

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 23-1693, **Version:** 1

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**PRESENTER:**

Matthew Schwarz, Assistant City Secretary

**SUBJECT:**

Approval of the Arts Commission recommendations for allocating hotel occupancy tax (HOT) grant funds to community arts organizations and authorizing the City Manager to execute related grant award contracts.

**DEPARTMENT:** City Secretary**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** City-Wide**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

From October 1, 2023, through October 31, 2023, the City Secretary's Office made available, via the City's website, the application, guidelines and instructions for hotel occupancy tax (HOT) grants. The Arts Commission met on December 7, 2023, to review qualified applications and make recommendation to the City Council.

The commissioners reviewed and scored all applications for funding. Once the commission scores the applications, those scores are averaged together. That average is then applied to the requested amount. Finally, the new calculated amount is proportionally applied to the available amount of HOT funds per organization in order to create a starting budget.

After careful deliberations, the commission has made the following recommendation for 2024 funding awards.

Organization	2023 Request	2023 Council Award	2024 Request	Recommended 2024 Award
Ballet Texas	\$ 318,000	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 134,648	\$ 52,425
Brauntex Theatre	\$ 209,714.00	\$ 90,553.00	\$ 220,459	\$ 98,126
Christian Youth Theatre San Antonio	\$ 102,177.00	\$ 50,723.00	\$ 182,370	\$ 30,000
Circle Arts Theatre	\$ 84,510.00	\$ 44,390.00	\$ 80,550	\$ 35,094
Coll Street Players	-	-	\$ 45,563	\$ 10,000
Greater New Braunfels Arts Council	\$ 58,500.00	\$ 30,848.00	\$ 78,000	\$ 40,025
Innovative Accordion Music Prod.	-	-	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Mid-Texas Symphony	\$ 84,476.00	\$ 53,248.00	\$ 103,162	\$ 57,391
New Braunfels Art League	\$ 30,440.00	\$ 15,048.00	\$ 30,125	\$ 20,484
New Braunfels Quilt Guild	-	-	\$ 15,500	\$ 5,457
Outdoor Gallery of Art New Braunfels	\$ 48,860.00	\$ 24,255.00	\$ 21,005	\$ 10,000
Performing Arts Academy	\$ 52,066.00	\$ 26,329.00	\$ 97,075	\$ 30,000
Total				\$ 394,002

**ISSUE:**

Allocations require City Council approval.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

City ordinance requires that 15 percent of the previous fiscal years Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) collections be allocated to the “enhancement of arts and cultural organizations and programs”. Customarily these proceeds are divided equally between the Arts and Heritage Commissions, who then make recommendations to City Council on disbursements of their respective halves of the funding. This year, \$394,002 was made available to the Arts Commission based on Fiscal Year 2023 Hotel Occupancy Tax collections and a rollover of \$56,635.50, which was split evenly between Arts and Heritage, from the prior award year.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval of the awards as recommended by the Arts Commission.