



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Culture Build Investment Program – 2013 Allocations

Date:	October 21 , 2013
To:	Economic Development Committee
From:	General Manager Economic Development and Culture
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to recommend the 2013 Culture Build Investment Program allocations to nine non-city-owned not-for-profit cultural facilities. The total allocation of \$200,000 for 2013 Culture Build Investment Program was approved by City Council as part of the Economic Development and Culture budget on April 3 and 4, 2013.

The Culture Build Investment Program provides matching funds to assist the City's not-for-profit cultural sector with financing for state of good repair capital projects. The arts and cultural organizations that are supported through the Culture Build Investment Program provide a wide variety of opportunities for Toronto residents to engage in the arts as participants, volunteers or audience members. In its first seven years, the Culture Build Investment Program has helped bring 62 cultural facilities closer to a state of good repair.

The recommendations for allocations contained in this report are the result of a Peer Panel review of the applications received at the July 15, 2013 deadline according to established criteria. The administration of the review was carried out in accordance with the City of Toronto Grants Policy as adopted by Council on December 16 and 17, 1998.

Recent feedback from this year's Peer Review Panel suggest the Culture Build's eligibility criteria should be expanded to include a wider range of facilities with a core cultural mandate, and to include funding for feasibility studies for projects that would meet the criteria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of Economic Development and Culture recommends that the Culture Build Investment Program allocations be approved for the following organizations:

(a) Armenian Community Centre	\$10,000.00
(b) Arraymusic	\$45,000.00
(c) Centre for Indigenous Theatre	\$10,000.00
(d) Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie	\$25,000.00
(e) Dance Collection Danse	\$10,000.00
(f) Gallery 44	\$20,000.00
(g) Riverdale Immigrant Women Enterprises	\$35,000.00
(h) Tarragon Theatre	\$35,000.00
(i) Toronto Dance Foundation	\$10,000.00
Total:	\$200,000.00

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The 2013 Culture Build Investment Program was approved by City Council as part of the Economic Development and Culture budget with a fund of \$200,000.00 on April 3 and 4, 2013. This report recommends an allocation of \$200,000.00 to nine organizations in one time, nonrecurring grants. The purpose of this program is to provide funds to assist the City's not-for-profit cultural sector with financing for state of good repair capital projects.

The Deputy City Manager and 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 City'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>

Over the span of several years (2002 – 2008), the Culture Build Investment Program funded 62 capital projects totalling \$1.9 M to address the state of good repair needs of Toronto's non-city owned cultural facilities and provided grants totalling \$1.9M. Funded projects leveraged \$5.6M from other sources to realize \$7.5M worth of capital projects – a return on investment of almost three dollars for every municipal dollar invested. The Culture Build Investment Program was consistently oversubscribed with grant requests totalling, on average, 2.5 times the grants awarded.

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

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

In April 2013, City Council has earmarked \$200,000.00 to enhance the cultural experience of Toronto residents and visitors through Culture Build projects.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.ED20.5>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Culture Build Investment Program is targeted at small to mid-sized existing cultural facilities that are able 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 retrofit for access needs; health and safety; replacing aging equipment; major repairs to basements, brickwork and roofs; heating and air conditioning; upgrades to seating, lobbies, box offices and public washrooms.

Culture Build Investment Program Criteria:

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 grants meet the following eligibility criteria of the Culture Build Investment Program:

1. incorporated as a not-for-profit organization;
2. located in the City of Toronto;
3. have been in existence for a minimum of three years;
4. own the facility or have at least five years remaining on their current lease at the time of applying to the program; and
5. are not city-owned facilities.

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 \$100,000.00 per project requested.

In all cases, the City's grant does not exceed 50 percent of total capital costs with matching funds coming from other levels of government, private sector and/or in-kind contributions.

To date, priority has been given to applications from not-for-profit organizations that own or lease small to medium performing arts facilities (500 seats or less). In recent years however, it has become apparent that other types of innovative facilities with core cultural functions are equally in need of funding in order to bring their facilities up to a state of good repair.

In response to the interest of the cultural community and feedback from the peer assessment panel, future funding for feasibility studies should be provided to those organizations that meet the existing eligibility criteria

COMMENTS

Review Process:

Economic Development and Culture staff reviewed the twelve applications received at the July 15, 2013 deadline and requested additional information and/or clarification where necessary. Refer to Attachment No. 1 for a complete list of received applications. The total amount of requested funds was \$420,463.00.

