



REPORT FOR ACTION

2017 Culture Build Allocations

Date: May 5, 2017

To: Economic Development Committee

From: General Manager, Economic Development and Culture

Wards: All

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to recommend the 2017 Culture Build Investment Program grant allocations for five non-municipally owned cultural facilities. Funding for the Culture Build Investment Program was approved by City Council as part of the Economic Development and Culture Division's 2017 operating budget.

The Culture Build Investment Program provides matching funds to assist Toronto's not-for-profit cultural sector with state of good repair capital projects. The arts and cultural organizations that are supported by the program provide a wide variety of opportunities for Toronto residents to engage in the arts as creators, participants, volunteers or audience members.

The allocations recommended in this report are the result of a review of eligible applications by a peer advisory committee. All applications were received by the February 3, 2017 deadline and assessed by the committee according to established criteria. The program is administered in accordance with the City of Toronto Community Grants Policy as adopted by City Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, recommends that:

1. City Council approve the allocation of \$296,790.00 to the following organizations through the Culture Build Investment Program:

Organization	Funding Allocation
Dancemakers	\$42,525.00
Estonian House in Toronto Ltd.	\$67,800.00
Korean Canadian Cultural Association of Metropolitan Toronto	\$25,665.00
Lula Music and Arts Centre	\$70,000.00
Vtape	\$90,800.00
Total:	\$296,790.00

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report recommends the allocations of program funding for the Culture Build Investment Program to the five above-mentioned cultural organizations.

The funding for the Culture Build Investment Program is included in the 2017 Approved Operating Budget of the Economic Development and Culture Division.

The Deputy City Manager & Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting held on March 4-8, 2002, City Council established the Culture Build Investment Program to address the facility requirements of the Toronto's not-for-profit cultural sector with financing for state of good repair capital projects.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2002/minutes/council/cc020304.pdf>

Adopted by City Council in 2011, Creative Capital Gains - An Action Plan for Toronto recommended that the City ensure a supply of affordable, sustainable cultural space by reinstating the Culture Build Investment Program to address the state of good repair in cultural facilities.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2011.ED3.3>

At its meeting of February 15-16, 2017, City Council approved the Operating Budget which included funding for the Culture Build Investment Program, to be administered by Economic Development and Culture Division.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.EX22.2>

COMMENTS

The Culture Build Investment Program contributes to improving the physical condition of existing not-for-profit cultural facilities in the City of Toronto. All the organizations recommended for funding meet the following program eligibility criteria:

- a) incorporated as a not-for-profit organization;
- b) located in the City of Toronto;
- c) have been in existence for a minimum of three years;
- d) own the facility or have at least five years remaining on their current lease at the time of applying to the program;
- e) are not City-owned facilities.

Funding for feasibility studies may be provided to those organizations that meet the existing eligibility criteria. The Culture Build Investment Program does not support regular building maintenance costs or the cost of purchasing a building or facility

The maximum allocation available and recommended through the Culture Build Investment Program is \$100,000 per project. In all cases, the City's grant does not exceed 50 percent of total project costs with matching funds coming from other levels of government, the private sector, and/or in-kind contributions.

The Culture Build Investment Program prioritizes small to mid-sized existing cultural facilities to provide matching funding for major repairs, renovations or improvements to buildings in order to bring them into a state of good repair. Projects include: retrofits to meet accessibility requirements; health and safety projects; replacing aging equipment; major repairs to basements, brickwork and roofs; heating and air conditioning; and upgrades to seating, lobbies, box offices, and public washrooms.

Review Process:

Economic Development and Culture Division staff reviewed seven applications received by the February 3, 2017 deadline, and requested additional information or clarification where necessary. Refer to Attachment No. 1 for a complete list of received applications. The total amount of funds requested was \$382,595.00.

Eligible applications were reviewed by an external committee of peer advisors and assessed on established criteria. The role of the committee was to advise City staff on the merits of the applications and to offer a professional assessment of the various proposals submitted, and the potential impact of the projects on the physical conditions for creation, presentation, production, exhibition and preservation purposes.

Advisors were selected to represent a broad base of experience, building and construction expertise, and a general knowledge of the cultural sector. The peer advisors were: Monica Esteves (Managing Director of Crow's Theatre); Tom Finan (Senior Vice President, P. Eng. of JLL); Meg Graham (Architect and Co-Founder of Superkül Architects Inc.); and Susan Wright (Deputy Director of Toronto Arts Council).

Community Access and Outreach:

In order to ensure the broadest possible benefit from program funding, information regarding community access and outreach programs was collected from the not-for-profit cultural organizations who applied to the Culture Build Investment Program. Community access and outreach programs were included in the analysis in determining funding allocations, in addition to the cultural merit, financial management and urgency of the proposed major repairs, renovations or improvements to the facilities by arts and culture organizations.

