

NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Via Conference Call

716 N Carson St., Suite A

Carson City, NV 89701

Present:	Board	Julia Arger, Chair Edward Estipona Joseph O'Neill Gail Rappa Jerry Schefcik Ryrie Valdez Annie Zucker
	Staff	Tony Manfredi, Executive Director Pat Atkinson, Folklife Director Kelli Du Fresne, Grants Specialist Cathleen Wyatt, Administrative Assistant Fran Morrow, Artist Services Director Shoshana Zeldner, Community Arts Director Rebecca Snetselaar, Folklife Specialist
	Excused	Eric Strain Linda Ficklin, Administrative Services Officer
	Guests	Jeff Menicucci, Deputy Attorney General

I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting convened in open public session at 10:00 a.m. Julia Arger, chair of the Nevada Arts Council (NAC) Board, welcomed everyone, and asked for introductions. *(Attachment A: Public Meeting Notice/Agenda)*

Arger took roll call/confirmed quorum.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment in person or submitted via email.

III. APPROVAL OF NAC BOARD MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Arger requested approval of minutes from the NAC Board Meeting on June 28, 2017. *(Attachment B: Minutes from June 28, 2017 Board Meeting)*

MOTION: APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM June 28, 2017: Moved by Gail Rappa; seconded by Joe O'Neill. Passed unanimously.

IV. Discussion, Review and Vote of FY18 2nd Quarter Jackpot Grant Panel Funding Recommendations, 17 applications, panel recommended \$14,825.85, available funding is \$11,518.00 board to determine if all applicants will take a 22.3% cut or propose other funding based on scores. (For Possible Action)
(Attachment C: Jackpot Score Sheet)

FY18 Second Quarter Jackpot Grants panel recommended funding:

In June, the NAC board set funding levels for each quarter at \$10,000.00. In the FY18 first quarter awards, one application scored below the 60% threshold for no funding as established by the board. The panel unanimously recommended that the board carry forward the un-awarded remainder of \$1,518.00 in the Jackpot category to increase funding for future quarters. Thus, available funding for Q2 totals \$11,518.00.

Jackpot Quarterly Grants of up to \$1,000 are designed to support first-time or sudden opportunity arts and arts learning/education projects initiated by artists, teaching artists, schools, nonprofit organizations, and public institutions.

Seventeen applications were submitted for the FY18 Second Quarter Jackpot Grants. A panel of specialists reviewed and scored the applications from 15 artists and two arts organizations requesting support for projects and activities scheduled to occur between October 1 and December 31, 2017.

The panel reviewed application narratives and required support materials using the new GO Smart system, and met via conference call to discuss and score applications. The Jackpot Grant Scoring Rubric allows for Creation, Public Project, Organizations and Arts Learning scoring on Jackpot grants. All applications are scored out of 100 possible points.

This quarter's Jackpot review panel was chaired by NAC board member Gail Rappa.

Panel members included:

Bobbie Ann Howell, program coordinator, Nevada Humanities – Las Vegas office

Dennyse Sewell, managing director, for the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts

McKenzi Swinehart, former director of programs and development, Reno Little Theatre

Tami Castillo Shelton, professional dancer, actress, choreographer, theatrical director, arts educator and arts administrator

The panel scores resulted in an overall funding recommendation of \$14,825.85 with available funding for the quarter of \$11,518.00.

PANEL RECOMMENDATION FUNDING SCENARIO
Recommended for Funding

Emily Barnes, Henderson (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support artist fees for Maxwell Lafontant to compose a modern concerto for harp.

Average Score: 86.7% Recommended Funding: \$866.67

Jennifer Bellor, Henderson (Clark) – requested \$975 to support creation of a music video to feature her new vocal composition "O Sootheest Sleep."

Average Score: 93.3% Recommended Funding: \$909.19

Elizabeth Cadigan, Sparks (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00 to support creation of a book and CD containing her songs about the Black Rock-High Rock Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area for visitors and classrooms.

Average Score: 93.5% Recommended Funding: \$935.00

Cari Cunningham, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00 to support payment of artist fees to five Reno-area dancers for the performance of her 2016 choreographed work “Intervertebral” at the DUMBO Dance Festival in Brooklyn, NY.

Average Score: 98.5% Recommended Funding: \$985.00

Pierce K. Emata, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support travel necessary for the creation of a video workshop for teachers and students to teach/learn the playing techniques of 20th Century French pianist Alfred Cortot.

Average Score: 92.8% Recommended Funding: \$927.50

Carol Foldvary-Anderson, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00 to support promotion and marketing for the production of a moving video to document the process that takes place in creating a landscape in the Oil Pastel Smudge Technique.