The applications were reviewed and assessed through a peer assessment process. The role of the panel is to advise City staff on the merits of the applications and to offer a professional assessment of the various proposals submitted for major repairs, renovations or improvements to bring the facilities into a state of good repair.

Advisors were selected to represent a broad base of experience and a general knowledge of the cultural sector. The panel for advising city staff was comprised of Peter Stewart (Partner, George Robb Architect), Jini Stolk (Creative Trust Research Fellow at Toronto Arts Foundation), Yves Theoret (Managing Director, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art - MOCCA) and Susan Wright (Director of Operations, Toronto Arts Council).

Community Access and Outreach:

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 cultural facilities by arts organizations.

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

- Arraymusic co-hosts and promotes monthly *Sora Priangan* Gamelan Workshops, an outreach initiative of the Evergreen Club Contemporary Gamelan, offering free open workshops in their facility for the public to participate and learn about gamelan music – a traditional musical ensemble from the Java and Bali Islands and featuring a variety of instruments.
- Gallery 44 OUTREACH program is designed to provide photography skills to marginalized youth who have not had access to photography as a medium for creative expression. Each year since 1999, the OUTREACH program has partnered with five local youth organizations to offer photography workshops both in the community of the participants and in the Gallery 44 photographic studios.
- *Dislocations*, was a featured exhibit produced by the Riverdale Immigrant Women Enterprises in the world-renowned Scotiabank Contact photography festival this year focusing on the migratory experiences of marginalized subjects.
- Toronto Dance Theatre's education and outreach programs engage up to 375 students from across the Greater Toronto Area in day-long workshops that bring participating students to a lecture-demonstration in the Winchester Street Theatre.

Summary of Recommendations:

Nine organizations have been recommended for funding and have clearly demonstrated state of good repair needs based on the above mentioned criteria.

City Council has allocated \$200,000.00 towards the 2013 Culture Build Investment Program to address the state of good repair capital requirements of the City's not-for-profit cultural sector. The total amount of \$200,000.00 has been allocated on a proportional basis to the following nine applicants:

a. Armenian Community Centre	\$10,000.00
b. Arraymusic	\$45,000.00
c. Centre for Indigenous Theatre	\$10,000.00
d. Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie	\$25,000.00
e. Dance Collection Danse	\$10,000.00
f. Gallery 44	\$20,000.00
g. Riverdale Immigrant Women Enterprises	\$35,000.00
h. Tarragon Theatre	\$35,000.00
i. Toronto Dance Foundation	\$10,000.00
Total	\$200,000.00

It is recommended that the following allocations be approved:

(a) Armenian Community Centre

Since 1979 the Armenian Community Centre of Toronto has served its community and other local groups and is committed to meeting the cultural needs of its community in the promotion and instruction of the entire range of the visual and living arts including theatre, dance, music, film, illustration, sculpture and literature.

A capital grant of \$10,000.00 is recommended to replace the existing stairs and railing leading to the stage of the auditorium which represents 10% of the total project cost.

(b) Arraymusic

Incorporated in 1983, Arraymusic exists to provide composers with an environment in which they are free to take risks, challenge themselves, and push the traditional boundaries of musical expression.

The organization is seeking funding to purchase and install a fire escape; build an exterior entrance ramp and covering; purchase and install new HVAC; and install a "green elevator" in its new Array Space. A capital grant of \$45,000.00 is recommended, which represents 20% of the total project cost.

(c) Centre for Indigenous Theatre

Established in 1994, Centre for Indigenous Theatre exists to provide theatrical training informed by traditional artistic expression, teaching and values, while creating an environment that encourages cultural exchange of practices and techniques between Indigenous Nations and communities.

The organization is seeking funding for the purchase and installation of a sprung flooring system in the three studio spaces in its new home in the Artscape Youngplace development. A capital grant of \$10,000.00 is recommended, which represents 24% of the total project.

(d) Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie

Founded in 2000, Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie, led by husband and wife Bill Coleman and Laurence Lemieux, is a professional dance organization that creates, produces and presents works on a local, national and international scale. The company is recognized as one of the most dynamic forces in Canadian dance, thanks to the scope of its artistic vision and the accomplishments of its founders.

