal Feasibility	Programming is poorly defined or there are significant details missing from resources and budget.	Some proposal elements are undefined, missing, or inaccurate. Other elements are detailed and feasible.	Programming is ambitious relative to proposed resources, staff/volunteers and timeline but adjustments would not pose significant obstacle.	Programming is well defined and supported by adequate resources, staff/volunteers and timeline. Proposed budget is clear and realistic.
Equitable Access	Access proposal is poorly defined, includes significant assumptions or lacks detail.	Access proposal is financial only and/or lacks community-specific analysis or strategies.	Access proposal is rooted in observation or feedback and includes community-specific strategies to increase access.	Organization has track record of commitment to Access work. Proposal has community-specific and achievable plans for increasing access with Inspire Vancouver funding.
Collaboration and Community Trust	Collaboration proposal is poorly defined, includes significant assumptions or lacks detail.	Collaboration proposal includes partnerships or specific outreach communities but does not have identified goals or outcomes.	Collaboration proposal includes named partners or outreach audiences with specific outcomes identified but plans may be in progress or lack detail.	Organization has history of meaningful partnerships and integration of community input. Proposal has specific and achievable plans for developing new collaborations with Inspire Vancouver funding.

Sustainable Management and Operations	Proposal does not demonstrate sustainable operations or adequate organizational capacity for proposed programming.	Proposal shows inconsistent operations or management. Some areas may be functioning well, but issues could impact the proposal's feasibility.	Proposal describes operational challenges that can be addressed with Inspire Vancouver funding, but plans may be in progress.	Organization is stable and has track record of sustainable operations. Proposal has specific and achievable plans for increasing or reinforcing organizational capacity.
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Impact Section

Point Value	1	2	3	4
Need	Programming does not address a community need	Programming duplicates other efforts or explanation is generalized	Programming need is specific and compelling	Programming need is established with clearly stated and compelling evidence
Youth Focus	Majority of programming is for adults	Majority of programming is all ages and unspecific	Majority of programming is all ages, but has youth or intergenerational components	Majority of programming has youth or intergenerational focus
Priority Audience	Inclusion of priority audiences is passive	Programming invites priority audiences using community-specific strategies	Programming serves a priority audience and is developed with their input	Programming is created by and for a priority audience
Geography	Majority of programming located in areas with an equity index score between 0-25	Majority of programming located in areas with an equity index score between 26-50	Majority of programming located in areas with an equity index score between 51-75	Majority of programming located in areas with an equity index score between 75-100

Inspire Vancouver Grant Guidelines – Draft

Funding goals

Inspire Vancouver funding is awarded through a competitive application process. Funding is distributed through service contracts with the City of Vancouver. Contracts will be awarded to proposals that best align with Inspire Vancouver program goals and grant evaluation criteria specific to each grant category. Inspire Vancouver program goals include:

- **Expanding Access and Engagement** – Free or low-cost arts programs, tickets, and transportation that let more people participate.
- **Strengthening the Cultural Community** – Support for nonprofits, cultural spaces, and programs that keep arts and culture alive.
- **Boosting Jobs and Neighborhood Pride** – Events, tourism, and opportunities that help our community thrive.
- **Encouraging Creativity and Learning** – Partnerships, programs, and platforms that spark imagination and share different voices

Updated grant evaluation criteria are published for each application period and will be available at <https://www.inspirevancouver.org/about-our-grants/>.

Use of funds

Eligible organizations must directly provide culture, arts, heritage or science programming or experiences to the people who live within Vancouver city limits. Funds awarded through Inspire Vancouver can support many kinds of public programs, including:

- School-based and youth learning programs
- Free or low-cost events, festivals and performances
- Exhibitions, workshops and lectures
- Cultural and science programs in neighborhoods and community spaces

Funds awarded can also support operating costs and capital improvements related to an organization's programming. This could include:

- Staff, contractors and artists' compensation
- Supplies, food, equipment and technology
- Rent, insurance, permits and marketing
- Capacity-building and sustainability efforts for public programs

Funds cannot be used for

- Commercial or for-profit activities
- Fundraising events or activities
- Debt service or endowment building
- Programs that primarily happen outside Vancouver
- Fines, penalties, or costs of litigation

- Lobbying, programs promoting political agendas or religious practices
- Alcohol

How the program works

Application period

Applications must be submitted through our online application portal. Each grant category will have its own application, and a preview of the application questions will be available in a worksheet format ahead of the grant opening. Applicants will propose their own deliverables (a list of programs offered during the grant period or other major tasks related to operating or capital support) as part of their application.

