



## City Council Report

**Date:** July 5, 2022  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Natalie Lewis, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Cindy Ornstein, Director  
Arts and Culture Department  
**Subject:** Mid-America Arts Alliance and National Endowment for the Arts Creative Forces Community Engagement Grant FY22/23 and FY23/24  
(District 4)

### Recommendation

Approve Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to accept a \$50,000 grant from the Mid-America Arts Alliance (MAAA) and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to support contract teaching artist fees and classroom materials and supplies.

### Background

The NEA was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than \$5 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector. Grant requests to NEA are submitted annually by Mesa Arts Center.

The Creative Forces Community Engagement Grant is a program of the NEA in partnership with MAAA. This grant program aims to improve the health, well-being, and quality of life for military service members and veterans exposed to trauma as well as their families and caregivers through experiences of art or art making.

### Discussion

In April 2022, Mid-America Arts Alliance and National Endowment for the Arts notified the Mesa Arts Center Staff of the award. The grant guidelines require a Final Report to be submitted at the end of the fiscal year. The award will support general operating for the Arts In Service Program at the Mesa Arts Center.

**Alternatives**

The alternative would be to not accept the \$50,000 grant.

**Fiscal Impact**

The Creative Forces Community Engagement grant will support Arts in Service program expenses in the amount of \$50,000 for the Mesa Arts Center that would otherwise utilize Arts & Culture Fund or Mesa Arts Center Foundation resources.

**Coordinated With**

Mesa Arts Center staff is willing and able to complete the programs outlined.