A capital grant of \$25,000.00 is recommended for restoration of the exterior brick work which represents 6 % of the total project.

(e) Dance Collection Danse

Incorporated in 2000, Dance Collection Danse is a national repository for Canadian theatrical dance history. The organization's mandate is to foster, encourage and promote theatrical dance in Canada through education, research, performance and publication.

The organization is seeking funding for its new home to purchase an archival hanging system, display cases, a drop-screen for showing video and projections, and ultraviolet filters on windows, exterior signage and a cork wall. A capital grant of \$10,000.00 is recommended, which represents 50% of the total project.

(f) Gallery 44

Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography is committed to the advancement of contemporary Canadian photography with the goal of contributing to the national dialogue on contemporary Canadian photographic art practices and to foster its support, understanding and appreciation.

The organization is seeking funding to address health and safety issues in their photographic production facilities. A capital grant of \$20,000.00 is recommended, which represents 15% of the total project.

(g) Riverdale Immigrant Women Enterprises

Founded in 2000 the 'Riverdale Hub' is located in an historic 100 year old building and aspires to bring together artists, environmentalists and community activists to forge relationships, create synergies, share and develop ideas to reach common goals.

The organization is seeking funding for the completion of its events space on the third floor that would feature a dedicated art gallery, dance studio and a functional space for performance art converting the ground floor into a Fair Trade Café where small artworks can be displayed by local artists on a rotating basis and local musical talent can be cultivated through open mic sessions and live performances. A capital grant of \$35,000.00 is recommended, which represents 41% of the total project cost.

(h) Tarragon Theatre

Founded in 1970, Tarragon Theatre is one of Canada's most important arts institutions that provides a holistic approach to the theatre arts by fostering meaningful relationships with artists at every stage of their career and with a mission to create, develop and produce new plays by providing the conditions for new work to thrive.

The organization is seeking funding to create accessible entrances, address safety concerns regarding fire exits as well as reorient the lobby and box office space to address overcrowding. A capital grant of \$35,000.00 is recommended, which represents 42% of the total project.

(i) Toronto Dance Foundation

The Toronto Dance Foundation was incorporated in 1978 when a permanent home, the Winchester Street Theatre, was acquired for the Toronto Dance Theatre and the School of Toronto Dance Theatre with the mandate to advance the knowledge and appreciation, stimulate interest in and promote the study of contemporary dance as well as to own, manage, improve and maintain the property at 80 Winchester for the benefit of the Toronto Dance Theatre and the School of Toronto Dance Theatre.

The organization is seeking funding to replace its existing damaged theatre seating. A capital grant of \$10,000.00 is recommended, which represents 38% of the total project.

Issuance of Grants:

The grant recipients are to receive 90 percent of their Culture Build grant upfront with the balance to be issued upon completion and review of all third party invoices. The first instalment will not be issued until such time as the matching funds are confirmed. All organizations will enter into a Letter of Agreement with the City confirming that the funds will be used for capital projects as described in this report. Furthermore, a narrative report confirming the project completion as well as a financial report must be filed within six months after completion of the project. Finally, the commitment to issue a grant is null and void should the organizations' status change from the eligibility criteria.

This is the eighth year of the Culture Build Investment Program. The Culture Build Investment Program ran from 2002 to 2008 and has been reinstated in 2013 with City Council earmarking \$200,000.00 to enhance the cultural experience of Toronto's residents and visitors. To date, the City has provided funding to 62 projects in order that non-city owned, not-for-profit cultural organizations can bring their facilities up to a state of good repair.

The arts and cultural organizations supported through the Culture Build Investment Program provide a wide variety of opportunities for Toronto residents to engage in the arts as participants, volunteers or audience members. In the seven years that the Culture Build Investment Program has operated it has helped to further bring several of these organizations' facilities closer to a state of good repair.

