



To: General Purposes **Date:** January 13, 2025
From: Marie Fenwick **File:** 03-1085-01/2024-Vol
 Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services 01
Re: 2025 Arts and Culture Grants




Staff Recommendations

1. That the Arts and Culture Grants be awarded for the total recommended amount of \$130,039, as identified in Attachment 1 of the staff report titled “2025 Arts and Culture Grants”, dated January 13, 2025, from the Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services; and
2. That the grant funds be disbursed accordingly following Council approval.

CM Fenwick

Marie Fenwick
Director, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services
(604-276-4288)

Att. 4

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Finance Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SENIOR STAFF REPORT REVIEW	INITIALS:	APPROVED BY CAO
		

Staff Report

Origin

City Council has the authority to provide financial assistance to community organizations under the Local Government Act.

This report provides information and recommendations pertaining to the 2025 Arts and Culture Grants, now in its thirteenth year.

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan 2022-2026 Focus Area #6 A Vibrant, Resilient and Active Community:

Vibrant, resilient and active communities supported by a wide variety of opportunities to get involved, build relationships and access resources.

6.1 Advance a variety of program, services, and community amenities to support diverse needs and interests and activate the community.

6.3 Foster intercultural harmony, community belonging, and social connections.

6.5 Enhance and preserve arts and heritage assets in the community.

2025 Arts and Culture Grants Budget

The 2025 Arts and Culture Grants budget is \$130,039. This includes a cost of living increase over last year's budget as per City Grant Program Policy 3712. The program offers two types of grants:

- Operating Assistance Grants are provided to support the annual programming and operating activities of eligible organizations, and are awarded up to a maximum of 30 percent of the annual operating budget, to a maximum of \$10,000.
- Project Assistance Grants are provided to support organizations working on a project basis or undertaking a special initiative outside the scope of their normal operations, and are awarded up to a maximum of 50 percent of the total project budget, to a maximum of \$5,000.

Application Process and Applications Received

In September 2024, announcements were placed on the City website advising the community that applications were being accepted for the 2025 City Grant Program. A link to the City website was provided for further information and to access the online application system, which closed on October 30, 2024. During this time, two emails were sent to Arts and Culture e-blast subscribers, more than 500 individual artists and arts/cultural organizations that have opted to receive information throughout the year. This announcement was also amplified through the Richmond Arts Coalition e-newsletter. Application guidelines, along with links to the online application form, were

available on both the “City Grant Programs” and the “Artists’ Opportunities” pages of the City website.

Staff met with most previous grant recipients individually over the summer to review their 2024 grants and activities, discuss any updates to their organization and program offerings, and provide advice where appropriate. New applicants were advised to contact City staff in advance of preparing their application to ensure their eligibility. Staff were also available to all applicants to provide additional support and answer questions on an as-needed basis.

On September 25, 2024, staff delivered an information session and grant writing workshop for arts practitioners and representatives of various arts organizations. Staff, along with a professional grant-writer and a representative from the BC Arts Council presented an overview of arts funding opportunities and best practices for effective grant writing. Total of 44 people attended this session.

11 applications were received for Operating Assistance and 14 for Project Assistance, with a total combined request of \$165,350. Tables outlining requests and recommended allocations for the 2025 Arts and Culture Grants are provided in Attachment 1. Grant Application Summary Sheets, providing key information about each application, are found in Attachment 2. Information in the Grant Application Summary Sheets are taken directly from the applicants’ submissions. Staff recommendations and comments are also included in the Summary Sheets.

Application Review Process

An Assessment Committee evaluated the applications on three key areas: merit, organizational capacity and impact (described in the Application Guidelines, Attachments 3 and 4). As per best practices in similar granting programs for arts and culture, these three key areas were assigned a numerical ranking to create a total numeric score out of 50 for each application. At the adjudication meeting, the combined scores of all four members of the Assessment Committee were distilled to an average score to determine a funding recommendation:

Low	1-20	No funding recommended
Med/Low	21- 30	Funding at a small contribution recommended
Medium	31-40	Funding at a modest contribution recommended
High/Med	41-45	Funding at a high contribution recommended
High	46-50	Funding up to request level (if possible) recommended

The Grants Application Summary Sheets, found in Attachment 2, indicate the aggregated score of each applicant.