Some examples of community access and outreach programs for those organizations listed above include:

- Dancemakers serves approximately 390 Toronto-based organizations and artists each year, promoting affordable rentals and a flexible space including but not limited to the Canadian Dance Assembly, Dance Ontario, Folklorico Filipino Canada, Harold Green Theatre Company, Ontario Media Development Corporation, Ryerson

University, Soulpepper, Theatre Museum of Canada, Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA) and York University.

- Lula Music and Arts Centre makes their space available to a variety of community organizations such as the local BIA who use the space for monthly board meetings and annual general meetings. In addition, many local schools use the space for student productions. The space is also made available for youth music education programs such as JAZZ.FM 91 and U of T's Youth Big Bands.
- Vtape's space has broad public reach through their partnership with imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, South Asian Visual Arts Centre (SAVAC), Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival and FADO Performance Art Centre, fellow tenants at 401 Richmond. The partners present their collective programming, barrier free and year round to the community that includes media and visual arts exhibitions, screening and audio installations, performance art projects and dance works, artists' talks and public lectures and symposia.

Summary of Recommendations:

Five organizations have been recommended for funding by having clearly demonstrated state of good repair needs based on the criteria above.

City Council has approved funding for the 2017 Culture Build Investment Program. The allocations recommended to the recipient organizations are:

Organization	Funding Allocation
Dancemakers	\$42,525.00
Estonian House in Toronto Ltd.	\$67,800.00
Korean Canadian Cultural Association of Metropolitan Toronto	\$25,665.00
Lula Music and Arts Centre	\$70,000.00
Vtape	\$90,800.00
Total:	\$296,790.00

Disbursements:

All grant recipients sign a Letter of Agreement with the City confirming that the funds will be used for capital projects as described in this report. Grant recipients receive 90 percent of their funds in advance of undertaking their project with the balance to be issued upon submission of a final report. The first instalment is issued when matching funds are confirmed in writing. The final report includes a description of the completed project and a final budget with accompanying invoices. It is submitted within six months of project completion. Finally, the City's commitment to issue a grant is null and void should the organization's status change from the eligibility criteria.

This is the twelfth year of the Culture Build Investment Program and demand for the program remains strong, especially with applicants from community cultural organizations located outside of the downtown core. The program's investment in state

of good repair projects, for cultural facilities across the city, directly contribute to the City's policy objective of ensuring a supply of affordable, sustainable cultural space.

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SIGNATURE

Mike Williams
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ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Summary of 2017 Culture Build Investment Program Applications

Attachment No. 1 - Summary of 2017 Culture Build Investment Program Applications

The following organizations and projects are recommended for funding:

(1) Dancemakers

Dancemakers has been a primary tenant at Artscape's Case Goods Building in the Distillery District for 15 years. Their mission is to develop the field of contemporary dance. Through residencies, performances, workshops and ancillary activities, Dancemakers animates its space where practitioners and the public engage with dance.

The organization is seeking funding for a refurbishment of their space that includes: painting of the performance venue, small studio space, green room and hallways; deep cleaning and painting of risers and safety railings; installation of new studio window blinds; seating replacements; lighting upgrades; accessible way finding and signage. An allocation of \$42,525.00 is recommended for the above which represents 31% of total project costs.

(2) Estonian House in Toronto Ltd.

Established in 1952, Estonian House in Toronto promotes charitable, social, arts, cultural and recreational interests of Estonians living in the Greater Toronto Area and assists new Estonian immigrants to integrate into society. The facility is regularly used by many other ethnocultural groups (Ethiopians, Vietnamese, Swiss, Argentinians and Irish) for their community cultural events.

An allocation of \$67,800.00 is recommended to help replace the roof in the Grand Hall, which represents 43% of total project costs.

(3) Korean Canadian Cultural Association of Metropolitan Toronto

The Korean Canadian Cultural Association of Metropolitan Toronto was established in 1965 with a mandate to create ways for GTA residents to engage with Korean culture and preserve it for following generations to experience. The organization pursues its mandate through education and entertainment to facilitate opportunities for people of all backgrounds to come together and experience the traditions of Korea.

An allocation of \$25,665.00 is recommended towards the cost of renovating part of the temperature management system which represents 50% of total project costs.

(4) Lula Music and Arts Centre

Incorporated as a not for profit organization in 2001, Lula Music and Arts Centre was formed to support local, culturally-diverse world musicians and to foster audiences for the work of these artists. Recognizing a void in Toronto's

live music landscape, Lula Music and Arts Centre has increasingly directed its focus to the area of the professional presentation of Latin and Brazilian music, serving diverse communities from South and Central America as well as the Caribbean. The venue is a vital part of Toronto's live music community.