Inspire Vancouver staff will be available to answer questions and assist with applications so each applicant can submit their best possible work. New applicants are encouraged to reach out to staff while planning their proposal or drafting their application. Staff will be available during application workshops and through individual support over the phone, in person, or online.

Each application period will have a soft deadline and a hard deadline. The soft deadline gives staff time to review each application and provide feedback to the applicant. The applicant will be able to make any changes to their applications before the hard deadline passes.

Application Review and Award

A review committee of community members and/or nonprofit peers will score applications. Inspire Vancouver staff do not score the applications or make award decisions.

Contract for services and payment of funds

If awarded, the Grantee will be asked to sign a contract for services with the City of Vancouver. The contract's scope of work is based on the deliverables and budget in their application. The contract will include requirements for:

- Insurance held by your organization
- Reporting
- Funding acknowledgement (crediting Inspire Vancouver where appropriate)
- Attendance at Inspire Vancouver cohort meetings
- Making changes to your deliverables or contract

Funding will be paid once a year, upon completion of the grant paperwork including a signed contract, proof of insurance, and additional paperwork needed to process payments to your organization. For multi-year grants, subsequent funding will be paid upon submission of the prior year's annual report.

Reporting

All grantees must submit quarterly reports for any quarter in which grant funds are used. A specific report timeline will be provided with each contract. In addition, all grantees must submit a final report at the end of their period of funding or an annual report in the case of a multi-year grant. Report components will include:

- A Programming Summary Chart that collects information about programming offered, its location, attendance numbers and discounts available
- An Expenditure Summary Chart that collects information about how Inspire Vancouver funds were spent by the organization
- Narrative and survey questions about your progress and experience

Special circumstances

Uncertain Eligibility

The eligibility criteria for Inspire Vancouver are guided by state law (RCW 36.160) and further detailed in the Inspire Vancouver Program Policy, adopted by Vancouver City Council on September 15, 2025. The eligibility criteria are available on page 8 of the Inspire Vancouver Program Policy and on our website at inspirevancouver.org.

Organizations will be asked to provide documentation that confirms their organization's primary purpose. This can include a published mission and/or values statement or the "nature of business" description from their nonprofit business filing with the Washington Secretary of State.

In cases where there are dual primary purposes in an organization's mission (i.e., preservation of culture combined with social services for that specific cultural identity), staff will request a Programming Summary Chart from the year prior to evaluate past programming as part of their decision. If an organization's is found ineligible based on their primary purpose, staff record the decision and its rationale.

Working with a fiscal sponsor

Organizations without nonprofit status may be eligible by partnering with an eligible fiscal sponsor, a nonprofit that manages administrative and financial responsibilities for the project.

Deferring or modifying deliverables

In the event a grantee finds one of their deliverables cannot move forward, Inspire Vancouver staff will work with the grantee to modify or defer that deliverable where possible. Staff will consider the original application, the review committee's feedback, and the contract with the organization in their determination. If the grantee and staff cannot find a modification that aligns with the intent of the application, staff will initiate an amendment to the contract and or/funding.

Promotion of religious practices

In some cases, culture and religious practices are deeply entwined. When considering the restriction on promotion of religious practices, Inspire Vancouver staff makes distinction between programming that shares religious practices as part of a greater cultural context (e.g., religious holidays, spiritual perspectives, or cultural storytelling from religious sources) and programming that promotes a certain religion or its practice, seeks followers, or harasses participants who do not follow those practices. Inspire Vancouver will not fund organizations or activities that promote religious practices and funding may be revoked if a grantee's programming violates the City of Vancouver's Harassment Prevention Policy.



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Public School Cultural Access Program Update

David Perlick

Director, Parks, Recreation & Cultural
Services Department

June 11, 2026



PSCAP Overview

Public Schools Cultural Access Program

- Policy: a total of 10% of revenue will be distributed evenly to the Vancouver and Evergreen School districts
- Funds reimburse costs of field trip transportation, admissions, and substitute teachers
- Program recommendation:
 - Elementary level has menu of curriculum-specific trips per grade level
 - Secondary level has an application process for trips, competitions, and festivals
 - Local field trip options are prioritized, but not mandatory



Feedback from Commission

- Desire for strong focus on city limits
- Concern that funding will disproportionately benefit large & established regional organizations over local ones
- Desire for more review of local organizations who could receive field trips





Next Steps

- Short term: working with VPS/EPS staff to update field trip list and implement greater priority on local trips
- Long term: seek to build organization capacity to meet field trip needs locally



Vancouver Arts and Music Festival

- August 7-9, 2026
 - Esther Short Park and surrounding area
- 2026 Preview
- Volunteer Opportunities

