



# City Council Report

**Date:** November 5, 2018  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Natalie Lewis, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Cindy Ornstein, Director  
Arts and Culture Department  
**Subject:** 2018-19 Arizona Commission on the Arts Community Investment Grant  
(District 4)

## Recommendation

Approve Resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to accept a \$47,000 grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts to support engagement and education programs and free festivals and events.

## Background

The Arizona Commission on the Arts grants provide operating support to arts organizations throughout the state to ensure the arts are accessible to all, despite economic or other barriers. ACA receives and administers funds from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts and directs this funding to programs that contribute to the growth and stabilization of the arts, impact student learning, nurture and develop artists' craft and skills, preserve the rich traditions of Arizona communities, and encourage participation by citizens of all ages and abilities.

A grant from ACA supports basic operating costs for arts organizations, giving them a strong foundation to help bring the arts to the community. Grant requests to Arizona Commission on the Arts are submitted annually by Mesa Arts Center in the spring. The requested grant will continue to support education, engagement and access programs at Mesa Arts Center, as has been the case with previous years' grants.

## Discussion

In July 2018, Arizona Commission on the Arts notified the Arts and Culture Department director of the award. The grant guidelines require only a Final Report to be submitted at the end of the fiscal year. The award will support festivals, classes, engagement programs and free and/or low costs programs at MAC.

**Alternatives**

The alternative would be to not accept the grant and either not to provide as many low cost or free arts programs, or to charge fees, allocate additional funding or obtain additional donations so costs would be recovered.

**Fiscal Impact**

The Arizona Commission on the Arts grant requires Mesa Arts Center to provide the programs and services at a low cost and/or free, as outlined in the grant proposal. These programs have been included in the approved Mesa Arts Center budget for the 2018-19 Fiscal Year.

**Coordinated With**

Mesa Arts Center staff is willing and able to complete the programs outlined, many of which are provided through area schools and in partnership with artists and community organizations.