

## PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

Date: April 11, 2016  
To: Commissioner Nick Fish, City of Portland  
From: Eloise Damrosch, RACC Executive Director  
Subject: **Accept RACC's "State of the Arts" Presentation**

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, April 21 at 2:00 p.m.

The basis for our presentation is our 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW, available online at <http://racc.org/2015annualreport>. The goal of our State of the Arts presentation 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, 2015, RACC received just over \$7 million from the City of Portland, including \$3,621,831 from the General Fund, \$808,087 from the percent-for-art ordinance, \$1,040,000 in special appropriations (including \$190,000 in pass-through funds for the Oregon Symphony to perform in Waterfront Park), \$200,000 from the Work for Art ordinance, and \$1,337,713 from the Arts Education & Access Fund ("arts tax").
- RACC raised an additional \$0.38 for every dollar provided by the City of Portland, for a total budget of more than \$9,717,617.
- Funding from the Arts Education & Access Fund, or arts tax, continues to lag behind projections, preventing RACC from providing as much General Operating Support (GOS) to local arts organizations as envisioned. In 2014-15 the City provided \$600,000 in special appropriations plus \$1.3 million in arts tax funding for RACC to fund GOS organizations at a high water mark of 3.8% of their total revenue budget. (The ballot measure's stated goal is 5%.) This funding level receded in 2015-16 due to a lack of special appropriations in FY16; RACC is currently providing the city's largest arts organizations with only 3.2% of their revenue.
- Now that every elementary school in Portland has an arts teacher, RACC has begun providing technical assistance and other services for Portland's six school districts and the 72 art and music teachers whose salaries are paid by the arts tax.
- RACC's arts integration program, The Right Brain Initiative, continues to grow. Right Brain is now serving 25,000 students and 1,350 educators in 63 schools across 7 districts. Newly participating schools in Portland include The Ivy School, Maplewood and Rieke.
- RACC continues to forge ahead with its equity and inclusion work, and recently established a new "Arts Equity Grant" specifically designed to fund arts programming and services that are reaching 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 new grants.

- Work for Art raised \$750,350 in the campaign that ended June 30, and is working to raise a record-breaking \$1 million in celebration of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- RACC celebrated a number of additional milestones last year, including 20 years as an independent nonprofit organization, and 35 years of Portland's percent-for-art program. Former mayor Bud Clark and singer Storm Large helped us celebrate Portlandia's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday in October.

As you can see, RACC has experienced a number of accomplishments and challenges since our last report to City Council in February of 2015. We look forward to appearing before Council again on April 21<sup>st</sup> and revisiting with you and your colleagues how important it is to ensure that every Portland resident has access to culture, creativity and the arts.

We recommend that Council accept RACC's "State of the Arts" report.

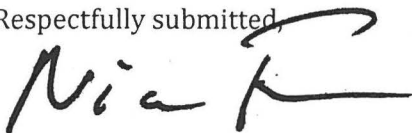


Eloise Damrosch  
Executive Director

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

**RECOMMENDS:** That the Council accept the report.

Respectfully submitted,



Nick Fish  
Commissioner, City of Portland

Agenda No.  
**REPORT**  
Title

Accept report on the state of the arts from the Regional Arts and Culture Council (Report).

<p><b>INTRODUCED BY</b> Commissioner/Auditor: <b>Commissioner Nick Fish</b></p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>APR 12 2016</u></p>
<p><b>COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</b></p> <p>Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales</p> <p>Position 1/Utilities - Fritz</p> <p>Position 2/Works - Fish <b>NF</b></p> <p>Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman</p> <p>Position 4/Safety - Novick</p>	<p>Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <u><i>Susan Parsons</i></u> Deputy</p>
<p><b>BUREAU APPROVAL</b></p> <p>Bureau: Regional Arts &amp; Culture Council Bureau Head: Eloise Damrosch</p>	<p><b>ACTION TAKEN:</b></p> <p>APR 21 2016 <b>ACCEPTED</b></p>
<p>Prepared by: Paige Spence Date Prepared: April 13, 2016</p>	
<p>Impact Statement</p> <p>Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p><b>City Auditor Office Approval:</b> required for Code Ordinances</p>	
<p><b>City Attorney Approval:</b> required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan</p>	
<p>Council Meeting Date <b>April 21, 2016</b></p>	

<b>AGENDA</b>
<p><b>TIME CERTAIN</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Start time: <b>2:00 pm</b></p> <p><b>Total amount of time needed: 60 minutes</b> (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>
<p><b>CONSENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>REGULAR</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	_____	_____
4. Novick	4. Novick	✓	
Hales	Hales	_____	_____