



Interoffice Memorandum

April 4, 2019

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
Board of County Commissioners

THRU: Randy Singh, Deputy County Administrator

CONTACT: Terry Olson, Administrator
Arts and Cultural Affairs Office

SUBJECT: **April 23, 2019 – Discussion Agenda Item**
FY 2019 Cultural Facilities and Blockbuster
Funding Recommendations

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "T. Olson", written over the "CONTACT" line.

On April 23, 2019, I will be presenting for approval the FY 2019 Cultural Facilities grant award recommendations and Blockbuster funding recommendations approved by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Council ("Advisory Council").

Background –Cultural Facilities Funding Recommendations:

The FY 2019 Arts and Cultural Affairs Grants Program budget funds three main programs: Cultural Tourism (CT), Cultural Facilities (CF), and Blockbuster. Both the CT and CF programs provide money from the Tourist Development Tax (TDT) collections for eligible arts organizations to promote tourism and to construct, extend, enlarge, remodel, repair, improve, or equip a 501(c)(3) museum, publicly owned museum, or auditorium.

In finding a process that complies with state law for the use of TDT revenues and meets the Advisory Council's goals of elevating Central Florida's art and culture to a status befitting a world-class community, the Advisory Council examined numerous criteria to make funding recommendations. Five members of the Advisory Council and four industry experts served on the Cultural Facilities Review Panel to evaluate and score the eligible applications submitted for funding this year.

After site visits, a thorough review by every review panel member and intense discussion regarding the impact to be made by these projects, the seven organizations recommended for approval, totaling \$1,241,201, are presented unanimously by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory based on eligible score rankings.

- 1) Art & History Museums – Maitland for renovation project. Maitland Art Center Courtyard West Garden Enhancements 2019. The proposed FY 2019 funding for this project is \$26,186; the total budget for this project is \$54,991.
- 2) Downtown Arts District for renovation project. CityArts at the Rogers Kiene Building. The proposed FY 2019 funding for this project is \$78,951; the total budget for this project is \$165,797.
- 3) Girl Scouts of Citrus Council for renovation project. Interactive History Center – "Women's History & Cultural Center." The proposed FY 2019 funding for this project is \$288,585; the total budget for this project is \$611,800.

- 4) Orlando Ballet for equipping project. Harriett's Orlando Ballet Centre Theatrical Equipment Enhancement. The proposed FY 2019 funding for this project is \$483,095; the total budget for this project is \$983,800.
- 5) Orlando Science Center for renovation project. Orlando Science Center Resealing & Weatherization Renovation. The proposed FY 2019 funding for this project is \$275,192; the total budget for this project is \$577,903.
- 6) Orlando Shakes for equipping project. Lowndes Shakespeare Center Patron Experience Upgrades. The proposed FY 2019 funding for this project is \$31,592; the total budget for this project is \$66,343.
- 7) Pine Castle Historical Society for renovation project. Exterior Restoration of the Crawford House Museum and Library at 631 Wilks Ave. The proposed FY 2019 funding for this project is \$57,600; the total budget for this project is \$120,960.

Cultural Facilities Recommended Funding:

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Council recommends approval of seven FY 2019 Cultural Facilities projects in the amount of \$1,241,201.

Background — Blockbuster Funding Recommendations:

The Advisory Council created the Blockbuster Fund in 2015 utilizing a small percentage of TDT funds already allocated for arts and culture. The purpose of the fund, similar to the Sports Incentive Fund, is to allow the arts community to respond to opportunities to secure exhibitions or performances that will draw 100,000 or more people and can be the subject of community-wide collaborations with numerous arts organizations.

Blockbuster Recommended Funding:

The Blockbuster Committee recommended, and the Advisory Council subsequently unanimously recommended, approving the Creative City Project for \$400,000 from the Blockbuster Fund, to be used to fund Immerse 2019 (Phase II toward 2020 event).

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of proposed FY 2019 Cultural Facilities and Blockbuster funding recipients as recommended by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Council in the amount of \$1,641,201.

TO/ls

- c. Byron W. Brooks, AICP, County Administrator
Randy Singh, Deputy County Administrator