The impact of funding received through the Arts and Culture Grants is augmented by regular communication between staff and organization representatives who meet, at minimum, once a year. During these meetings, staff offer a consultative and solutions-oriented approach to organizational development based on expertise in the *Non-profit Lifecycle* methodology, helping groups build capacity in a way that is sustainable and suits their specific needs. Groups also have the option of exploring the Lifecycle model more deeply with staff to create achievable action plans.

Analysis

2025 Arts and Culture Grants Information

The total number of applications received is 11 for Operating Assistance and 14 for Project Assistance; however, six of the Project Assistance applications were deemed ineligible for the following reasons:

- The Richmond Improv Theatre Society applied for both Operating Assistance and Project Assistance. The program policy permits funding in one category at a time so while they were successful in their Operating Assistance application, their Project Assistance application was declined.
- Two returning Project Assistance applicants were not being considered following a careful review of their 2024 Grant Use Reports. BC Philharmonic Society and Arisun Yue Opera Society did not fulfill the conditions of their 2024 grant, and were informed that they can re-apply for funding at a future date, upon meeting the 2024 conditions.
- Three Project Assistance applications were received from organizations that do not meet the eligibility criteria for the Arts and Culture grants program: Canada Chain Commerce Association, Familogue Education Society and Vancouver Sustainability Initiative Foundation. Each was informed of their organization’s ineligibility in advance of the deadline; one of them subsequently submitted an application to another City grant stream.

A summary of application numbers, allocations and staff recommendations over the last three years is presented in the tables below.

Table 1: Operating Assistance Grants for the last three years and recommendations for 2025

OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANTS Applications, Allocations and Recommendations (2022–2025)				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total number of applications	12	12	11	11
New applicants	0	0	1	1
Grants not recommended	0	0	1	0
Partial amount of request recommended	10	12	5	6
Full amount of request recommended	2	0	5	5
Total amount requested	\$101,775	\$103,950	\$102,650	\$103,050
Total amount allocated/ recommended	\$88,370	\$88,658	\$85,614	\$95,239

Table 2: Project Assistance Grants for the last three years and recommendations for 2025

PROJECT ASSISTANCE GRANTS Applications, Allocations and Recommendations (2022–2025)				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total number of applications	8	10	11	14
New applicants	2	2	2	5
Grants not recommended	1	1	0	6
Partial amount of request recommended	7	9	6	3
Full amount of request recommended	0	0	5	5
Total amount requested	\$42,500	\$50,000	\$47,750	\$62,300
Total amount allocated/ recommended	\$31,132	\$35,600	\$41,750	\$34,800

Reasons for Full or Partial Funding – Operating Assistance and Project Grants

The recommended grant allocations for both streams vary depending on the degree of competition among applicants in any given year. This year is characteristically competitive with the City receiving \$35,311 in requests in excess of the allocated budget of \$130,039. Even so, reflecting the high quality of their applications, ten applicants are being recommended for the full amount of their request.

Overall, 19 out of 25 applicants are recommended for funding. Four organizations who were recommended for funding in 2025 will receive an increase in their funding over last year. Despite scoring high on their assessments, five organizations will receive funding at the same level as 2024 as they have reached the maximum amount allowed by the grant program. Three organizations will be receiving a slight decrease as a result of their scoring. As per the adjudication process noted above, applicants recommended for a higher percentage of requested funding scored higher on the evaluation criteria than those recommended for lower percentages.

Financial Impact

The 2025 Arts and Culture Grants budget of \$130,039 was approved as part of the City’s 2025 Operating Budget. A total of \$130,039 in allocations is recommended for the 2025 Arts and Culture Grants, subject to City Council’s approval.

Conclusion

Staff recommend that the 2025 Arts and Culture Grants be allocated as indicated in Attachment 1 for the benefit of Richmond organizations and residents.



