MAYOR'S COUNCIL on the ARTS

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MEETING AGENDA

March 3, 2026
2:00 P.M.
Florida Children's Museum
600 Bonnet Springs Blvd

I. Meeting called to order

II. Chair Election

III. GiveWell Community Foundation, Inc. Agreement

IV. $8,783.47 remaining in Grant Allocation Funds

V. Individual Artist Grant Guidelines

VI. Adjournment

Agreement Establishing
The Lakeland Arts Endowment Fund
within the GiveWell Community Foundation, Inc.

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into on this 28th day of September 2017 is between The City of Lakeland ("the Organization") and the GiveWell Community Foundation, Inc. ("the Foundation").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Organization, in furtherance of its charitable purposes, desires to establish a community endowment fund within the Foundation and,

WHEREAS, the Organization does hereby transfer and assign to the Foundation certain assets, **TO HAVE AND TO HOLD** the same and any other assets, which the Foundation may acquire as an addition to the Fund, all of which shall be subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth.

WHEREAS, the Foundation is willing to hold and administer such an endowment fund and its Board of Directors or its designee (the "Board") has accepted the transfer of assets and this Agreement establishing the Fund:

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. **NAME OF FUND:**
   The Fund hereby created shall be known as The Lakeland Arts Endowment Fund (the "Fund").

2. **PURPOSE**:
   The purpose of this fund is to provide grants that support the mission, programming and operations of nonprofit arts organizations within the Lakeland vicinity (Lakeland Electric service area).

   The primary criteria for qualifications in determining which nonprofit organizations would receive grants is outlined in Exhibit A. The number and amount of grants will be determined annually. Distributions will be made directly to the nonprofit organizations as best fulfills the charitable intent of the Fund.

3. **ADMINISTRATIVE AND VARIANCE PROVISIONS:**
   Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Foundation shall administer the Fund pursuant to applicable Florida statutes and subject to the Foundation's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, and any future amendments adopted by the Board of the Foundation. The Foundation shall have all powers of modification or removal of purposes of the Fund as specified in Section 1.170A-9(e)(11)(v)(B) of the Treasury regulations, as

amended. This regulation protects the Fund from obsolescence. Should, in the sole discretion of the Board of the Foundation, the purposes for which the Fund was created ever become unnecessary, incapable of fulfillment, undesirable, impractical, obsolete or no longer adapted to the needs of the community, it is the Board's responsibility to use the Fund for purposes which most nearly approximate, in the good faith opinion of the Board, the original purpose of the Fund.

4. **GIFTS**:
Any person whether an individual, corporation, trust, estate or organization may make a gift to the Foundation, as an addition to the Fund, by a transfer to the Foundation designated to the Fund of assets acceptable to the Foundation. All gifts and bequests shall be irrevocable.

5. **GRANTS**:
The Foundation shall make grants from the income from the Fund in accordance with a spending policy adopted by the Foundation Board. It is the intent of the parties hereto that the Fund shall remain as a permanent endowment of the Foundation and that only the income or a portion thereof be distributed each year. The first distribution from the Fund will be made no sooner than one year from the fund establishing gift date. No distributions shall be made until the fund reaches $100,000 and no distributions will be made if the fund falls under $100,000.

The Chair, Assistant Chair and the Secretary of the Mayor's Council on the Arts shall be authorized to advise the Foundation with respect to distributions made pursuant to the terms of this agreement and the Foundation shall be authorized to act upon said advice subject only to approval of the Foundation Board. Two of three of these authorized parties must sign to approve any and all distributions.

The Community Foundations spending policy is designed to allow the funds to be invested on a "total return" basis to maintain and, if possible, increase the real value (as adjusted for inflation) of the funds, while at the same time providing a relatively steady and predictable level of distributions. The Foundation Board reviews and approves the spending policy annually.

6. **SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS:**
The Community Foundation Lakeland Arts Endowment Committee Chair shall be authorized to recommend the determination of distribution awards from the Fund on behalf of the committee. Members or relatives of the Community Foundation Lakeland Arts Endowment Committee, staff, Board of Directors, or Leadership Council Members are ineligible to apply. All applications will be received and processed by the Community Foundation. Staff of the Community Foundation will coordinate receipt and distribution to members of the Community Foundation Lakeland Arts Endowment Committee. All grants shall be open to nonprofit arts organizations within the Lakeland Electric service area.