CONTACT

Terry Nicholson
Acting Director, Cultural Services
Economic Development and Culture
Tel: (416) 392-4166
Fax: (416) 392-5600
tnichols@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Michael H. Williams
General Manager, Economic Development and Culture

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Summary of 2013 Culture Build Investment Program Applications

Attachment No. 1
Summary of 2013 Culture Build Investment Program Applications

Organization	Amount Requested (%) of the Total Project Cost	Amount of Allocation Recommended	Nature of Request for Funding
Armenian Community Centre 45 Hallcrown Place (Hwy 401 & Victoria Park) Ward 33	\$50,000.00 (50%) of \$100,000.00	\$10,000.00 (10%)	In the theatre, replace worn out lights down aisles, replace worn out carpet, floor resurfacing, new stairs with railing leading to stage as well as in the theatre change rooms, fix damaged baseboard heater address privacy issues and in the library install new book shelves and new carpet
Arraymusic 155 Walnut Avenue (Bathurst & Queen St W) Ward 19	\$45,177.00 (20%) of \$229,677.00	\$45,000.00 (20%)	Install a fire escape; build exterior entrance ramp and covering; purchase and install new HVAC as well as 'green elevator' and roof decking
Centre for Indigenous Theatre 180 Shaw Street (Ossington & Queen St W) Ward 19	\$20,000.00 (47%) of \$42,205.00	\$10,000.00 (24%)	Installation of a sprung flooring system in three studios
Coleman Lemieux & Compagnie 304 Parliament Street	\$50,000.00 (12%) of \$427,272.00	\$25,000.00 (6%)	Construction of second floor addition over the parking space at the rear of the property as well as restoration of exterior brick work of the façade and repair work to the roof.

(Parliament & Dundas)			
Ward 28			
Dance Collection Danse 145 George St. (Church & Queen St E) Ward 28	\$10,000.00 (50%) of \$20,000.00	\$10,000.00 (50%)	Installation of archival hanging system on an exposed brick wall for quick change frames, display cases, a drop-screen for showing video and projections, and ultraviolet filters on windows, exterior signage, intercom system and a cork wall covering over drywall.
Gallery 44 401 Richmond (Queen Street W. & Spadina) Ward 20	\$23,465.00 (18%) of \$132,815.00	\$20,000.00 (15%)	Upgrade ventilation system in darkroom to ensure user safety by installing fume hoods and a motor upgrade over the current system to help avoid inhalation of the fumes produced as well as install a backflow prevention device in basement facilities to ensure compliance with City of Toronto's Water Supply By-law.
Harbourfront Centre 235 Queens Quay West (Queens Quay W. and York) Ward 20	\$19,565.00 (42%) of \$46,566.00	\$0.00 (0%)	Application of an approved flame retardant solution to the theatrical stage drapery in the Enwave Theatre and Fleck Dance Theatre as well as replacement of the fire alarm control panel in York Quay Centre.
Riverdale Immigrant Women Enterprises 1326 Gerrard St. E. (Gerrard & Greenwood Ave.) Ward 30	\$42,364.00 (50%) of \$84,729.00	\$35,000.00 (41%)	Completion of arts and events space on the third floor that features a dedicated art gallery, dance studio and a functional space for performance art as well as a portion of the first floor to convert into a Fair Trade Café where local visual artists can display small artworks on a rotating basis and for local musical talent to be cultivated through open mic sessions, live performances.

SKETCH (Working Arts for Street-Involved and Homeless Youth) 180 Shaw Street (Queen St W & Ossington) Ward 19	\$80,000.00 (4%) of \$1,857,471.00	\$0.00 (0%)	Renovation of new location at the Artscape Youngplace outfitting the facility with HVAC distribution for the Textiles and Silk-Screening Studios.
Tarragon Theatre 30 Bridgman Avenue (Bathurst & Dupont) Ward 21	\$41,000.00 (50%) of \$82,665.00	\$35,000.00 (42%)	Improve the safety and accessibility of the Mainspace and Extraspace theatres as well as the central lobby.
Toronto Australian New Zealand Club (TRANZAC) 292 Brunswick Avenue (Bloor & Spadina) Ward 20	\$25,792.00 (50%) of \$51,585.00	\$0.00 (0%)	Improve sound insulation and prevent 'bleed' between venues to allow for more versatile use and address sound concerns from neighbouring properties as well as façade improvements, new carpet, and main hall/corridor/bathroom improvements .
Toronto Dance Foundation 80 Winchester St (Wellesley St. E. & Parliament) Ward 28	\$13,100.00 (50%) of \$26,200.00	\$10,000.00 (38%)	Replace existing damaged theatre seating
12 applications received – 9 grants recommended	\$420,463.00	\$200,000.00	