

Cultural Arts & Marketing Division – Cultural Funding Program  
**FUNDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
Wednesday, April 8, 2009 5:30 – 7:30 PM  
Oakland City Hall, Hearing Room 2  
(One Frank Ogawa Plaza, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)

**1. Call to Order/ Determination of Quorum**

A Meeting of the Funding Advisory Committee was held in City Hall, Hearing Room 2, located at One Frank Ogawa Plaza, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Oakland, CA 94612. The meeting convened at 5:43 PM. A quorum was not established. Jenny Louie Chaired the meeting.

**Present:** Jenny Louie, Khan Wong, Lynn Rogers  
**Absent:** Nives Wetzel de Cediel, Sherwood Chen (excused), Shalonda Ingram (excused), Lori Zook and Brian Vejby (Cultural Affairs Commission (CAC) liaisons), Jason Jong (Cultural Funding Program Assistant Coordinator)  
**Staff:** Kathy Littles (Cultural Funding Program Coordinator)

**2. Open Forum**

There were no speakers for Open Forum.

**3. Oral Reports from Chair and Staff** – Update on Cultural Funding Program Review Panels and Staff

Kathy Littles reported that panels for all three grant categories went well despite two last minute changes to the panelist roster. Ronnie Stewart was scheduled to be a panelist for the Individual Artist Project grant, but sent his regrets the day panels were to begin. Mr. Stewart had the incorrect start date. Sheila Pressley served one day on the Art in the Schools panel, she had a medical emergency that prohibited her from serving the second and final day. The Unity Council notified staff in March that their annual Dia de los Muertos celebration has been postponed this year. They requested that their grant be pulled from panels, staff obliged. A letter will be sent to all applicants stating that no funding recommendations will be announced until the budget is passed on June 30, 2009. The letter will inform applicants of their score and rank.

Staff read Individual Artist applicant Oluyemi Thomas' letter which stated his concern over the responsibility of the lead reader. Mr. Thomas suggested that the lead reader for his application began the discussion on a negative note; this in his estimation influenced the other panelists. Jen stated that the purpose of the lead reader is to begin discussion and to articulate pros and cons of an application. Lynn added that the lead reader does set the tone of the discussion. FAC decided that this was not grounds for an appeal and added that the lead reader aspect of the panel process should be retained.

Kathy asked that all nominations for a new FAC member be emailed. Lynn Rodgers nominated Indra Mungal.

4. **Action Item** – Approval of January 14, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes  
No action was made due to lack of a quorum.

5. **Discussion and Action Item** – Approval of 2009-2010 Cultural Funding Program Review Panel Grant Rankings

Jenny Louie stated that although there was no quorum, in concept FAC supports the grant rankings and added that they are an appropriate reflection of the Cultural Funding Program mission, goals and review process.

No action was taken due to lack of a quorum.

6. **Discussion Item** – Organization Project and Art in the Schools Review Panel

Staff stated that both panels will reconvene in late May or early June to allocate funds. By this time, a budget may be adopted.

7. **Agenda Building** – City of Oakland budget discussions, Arts Advocacy

Staff reported that Measure C will be on the ballot for a July vote. Measure C will add a special hotel tax for the arts. It was decided that Special Meeting will be held on April 22 at 5:30 to discuss how the arts should fit into the City of Oakland budget.

8. **Announcements**

Next FAC Meeting July 8, 2009

9. **Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:17PM.