NOT A SEPARATE TRUST:
All property in the Fund shall be a component part of the Foundation as defined in Section 1.170A-9 (e)(11) of the Treasury regulations, as amended, and not a separate trust or

nonprofit corporation.

7. **INVESTMENT OF FUNDS**:
The Foundation shall invest the assets of the Fund, as it deems appropriate and may commingle said assets with other assets of the Foundation, provided that the Fund shall be accounted for separately.

8. **FEES**:
The Foundation shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for services rendered in the performance of this Agreement in accordance with its published fee schedule as it may be amended by its Board from time to time. Any costs incurred by the Foundation in accepting, transferring or managing assets donated to the Foundation for the Fund shall also be paid from the Fund.

EXECUTED, the date first stated above.

CITY OF LAKELAND

Lesley V. Chambers — 09/28/2017
Lesley V. Chambers, Chair, Mayor's Council on the Arts — Date

Claire Orologas — 9/28/17
Claire Orologas, Assistant Chair, Mayor's Council on the Arts — Date

GIVEWELL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, INC.

Suzanne H Moraco — 10/4/17
Suzanne H. Moraco, Chair, Board of Directors — Date

Terry W. Simmers — 10/2/17
Terry W. Simmers, President & CEO — Date

2025-2026 Mayor's Council on the Arts Grant Allocation

Decrese Percentage	81.0%

Organization Name (in alphabetical order)	Prior Year Operating Expenses	Grant Amount Requested	Eligible Amount up to:	Organizational History	Core Programming	Proposed Programming	Financial Health	Evaluation	Total Points	Percentage	Award Based on Score %	Award Based on Eligible Funds
The Ashley Gibson Barnett Museum of Art (The AGB)	$ 2,092,426.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00	4.67	5.00	9.33	5.00	5.00	29.00	97%	$ 72,500.00	$ 58,725.00
Bonnet Springs Park	$ 11,097,000.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00	4.67	5.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	29.67	99%	$ 74,166.67	$ 60,075.00
Florida Children's Museum	$ 3,700,000.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00	4.67	5.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	29.67	99%	$ 74,166.67	$ 60,075.00
Florida Dance Arts Inc.	$ 137,321.96	$ 13,700.00	$ 13,700.20	5.00	5.00	9.33	5.00	5.00	29.33	98%	$ 13,395.56	$ 10,850.40
Harrison School for the Arts Parents' Association	$ 190,859.76	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00	4.33	4.67	8.00	5.00	4.67	26.67	89%	$ 4,444.44	$ 3,600.00
The Lakeland Art Guild, DBA The Lakeland Arts Association	$ 114,546.00	$ 11,454.00	$ 11,454.60	5.00	5.00	10.00	4.33	4.67	29.00	97%	$ 11,072.20	$ 8,968.48
Lakeland Community Theatre	$ 656,683.00	$ 65,668.00	$ 65,668.30	5.00	5.00	10.00	4.67	5.00	29.67	99%	$ 64,938.36	$ 52,600.07
Lakeland Symphony Orchestra	$ 547,500.00	$ 50,000.00	$ 54,750.00	4.67	5.00	9.33	4.33	5.00	28.33	94%	$ 47,222.22	$ 38,250.00
Platform Art, Inc.	$ 113,842.00	$ 11,384.00	$ 11,384.20	5.00	4.67	10.00	5.00	5.00	29.67	99%	$ 11,257.51	$ 9,118.58
Polk Theatre Inc	$ 849,037.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	5.00	5.00	30.00	100%	$ 75,000.00	$ 60,750.00
Watson Clinic Foundation Arts in Medicine	$ 159,417.00	$ 4,000.00	$ 4,000.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	4.67	5.00	29.67	99%	$ 3,955.56	$ 3,204.00

Total Award Amount Requested	$ 452,119.18	
Total Amount Awarded ($375,000 Max)		$ 366,216.53

$ 8,783.47

DRAFT

Mayor's Council on the Arts
Artist Grant Subcommittee Meeting
May 7, 2025

The Artist Grants subcommittee met in the City Manager's Conference Room. Mayor **Bill Mutz**, Chair **Kerry Falwell**, and members **Pam Page**, **Cindy Collins**, **Tyson Voigt**, **Betsy Bohrer**, associate member **Alice Santana**, and Deputy City Clerk **Heather Bradman** were present. Associate member **Tiffany Van Wieren** was absent.

Review of Grant Frameworks

Kerry introduced the meeting goals: exploring artist grant structures, particularly opportunities for professional development without requiring an art deliverable. The group discussed examples from municipalities (excluding private nonprofits) as benchmarks. Focus was on supporting individual artists as small business owners through grants.