An allocation of \$70,000.00 is recommended to make the venue wheelchair accessible, improve the level of safety at the front entrance and bring washroom facilities into a state of good repair. The installation of a barrier free, universal washroom on the ground floor requires the relocation of existing services to the basement to make space for the barrier free facility and represents 19% of the total project costs.

(5) Vtape

Incorporated in 1983, Vtape is a distributor and information resource centre specializing in making the work of independent video artists visible and accessible. The organization is actively involved in fulfilling the needs of artists and audiences making its collection of more than 6,000 video artworks accessible to a client base of over 12,000. Vtape is the lead applicant for a project will result in improved and flexible exhibition, programming, and administrative space for five organizations: Vtape, imagineNATIVE Film Festival, Savac, Reel Asian International Film Festival, and FADO Performance Art.

An allocation of \$90,800.00 is recommended for the Phase 2 capital upgrades to complete the construction of a 7,500 square foot shared space on the 4th floor of 401 Richmond Street West which represents 38% of the total project costs.

Summary of the 2017 Culture Build Investment Program Applications			
Organization	Amount Requested	Amount of Allocation Recommended	Project Summary
1. Arts Etobicoke 4893A Dundas Street West (Dundas St. W. and Islington Ave.) Ward 5: Etobicoke Lakeshore	\$37,343.00 (50%) of \$74,686.00	Not recommended	Renovate its facilities in order to bring it to a standard that is safe, secure and accessible for its community. Improvements to the overall space with a focus on the gallery and drop-in area. Install new air-cooling system.

<p>2. Dancemakers 15 Case Goods Lane Studio 301 (Mill St. and Parliament St.) Ward 28: Centre Rosedale</p>	<p>\$42,525.00 (31%) of \$139,252.00</p>	<p>\$42,525.00 31%</p>	<p>Refurbishment of space that includes: painting of performance venue, small studio space, green room and hallways as well as deep cleaning and painting of risers and safety railings; install new studio window blinds; seating replacements, lighting upgrades as well as install accessible way finding and signage.</p>
<p>3. Estonian House in Toronto Ltd. 958 Broadview Avenue (Broadview Ave. and Danforth Ave.) Ward 29: Toronto - Danforth</p>	<p>\$67,800.00 (43%) of 135,600.00</p>	<p>\$67,800.00 43%</p>	<p>Replace roof over the Grand Hall.</p>
<p>4. Korean Canadian Cultural Association of Metropolitan Toronto 1133 Leslie St. (Eglinton Ave. E. and Leslie St.) Ward 25: Don Valley West</p>	<p>\$25,665.00 (50%) of \$51,330.00</p>	<p>\$25,665.00 50%</p>	<p>Replace portion of the temperature management system</p>
<p>5. Lula Music and Arts Centre 1585 Dundas Street West (Dundas St. W. and Dufferin St.) Ward 18: Davenport</p>	<p>\$70,000.00 (19%) of \$360,213.00</p>	<p>\$70,000.00 19%</p>	<p>Make venue wheelchair accessible, improve the level of safety at the front entrance and bring washroom facilities into a state of good repair. The installation of a barrier free, universal washroom on the ground floor requires the relocation of existing services to the basement to make space for the barrier free facility.</p>

<p>6. Riverdale Immigrant Women Enterprises 1326 Gerrard Street East (Gerrard St. E. and Greenwood Ave.) Ward 30: Toronto Danforth</p>	<p>\$48,462.00 (50%) of \$96,924.00</p>	<p>Not recommended</p>	<p>Maximizing the available building space to be used for arts and culture based activities, as well as carrying out much needed upgrades. These upgrades include: critical electrical upgrades, additional art suspension systems, meeting and office spaces for the Riverdale Gallery, wall construction on the 3rd floor, and concrete floor painting for arts programming.</p>
<p>7. Vtape 401 Richmond Street West (Richmond St. W. and Spadina Ave.) Ward 20: Trinity Spadina</p>	<p>\$90,800.00 (38%) of \$239,600.00 for Phase 2</p>	<p>\$90,800.00 38%</p>	<p>Phase 2 capital upgrades to complete the construction of a 7,500 sq. ft. shared space on the 4th floor of 401 Richmond Street West (i.e. improved and flexible exhibition and programming space for 5 arts organizations.</p>
<p>Total Organizations - 7</p>	<p>\$382,595.00 (35%)</p>	<p>\$296,790.00</p>	