Camyar Chaichian
Program Manager, Community Cultural Development
(604-247-8326)

- Att. 1: 2025 Arts and Culture Grants Requests and Recommendations
2: 2025 Arts and Culture Grants Application Summary Sheets
3: 2025 Arts and Culture Grants - Operating Assistance Guidelines
4: 2025 Arts and Culture Grants - Project Assistance Guidelines

2025 Arts and Culture Grants Requests and Recommendations

OPERATING ASSISTANCE

Organization	2024	2025 Request	2025 Recommend	Comments	Pg
Canadian YC Chinese Orchestra Association	\$7,464	\$10,000	\$7,000	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to present intergenerational music performances at concerts and community events while sharing Chinese culture.	1-2
Cinevolution Media Arts Society	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to produce innovative media arts programs that aim to build connections for and empower immigrant and typically marginalized communities.	3-4
Community Arts Council of Richmond	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$8,650	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide a wide range of creative opportunities that develop community arts in Richmond. The group offers programming that reflects diverse cultures, ages and art forms.	5-6
Richmond Arts Coalition	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to promote, support and advocate for the arts in Richmond. Programs include a monthly online newsletter as well as producing visual and performing arts events throughout the year.	7-9
Richmond Community Band Society	\$5,400	\$5,400	\$5,400	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs for this long-standing musical band's performances at annual local events such as Remembrance Day and Canada Day. The organization provides year-round engagement for seniors in the community.	10-11
Richmond Community Orchestra and Chorus Association	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$9,000	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs for providing an annual program of orchestra and choir concerts to Richmond residents.	12-13
Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide a professional orchestral preparation program for children and youth. This educational opportunity is enhanced with active engagement in the community by providing performances at local events.	14-15
Richmond Improv Theatre Society	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide a series of entertaining improvisation workshops and performances for adults and youth throughout the city. This organization also provides engagement opportunities for community members of a diverse range of ages and cultures under the banner of their motto to "share the stage."	16-17
Richmond Music School Society	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide high-quality music education and to foster community appreciation of music. This organization also provides accessible music programs for people with disabilities.	18-19

Organization	2024	2025 Request	2025 Recommend	Comments	Pg
Richmond Singers	\$8,100	\$10,000	\$8,650	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs of this choir that provides public and private performances for the community. The group also commissions new artistic work and provides outreach performances for local seniors.	20-21
Richmond Youth Choral Society	\$7,650	\$7,650	\$6,539	Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide Richmond children and youth with choral music education. Participants have the opportunity to perform at community gatherings while also representing Richmond at international events.	22-23
Operating Sub-Total	\$85,614	\$103,050	\$95,239		

PROJECT ASSISTANCE

Organization	2024	2025 Request	2025 Recommend	Comments	Pg
Arison Yue Opera Society	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$0	Project could not be considered due to not meeting 2025 Grant conditions.	24-25
BC Philharmonic Society	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$0	Project could not be considered due to not meeting 2025 Grant conditions.	26-28
Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association	N/A	\$5,000	\$0	This organization is not eligible.	29-31
Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$4,500	Support the presentation of Han music and the cultural celebration of the Full Moon at a unique outdoor location.	32-34
Direct Theatre Collective	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$4,500	Support the updated and expanded version of a new play, <i>Monster</i> , to be performed in Richmond, created and performed by local artists. The play explores modern discourse on topics such as gender roles and cultural identity. The organization is also creating digital tools to reduce accessibility barriers for the audience.	35-37
Familogue Education Society	N/A	\$5,000	\$0	This organization is not eligible.	38-39
Musica Intima Society	N/A	\$5,000	\$5,000	Support for presentation of <i>Confluence</i> , a musical and artistic re-imagining of the historic Britannia Shipyards in Steveston, demonstrating its importance in the culture and industry of generations of residents and visitors.	40-41
Richmond Art Gallery Association	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	Support a new initiative that celebrates cultural harmony through food, including a blend of Indigenous gardening practices, Chinese language translation and working with multiple local partners. This project will provide educational opportunities for volunteers and animates the Library/Cultural Centre's Rooftop Garden to engage the local community.	42-44