Hillsborough County's model was reviewed, including methods to diversify award recipients. Creative Pinellas and its emerging artist grants were discussed. Alice Satana noted the challenge for individual artists applying for 501(c)(3) grants due to business structure.

Tyson Voigt shared insights into out-of-state residency programs. Members discussed feasibility in Lakeland. Pam Page suggested researching Asheville's model.

Cindy Clemmons raised the concept of using vacant buildings for studio space. Discussion arose about mimicking Bradenton's Village of the Arts.

Mayor Bill Mutz highlighted Summit's mural selections. Donna DeStefano's contact information was shared for future engagement.

Funding and Legal Considerations

The group discussed legal criteria for issuing funds directly to individuals. Consensus was reached for Heather Bradman to consult legal staff.

The subcommittee agreed not to duplicate Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) mural grant efforts. Collaboration with CRA and neighborhood associations was suggested. Kerry Falwell will get in touch with CRA Director Valerie Vaught.

Tentative budget breakdown included $25,000 for individual artist grants, $50,000 for nonprofits, and $10,000 for marketing. First-year spending may be gradual.

A graduate assistantship was briefly considered but removed. Kerry Falwell asked Heather Bradman to follow up with the City's Human Resources Department on potential interns to assist with the Mayor's Council on the Arts.

DRAFT

Grant Cycle Planning
Discussion about aligning all grants on the same cycle; quarterly or semi-annual options were mentioned. Importance of evaluation criteria was emphasized.

Kerry Falwell will work with Communications on improving access to the LKD Arts page on LakelandGov.net.

Pam Page proposed a five-year plan for an artist haven. Creative partnerships were discussed, and a request made for a list of vacant city-owned properties.

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Funding Entity	Grant Name	Award Amount / Range	Terms	Eligibility	Application Date	Review Process
Hillsborough County Arts Council	Professional development for artists grant program	$2,000	The Arts Council's Professional Development for Artists (PDA) Grant Program provides support for specific projects that advance the careers of artists in Hillsborough County. Artists may apply for up to $2,000 for one of two purposes: •Education experience – residency, workshop, conference •Equipment – permanent, non-disposable equipment The grant period is January 1- August 15, and artists may apply for up to $2,000. The PDA grant program is reimbursement-based, meaning you must be able to pay for your proposal expenses and receive reimbursement after submitting paid receipts.	•An active literary, performing or visual artist with commitment to your art career •Able to show successful experience as an emerging or established artist •Must be 21 years of age or older •Permanent resident of Hillsborough County for one year prior to application submission and remain so throughout the funding period •Have not received any type of artist grant from the Arts Council within the last three years •Full-time, arts-related faculty in higher education are not eligible •Applicants and recipients may not enroll in, or be currently enrolled in, any undergraduate or graduate degree program during the time their funded project is in progress. •Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident	July 7 – 25, 2025	The Advisory Board meeting where grant scores will be reviewed is September 2, 2025. The board will discuss applications and announce their scores. The meeting is open to the public and all current applicants, and any artists considering applying for a grant in the future, are strongly urged to attend.
City of Tampa, Arts & Cultural Affaris	Call for Artists as opportunities are available					
Creative Pinellas	Arts Impact Fund	$2,000 - $5,000	to create and present your work in Pinellas County.	Apply as an individual, not as a nonprofit or an organization Applicants must reside in Pinellas County residency for at least 6 months + 1 day and have a Pinellas address for the application Age 18+ at time of application Did not receive a grant for Beyond Placemaking / Creative Pinellas NEA Artists 2023-24 Did not receive a grant for Emerging Artists 2023-24 Projects start no earlier than signing of grant agreements; all projects end by August 31, 2025	August 1 – September 16, 2024 – Applications accepted Autumn – Ignite Fund scheduled for selection and funding disbursement Late Autumn – All Other Funds scheduled for selection January – February – All Other Funds scheduled for funding disbursement August 31, 2025 – All projects must close by this date	See Grant Application Planning Packet for matrix
Creative Pinellas	Arts Ignite Fund	$500	to bridge a small but important gap for arts supplies, materials, or a project budget item	Apply as an individual, not as a nonprofit or an organization Applicants must reside in Pinellas County residency for at least 6 months + 1 day and have a Pinellas address for the application Age 18+ at time of application Did not receive a grant for Beyond Placemaking / Creative Pinellas NEA Artists 2023-24 Did not receive a grant for Emerging Artists 2023-24 Projects start no earlier than signing of grant agreements; all projects end by August 31, 2025	August 1 – September 16, 2024 – Applications accepted Autumn – Ignite Fund scheduled for selection and funding disbursement Late Autumn – All Other Funds scheduled for selection January – February – All Other Funds scheduled for funding disbursement August 31, 2025 – All projects must close by this date	See Grant Application Planning Packet for matrix
Creative Pinellas	FLORIDARAMA Fund	up to $5,000	to create art celebrating Florida's unique cultural, natural, and artistic environment, culminating in a premier exhibition or performance at FloridaRAMA in St. Petersburg, FL	Apply as an individual, not as a nonprofit or an organization Applicants must reside in Pinellas County residency for at least 6 months + 1 day and have a Pinellas address for the application Age 18+ at time of application Did not receive a grant for Beyond Placemaking / Creative Pinellas NEA Artists 2023-24 Did not receive a grant for Emerging Artists 2023-24 Projects start no earlier than signing of grant agreements; all projects end by August 31, 2025	August 1 – September 16, 2024 – Applications accepted Autumn – Ignite Fund scheduled for selection and funding disbursement Late Autumn – All Other Funds scheduled for selection January – February – All Other Funds scheduled for funding disbursement August 31, 2025 – All projects must close by this date	See Grant Application Planning Packet for matrix