Average Score: 82% Recommended Funding: \$820.00

Nancy Good, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support production of 12 large-scale kaleidoscope tapestry art works for a gallery exhibition to be installed this November at the Winchester Cultural Center titled “See, Touch and Go dream: The Burning Man Tapestries.”

Average Score: 89.8% Recommended Funding: \$897.50

Charles Halka, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support composition of “Evening Rainbow” a new 10-minute work for violin, viola and cello, to be premiered by UNLV faculty performers as part of the UNLV Faculty Chamber Series.

Average Score: 94.8% Recommended Funding: \$947.50

Wolf Kadavanich, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support the creation of a video of his new screenplay “Cyberspiracy.” The footage and other collateral, such as behind-the-scenes video, will be used as proof-of-concept material, to support pitches to production companies or for crowd funding.

Average Score: 73% Recommended Funding: \$730.00

Raquel "Rachel" Lopez, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00 to support graphic design, production materials, posters, space rental, tech fees, box office administration; artist fees for tech support, the director and actor for the original play “A Taco Truck on Every Corner or Dreaming in English,” that she co-wrote with Sandra Brunell-Neace.

Average Score: 77.3% Recommended Funding: \$772.50

Frances Melhop, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00 to support artist fees a materials for a private training session with alternative process photographer and lecturer Dan Herrera in Sacramento, CA.

Average Score: 81.5% Recommended Funding: \$815.00

Orlando Javier Montenegro-Cruz, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support installation and rental of billboards to exhibit his artwork using images of Native Americans and co-opted political slogans to address biases in American society.

Average Score: 86.3% Recommended Funding: \$862.50

Patricia A Reynolds, Eureka (Eureka) – requested \$1,000.00 to support materials and fees associated with creating a booth of her artwork for the Wild Women Artists show this October at the Summit Mall in Reno.

Average Score: 86.5% Recommended Funding: \$865.00

Somerset Academy, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support purchase of 40 Build-it-Yourself Ukulele Kits for the academy’s men’s choir to be used to teach the science behind the construction and then how to play and perform with them.

Average Score: 91.8% Recommended Funding: \$917.50

Rosie Trump, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00 to support artist fees for four professional dancers to rehearse and perform her original choreographed work “Track 45” at the Cleveland Dance Festival.

Average Score: 92.3% Recommended Funding: \$952.50

Mikayla Whitmore, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 to support professional printing and framing for 20 large-scale photographs for a solo show at the Tam Alumni Center.

Average Score: 89% Recommended Funding: \$890.00

Yellow Pants Project (Rachel Berman), Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00 for the purchase of office and art supplies to support the Yellow Pants Project, an anti-bullying leadership training course for high school and junior high school students. The course ends with a mini musical theatre production to be shared with the students’ peers.

Average Score: 73.3% Recommended Funding: \$732.50

O’Neill – Questions the Wolf Kadavanich application. Feels it benefits the individual more than the community.

Du Fresne – The Jackpot Grant does not have to focus on the community.

Rappa: Wants to discuss the percentage for funding, and different possible funding scenarios, based on the point system. Feels that people who scored lower are pulling money from the people who surpassed what is asked for. Wants 95 and above to receive full funding

Arger: In the past the Board and staff has had flexibility in awarding. No set percentage. This is something the Board can talk about and implement. What does the Board think?

O’Neill: Agrees with Rappa

Zucker: Agrees, people who score a D shouldn’t get the same as people who score an A. Takes three times the amount of time to score an A than it does a D, which should be taken into account.

Schefcik: Agrees, feels it’s important to recognize and reward those who put together a good grant with a solid premise. Feels full amounts should be awarded to those who excel in their application.

Rappa: possible scenarios:

95+	=	\$1,000
90-94	=	\$900
86-89	=	\$800
82-85	=	\$700
81.50	=	\$600

Du Fresne: 95+ = Full
Divide rest up by a percentage

O’Neill: We don’t want to divide up to the point that it’s not worth people’s time to write a grant application.

Du Fresne: Staff can give scenarios, but cannot decide funding.

Morrow: Does the Board have to vote on? And staff inform our constituents?

Menicucci: You definitely have to vote on whatever action you take. That will become public through minutes, and the normal publicizing of what you’ve done.

Du Fresne: The scoring, the percentage rubric, or how the money gets broken down, isn’t included in our grant guidelines, or anywhere else. The only place that any of the grantees would have been exposed to it is in the receiving end of it, after the Board has voted in the past. So how you delineate your funding is up to you. You can follow one of our recommendations, or you can come up with one of your own.

