



Regional Arts & Culture Council

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MEMO

Date: April 24, 2017
To: Portland City Council
From: Eloise Damrosch, RACC Executive Director
Subject: **RACC's "State of the Arts" Presentation to City Council**

In accordance with our contract with the City of Portland, the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) will deliver its annual "State of the Arts" presentation to City Council on Thursday, May 4 at 2:00 p.m.

The basis for our presentation is our 2016 YEAR IN REVIEW, available online at <http://annualreports.racc.org/2016-annual-report/>. Our goal is to illuminate the many ways in which RACC leverages city investments with other public and private contributions to build and sustain a strong arts and culture community.

- In our audited financial statements for the year that ended June 30, 2016, RACC received just over \$6.6 million from the City of Portland, including \$3.77 million from the General Fund, \$0.5 million from the percent-for-art ordinance, \$200,000 from the Work for Art ordinance, and \$2.15 million from the Arts Education & Access Fund ("arts tax").
- RACC raised an additional \$0.43 for every dollar provided by the City of Portland, for a total budget of \$9,469,600.
- Funding from the Arts Education & Access Fund, or arts tax, continues to lag behind expectations from the ballot measure that was approved by 62% of Portland voters in 2012. Although the City has seen an increase in the collection of past-due taxes, a systemic shortfall of approximately \$3 million every year prevents RACC from providing as much General Operating Support (GOS) for arts organizations, and as many grants to expand arts access, as envisioned.
- On the other hand, every elementary school student in Portland does now have an arts teacher, and RACC provides technical assistance and other services for Portland's six school districts and the 91 art, music and dance teachers in those districts.
- RACC's arts integration program, The Right Brain Initiative, continues to grow. Right Brain is now serving 27,500 students and 1,350 educators in 67 schools across seven districts.
- RACC continues to forge ahead with its equity and inclusion work, including an "Arts Equity Grant" that funds arts programming and services for under-represented and marginalized communities. About 5% of RACC's proceeds from the arts tax, plus additional resources generously provided by Multnomah County, are being used to fund these grants.

- Work for Art raised \$912,213 in its tenth anniversary campaign last year. The City of Portland and other sponsors help pay the administrative costs of this campaign so that a full 100% of donations from businesses, employees and other individuals can be distributed to local arts organizations.
- The city's murals program continues to flourish, and Percent-for-Art funds are helping create new public artworks in the South Waterfront neighborhood, near the Sellwood Bridge and along N. Williams Avenue. In addition, an artist residency project funded with percent-for-art dollars has been exploring the historical annexation and growth of East Portland's diverse populations.

We look forward to being with you on May 4 and sharing more information about our work in the community. With your support, RACC will continue to work to ensure that every Portland resident has access to culture, creativity and the arts.

We ask Council to accept RACC's "State of the Arts" report.



Eloise Damrosch
Executive Director

TO THE COUNCIL: Commissioner Fish concurs with the findings of RACC's Executive Director, and

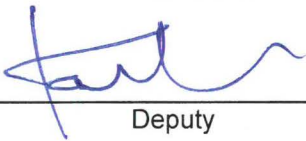
RECOMMENDS: That the Council accept RACC's State of the Arts report.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Fish
Commissioner, City of Portland

Agenda No.
REPORT
Title

Accept 2017 RACC Report on the Arts Education & Access Fund (Report).

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Nick Fish	CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>APR 25 2017</u>
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales Position 1/Utilities - Fritz Position 2/Works - Fish Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman Position 4/Safety - Novick	Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland By:  Deputy
BUREAU APPROVAL Bureau: Commissioner Fish's Office Bureau Head: Nick Fish	ACTION TAKEN: MAY 04 2017 ACCEPTED
Prepared by: Jamie Dunphy Date Prepared: 4/24/17	
Impact Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>	
City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances	
City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan	
Council Meeting Date 05/04/2017	

AGENDA	FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:	
TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start time: 2:00pm Total amount of time needed: 60 min (for presentation, testimony and discussion)		YEAS	NAYS
CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/>	1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓
REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)	2. Fish	2. Fish	✓
	3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	✓
	4. Novick	4. Novick	✓
	Hales	Hales	_____