Creative Pinellas	Sixstar Performance Art Fund	up to $1,000	to create original, contemporary performance art in Pinellas County. The resulting live, county-bridging performances will be showcased at both Sixstar Arts Studios in St. Petersburg, FL and the Gallery at Creative Pinellas in Largo, FL.	Apply as an individual, not as a nonprofit or an organization Applicants must reside in Pinellas County residency for at least 6 months + 1 day and have a Pinellas address for the application Age 18+ at time of application Did not receive a grant for Beyond Placemaking / Creative Pinellas NEA Artists 2023-24 Did not receive a grant for Emerging Artists 2023-24 Projects start no earlier than signing of grant agreements; all projects end by August 31, 2025	August 1 – September 16, 2024 – Applications accepted Autumn – Ignite Fund scheduled for selection and funding disbursement Late Autumn – All Other Funds scheduled for selection January – February – All Other Funds scheduled for funding disbursement August 31, 2025 – All projects must close by this date	See Grant Application Planning Packet for matrix
Pasco County Libraries Cultural Affairs Advisory Council	Unpublished					
City of Orlando	2025 Poet Laureate	$4,000 per year for up to 4 years	The purpose of the Orlando Poet Laureate position is to promote poetry and appreciation of poetry among the general public and to inspire an emerging generation of literary artists and readers of literature. The Orlando Poet Laureate will serve as an ambassador for the City of Orlando and the greater Central Florida community, fostering public appreciation of and participation in poetry and literary arts. The Poet Laureate will reflect the spirit of the community by promoting literary education in our schools and communities, and by sharing poetry with the people of Orlando.	Be a documented resident of Central Florida (Lake, Orange, Osceola, or Seminole County) for at least one year and must reside in Central Florida for at least six months of each year Have ties to the City of Orlando and a strong interest in serving the city Show evidence of achievement in the art of poetry, including substantial publications (books, literary magazines, and/or digital media) Have received significant recognition or awards Demonstrate excellence in promoting awareness or enjoyment of poetry Understand and embrace Orlando's varied cultures and history Have documented experience in public speaking, teaching, and/or public performance Be at least 21 years of age and not currently enrolled in an undergraduate academic program Be able and willing to conduct a minimum of 6 in person public engagement duties of the Poet Laureate Be willing to sign a Letter of Agreement with the City specifying terms.	Application Window: April 27, 2025 - June 30, 2025 Orlando Poet Laureate 4-Year Term: October 2025 - October 2029	Selection Process: Mayor Buddy Dyer has appointed the Poet Laureate Search Committee, a group of diverse poets, scholars, and literary experts, to assist in the selection process. United Arts of Central Florida will convene and facilitate the selection process. This Committee includes representatives from the University of Central Florida, Valencia College, Rollins College, Seminole State College, Orange County Library System, Burrow Press, Florida Humanities Council, and accomplished local poets, with United Arts CEO serving as an Ex-Officio member. Panel Date: August 2025 Panel Location: To be determined The Mayor will announce the City of Orlando's Third Poet Laureate in October 2025 during National Arts and Humanities Month