Estipona: Six or seven are over 90%, two that are roughly 73%. I recommend that to move this batch forward, we fully fund the 90% and above, and divide the rest equally between the 73%.

Arger: If you put this in a motion we can discuss.

Estipona: I put in motion that anybody that is over 90% get full funding, scores below 75% get balance of funding, divided up equally.

Arger: Is there a 2nd?

Rappa: Can we discuss this before we 2nd? I need to see how the numbers run down to feel comfortable with that. Can we break it down a little more? I feel strongly that if they received higher than a 95 they should receive full funding. I don't know that we can fund everyone 90 and over fully, without depleting the rest of the budget.

Estipona: I'm not saying this should be the model going forward, I'm just addressing these sets right now.

Rappa: I have 2 scenarios:

90+	=	\$1,000
86-89	=	\$ 750
No funding below 86%		

Or

95+	=	\$1,000
91-94	=	\$ 900
86-90	=	\$ 800
82-85	=	\$ 700
81.50	=	\$ 600

Atkinson: I want to remind you that the amount available is only \$11,518.00. That's not the amount that was requested, or recommended.

Rappa: Can I get feedback from the Board? How do you feel about the scenario I just read, 81.5-82 = \$600, 82-85 = \$700, 86-90 = \$800, 91-94 = \$900, 95+ = \$1,000?

Estipona: I don't know if we have a specific guideline that says if you score a certain percentage you get funded.

Atkinson: There is not a specific guideline.

Estipona: Then I would agree with Rappa at this point to fund 80% and above. Then adjust whatever we need to adjust for everything else.

Arger: Other Board members?

Rappa: I make a motion to make 80% and above to get funded at a percentage. Everything 95 and above gets the full \$1,000.00, from 80-95 is a percentage. Staff can tell you what the percentage is based on that scenario.

Arger: Is there a second on Rappa's motion?

O'Neill: I second Rappa's motion.

Arger: Now we can discuss the motion.

Zucker: I'd like to know if there's a way we could create some clear guidelines that we follow for all grants.

Arger: That is something that could, and should be, discussed. I would suggest that when we get the new grants manager and assistant manager, we have a combination of staff and board to discuss this. I think it is necessary and worthy of discussion, so we can take it on recommendation going forward.

Rappa: The panel was excellent, I wish everyone who had applied had listened in, as the feedback was articulate, and very well thought out. They clearly put a lot of time into their critiques and their reviewing. This panel pointed out that artists need to value their time, and account for that within their application.

Zucker: We should be funding the programs that have the highest degree of excellence, and that starts at their grant application.

Arger: We've also addressed this in the past. I hope we continue to provide support, the workshops, etc., to help the people writing grants, to improve their grant writing skills. If we work from both angles, I believe we're going to get a superior product in the long run.

Rappa: I would like to see the Jackpot used as a stepping stone, or foundation, that sets them in place for another grant. That is a lot of time and effort to put in, even if you get the full funding, if it's not somehow an investment in future funding. Whether that's through the arts council or whether that's funding that they're eligible for through another organization.

Arger: We have a motion on the floor, is there any other discussion. Hearing none, we will vote.

MOTION: TO CHANGE AND APPROVE THE FY18 SECOND QUARTER JACKPOT GRANTS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS AS FOLLOWS: SCORED BY PANELISTS AT 95% AND ABOVE RECEIVES FULL FUNDING. 90-95% RECEIVES \$900 FUNDING. 86 AND ABOVE RECEIVES \$800 FUNDING. 82% RECEIVES \$700 FUNDING. 81.5-82% RECEIVES \$600 FUNDING. NOTHING BELOW 81.5% WILL BE FUNDED. Moved by Gail Rappa; seconded by Jerry Schefcik. Passed unanimously.

Atkinson: We need you to repeat what the motion is.

Rappa: I move that 95% and above gets full funding, 90-95 gets \$900, 86 and above gets \$800, 82% gets \$700, 81.5% gets \$600, and nothing below 81.5% will be funded.

Atkinson: Can I point out that exceeds the amount available?

Rappa: I have here that that comes out to \$11,777.50.

Atkinson: We have available \$11,518.00.

Du Fresne: If we use that scenario, but take into account the scores the panelists gave, instead of giving the full \$1,000, we will fall within our funding.

Manfredi: You might want to consider basing their gift on a percentage of their average score.

Arger: Do those numbers work out then?

Manfredi: We're looking at about a \$200 difference and I think we can find that.

