



City Council Report

Date: May 19, 2025
To: City Council
Through: Scott J. Butler, Assistant City Manager
From: Sharon Skinner, Grants Coordinator
Subject: Resolution of support for the submittal of a grant application Desert Sounds Performing Arts to the Tohono O'odham Nation in the amount of \$10,000.00 to expand their cultural music program to include Bachata music and approving the City Manager to accept and administer subsequent awarded funds as a pass-thru grant.

Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Desert Sounds Performing Arts application to Tohono O'odham Nation for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$10,000.00.00 in funding to expand their cultural music program to include Bachata music. A Council Resolution supports this effort to secure a grant and commits the city to receive it on behalf of the non-profit and pass it through in its entirety to them if awarded. As these programs serve the needs of City of Mesa residents, staff recommendation is for Council to adopt this resolution.

Background

Desert Sounds Performing Arts is a local nonprofit agency whose purpose is to support kids around the valley learning music today and gaining life skills for tomorrow.

This program will help children k-12 learn a new genre of Latin Music. The Bachata program will include ensemble instruction, sectional instruction, instrumental and vocal instruction, and community performance opportunities

It is anticipated that 96% of the participants will be Mesa residents.

Discussion

A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for the organization to file their application by the funder's deadline and be considered for funding. Mesa's participation in Proposition 202 Indian Gaming Grants has returned over \$1 billion to Arizona communities since its passage in 2002 from surrounding tribal

governments.

Alternatives

The only alternative to adopting this resolution would be to not adopt. Such an action would deny Mesa sponsorship for this request and require the organization to seek an alternate local government for access to this funding source.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact on the City of Mesa, should this grant be awarded, will be negligible except overhead expenses in accounting to accept and reissue the grant check. The City does not administer the grant and signs an MOU or IGA with each tribe to limit our liability to only the pass-through transaction.