

FY18 Arts Learning Grants

The Grant Review Panel charged with reviewing FY18 Arts Learning Component Grants and Arts Learning Project Grants convened at the Whitney Peak Hotel in Reno on May 16 & 17, 2017.

This year's panel was composed of:

Ken Bolinsky, a theatre educator, stage director and education consultant currently working with the Mississippi Arts Commission. He resides in Brookhaven, MS.

Martha O'Neill currently serves as the Concert Band director at Truckee Meadows Community College. She retired from the Washoe County School District after a 30 year career teaching secondary music. She resides in Reno, NV.

Donna Yarrell is an artist and arts educator. She teaches Drawing at Great Basin College in Pahrump and Art Appreciation online for Temple College. She resides in Pahrump, NV.

- The panelists reviewed and scored 32 Arts Learning Component Grant applications.
 - The funding available for this category in FY18 is \$135,640.
 - The total request was \$224,000.
 - After panel review and scoring, the total recommended funding is \$181,657.83.
 - The panel's recommendation is to apply a 25.3% cut across the board to meet the available funding of \$135,640.
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- The panelists also reviewed and scored 7 Arts Learning Project Grant applications.
 - The funding available for this category in FY18 is \$23,825.
 - The total grant request was \$39,345.
 - After panel review and scoring, the total recommended funding is \$ 33,753.40.
 - The panel's recommendation is to apply a 29.4 % cut across the board to meet the available funding of \$23,825.

(If you are asked about Las Vegas Tap Fest which received 0 funding):

Las Vegas Tap Fest's score was 53.3 which is below the minimum score of 60. A score of 60 or below does not receive funding.

Panel Comments:

- Workshop titles provided but no content description.
- Weak support material
- No clear connection to arts education or arts standards
- Goals are nebulous and non-specific
- Inadequate response to demographics
- Projected income concerns
- Not clear on who participants are

Public Comments

No public comments

Panel Comments

After the panel completed the review process, we asked for their comments regarding the Nevada Arts Council's online grants application system, the review process and any other issue that they chose to share. Here's a sampling:

- Revisit the scoring rubric
- Need better work samples – show process not product
- Applicants aren't answering the questions – need clarification
- Separate questions as some applicants didn't answer second part of question
- Confusion in required support material in Component grants
- How does project or program relate to the standards