Du Fresne: If you make it that the 95s and above are full funded at \$1,000, the 90s and above are \$900, the 85s and above are \$800, and 80-85 are \$500, the total is \$11,500.00.

Arger: That sounds like a solution. Can we amend the motion, or do we need to motion again?

Morrow: Arger, because the Board votes on the dollar amount that is funded for the Jackpot Grants, is it possible that the Board can increase the funding amount for this particular occasion? We have the funding, it's just that each increment has been \$10,000.00.

Arger: Morrow are you suggesting that we keep the original motion, and do another motion to allow, this one time, the additional funding to be made up?

Morrow: Yes

Arger: Any discussion from the Board? Does staff have a dollar amount so that we can put that in a motion?

Manfredi: \$259.50

Arger: Now I will entertain a motion to have \$260.00 added to the Jackpot Grants for this 2nd Quarter, FY18.

MOTION: HAVE \$260.00 ADDED TO THE FY18 2nd QUARTER JACKPOT GRANTS.

Moved by Ryrie Valdez; seconded by Gail Rappa. Passed unanimously.

Emily Barnes, Henderson (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 86.7% Recommended Funding: \$866.67. Actual Award: \$800.00

Jennifer Bellor, Henderson (Clark) – requested \$975. Average Score: 93.3% Recommended Funding: \$909.19. Actual Award: \$877.50

Elizabeth Cadigan, Sparks (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 93.5% Recommended Funding: \$935.00. Actual Award: \$900.00

Cari Cunningham, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 98.5% Recommended Funding: \$985.00. Actual Award: \$1,000.00.

Pierce K. Emata, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 92.8% Recommended Funding: \$927.50. Actual Award: \$900.00.

Carol Foldvary-Anderson, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 82% Recommended Funding: \$820.00. Actual Award: \$700.00.

Nancy Good, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 89.8% Recommended Funding: \$897.50. Actual Award: \$800.00

Charles Halka, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 94.8% Recommended Funding: \$947.50. Actual Award: \$900.00.

Wolf Kadavanich, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 73% Recommended Funding: \$730.00. Actual Award: 0

Raquel "Rachel" Lopez, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 77.3% Recommended Funding: \$772.50. Actual Award: 0

Frances Melhop, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 81.5% Recommended Funding: \$815.00. Actual Award:\$600.00

Orlando Javier Montenegro-Cruz, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 86.3% Recommended Funding: \$862.50. Actual Award: \$800.00

Patricia A Reynolds, Eureka (Eureka) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 86.5% Recommended Funding: \$865.00. Actual Award: \$800.00

Somerset Academy, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 91.8% Recommended Funding: \$917.50. Actual Award: \$900.00

Rosie Trump, Reno (Washoe) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 92.3% Recommended Funding: \$952.50. Actual Award: \$1,000.00

Mikayla Whitmore, Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 89% Recommended Funding: \$890.00. Actual Award: \$800.00

Yellow Pants Project (Rachel Berman), Las Vegas (Clark) – requested \$1,000.00. Average Score: 73.3% Recommended Funding: \$732.50. Actual Award: 0

V. BOARD MEMBERS: COMINGS & GOINGS

Valdez: Has to leave to go to a meeting at the Nevada Museum of Art, for her *Take Me Home Huey* project. She invited everyone to the documentary, September 28-30 at NMA, or October 1st in Carson City, at the Boldrick Theatre in Mills Park. Opening Ceremony at 12:00, screening at 1:00. Arger asked Valdez to send the information to staff so that they could forward to the Board, then excused her to leave. Schefcik disclosed that he supervised a space for one of the Jackpot recipients. Had discussed with staff, and the Attorney General’s Office, but it had been found to have no conflict of interest. Wanted it in the public record. Arger thanked Schefcik for asking the appropriate questions ahead of the Board Meeting. Also reminds that panelists need to be cognizant of any possible conflict of interest too. Rappa asks to “plug” her husband, Ron Arthaud’s, opening with Nolan Preece and Michael Sarich, at the Stremmel Gallery in Reno the next day from 5-7pm (Thursday, September 14, 2017).

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment in person or submitted via email.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Arger requested a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. Moved by Jerry Schefcik; seconded by Edward Estipona. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11.01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathleen Wyatt, Administrative Assistant III
Nevada Arts Council

List of Attachments on file with original minutes in NAC offices:

- Attachment A: Public Meeting Notice/Agenda
- Attachment B: Minutes from June 28, 2017 Board Meeting
- Attachment C: Jackpot Score Sheet
- Attachment D: FY18 Second Quarter Jackpot Grant Recommendations