Organization	2024	2025 Request	2025 Recommend	Comments	Pg
Richmond Gateway Theatre Society	\$1,500	N/A	N/A	This organization chose not to apply this year and, is instead, supporting the project application for The Chop Theatre Society's production of <i>Playing Fields</i> .	N/A
Richmond Improv Theatre Society	\$5,000	\$5,000	N/A	This organization has been recommended for an Operating grant.	45-46
Southeast Asian Cultural Heritage Society	\$3,000	N/A	N/A	No application was received from this organization in 2025.	N/A
Steveston Historical Society	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	Support the return of "Steveston Alive", dramatized walking tours of Steveston. This activity provides educational theatre arts opportunities for youth in Richmond, ranging from acting to costume design.	47-49
Textile Arts Guild of Richmond	\$1,250	\$1,300	\$1,300	Support a four-part speakers series that presents accomplished textile artists that share insights and techniques with a local audience.	50-52
The Chop Theatre Society	N/A	\$5,000	\$5,000	Support for presentation of <i>Playing Fields</i> , a site-specific play taking place on a sports field, and co-written by youth from a Richmond secondary school. During Culture Days, community members will participate in this event highlighting the intersections of sports and the arts.	53-55
Vancouver Cantonese Opera	\$4,500	\$5,000	\$4,500	Support a series of concerts and water sleeve classes both online and in-person in Richmond. Performances aim to entertain and to preserve the unique traditional art form of Cantonese opera at the highest level to both Chinese and non-Chinese audiences.	56-58
Vancouver Sustainability Initiative Foundation	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	This organization is not eligible.	59-60
Project Sub-Total	\$41,750	\$62,300	\$34,800		
GRAND TOTALS	\$127,364	\$165,350	\$130,039		



Society: Canadian YC Chinese Orchestra Association

Society Mandate Summary

To promote Chinese music by performing to the public in the City of Richmond and the greater Vancouver area.

Society History

Since inception, the association has had numerous performances by members in terms of main orchestra, smaller ensembles, as well as solo performances. Since 2012, the orchestra has registered as the first music group in residence of the Cultural Centre of City of Richmond. Our efforts to promote Chinese culture also include cooperation with other groups. One of our major performances, “Guests from afar please stay”, was in partnership with Vancouver Choir at the Norman Rothstein Theatre (about 350 audience capacity). The performance had a full house and as a result, another show was added (in about 6 months). Since 2013, we have been a partner of the Multicultural Heritage Festival held each summer at the Richmond Cultural centre and our performance of "O Canada" with our own instruments was welcomed by the audiences as well as Government officials. For the last 14 years, CYCCOA continued to be a strong element in the City of Richmond. In addition to performing in many concerts, CYCCOA hosted educational workshops, participated in community services, provided free performance for senior homes, local regional centres, cultural events, festivals, and celebrations across our community. As an artist group in residence of the Richmond Cultural Center, we participate actively in the Cultural events in our community. With Cultural Grants from the City of Richmond in the last 11 years, we have been able to produce large scale concerts at The Richmond Gateway Theatre, such as 2014 Ocean Hometown concert, 2015 Qiao's Grand Courtyard concert, 2016 Festival Gala and Multicultural Art Festival concert, 2017 Rising stars concert, 2018 Canada International Art Festival, 2019 Colours of Summer concert, 2023 Essence of Jin and 2024 Colourful Yunan. In fact, the above concerts were all a huge success and we had a full house of over 500 audiences each time.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$57,700.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$7,464.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2023	\$8,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$6,587.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$51,398.95	\$58,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$50,855.56	\$57,700.00
Surplus:	\$543.39	\$300.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$543.39	\$843.39

Other Funders

Gaming grant:	\$7,000.00
Canada summer job grant:	\$11,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$7,000.00
Aggregate Score: 41

Recommendation:

7000

Grant Conditions:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to present intergenerational music performances at concerts and community events while sharing Chinese culture.

Society: Cinevolution Media Arts Society

Society Mandate Summary

Cinevolution makes experimental film and media art accessible for all, with a focus on connecting and empowering immigrants and other historically marginalized communities through participatory community festivals and events.

Society History

Founded in 2007 by a group of Pan Asian filmmakers, artists and activists, Cinevolution is Richmond's first and only media arts organization. Since then, it has been a leading voice for newcomer communities while promoting independent film, interdisciplinary arts and critical dialogue on migration and diversity. Recognized for excellence in programming, vision, and community impact, Cinevolution was twice a finalist for the Richmond Arts Awards Cultural Leadership Award, recipient of Volunteer Richmond's Nova Star Award in 2013 and awarded the Richmond Arts Award for Artistic Innovation in 2012. From 2007-2010, Cinevolution presented 3 editions of the Vancouver New Asia Film Festival (VNAFF), 2 DocuAsia Forums, 30+ community screenings, and Richmond's first youth film outreach program – the Dream Project. From 2011-2014, VNAFF rebranded as the Your Kontinent: International Film and Media Arts Festival, adopting a more global scope for film selection and introducing media art elements. In 2015, we transitioned from a traditional film festival model to two signature programs: Digital Carnival (DC), an annual festival of cutting-edge media art for community audiences, and DocuAsia Forum which uses documentary as a platform to gather artists, researchers, community organizers and diverse publics for critical dialogue on current issues in contemporary Asia, their local relevance, and global implications. DC was part of the Richmond World Festival from 2015-2019. Highlighting a wide range of emerging and established media artists and art forms, the series has established experimental media arts as part of Richmond's public landscape. In 2021, DC took place as a hybrid festival for the first time with a partnership exhibit at the Richmond Art Gallery. Cinevolution has also co-produced several artist/community-led projects: Art Talking Women (2012-2016), Underwater Chinatown (2014-2016), Surviving Samsara (2017-present), Suzhou Alley Women's Mural Project (2018-present).

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$184,417.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

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Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$8,500.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$9,100.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$97,178.00	\$184,456.00
Total Expenses:	\$97,236.00	\$184,417.00
Surplus:	\$58.00	\$39.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$51,676.00	\$51,715.00

Other Funders

BCAC ABCD: \$3348; BCAC Accelerate: \$30000; BCAC Impact: 25485; BC Gaming Grant: \$10000:	\$68,833.00
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Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$10,000.00
Aggregate Score: 47.75

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to produce innovative media arts programs that aim to build connections for and empower immigrant and typically marginalized communities.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Community Arts Council of Richmond

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

Prior to 1970, a group of like-minded arts advocates came together with a shared vision: to support and sustain the arts community in Richmond and encourage its growth. From this vision, the Community Arts Council of Richmond (CACR) was born. Over time, CACR has expanded its reach, connecting artists and citizens to share the invaluable benefits of the arts. CACR has made significant contributions to Richmond’s cultural landscape, raising major funds for capital building projects such as The Gateway Theatre and the Richmond Cultural Centre. The organization has also contributed to all art disciplines by offering grants, scholarships, and event sponsorships, as well as organizing and hosting numerous classes and workshops across the city. Additionally, CACR provides gallery space at a nominal cost for artist members to exhibit and sell their work and has produced countless exhibitions and shows that increase the visibility of the arts in Richmond. The organization also supports other arts and culture groups through financial and intellectual assistance, sharing expertise and experience to strengthen the arts community as a whole. CACR's working board is highly engaged, meeting monthly to plan events, stay updated on developments in the arts and culture sector, and explore new ways to increase membership and partnerships. The board actively fosters collaborations with other arts and culture organizations to maximize their collective impact. Furthermore, CACR is dedicated to supporting underserved youth by offering programs that provide them with opportunities to explore the arts. This commitment underscores the belief that the arts enrich lives, bridge cultural gaps, and help build a stronger, more connected community.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$42,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,130.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$9,182.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$30,746.00	\$30,550.00
Total Expenses:	\$27,003.00	\$42,000.00
Surplus:	\$3,743.00	(\$11,450.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$107,782.00	\$96,332.00
		Other Funders
Community Gaming Grants:		\$4,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$8,650.00

Aggregate Score: 40

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide a wide range of creative opportunities that develop community arts in Richmond. The group offers programming that reflects diverse cultures, ages and art forms.

Grant Conditions:

N/A



Society: Richmond Arts Coalition

Society Mandate Summary

We are a voice for artists and the arts in Richmond. We promote, support, and advocate for the Arts in all their various forms within Richmond, BC.

Society History

In 2004, the City of Richmond passed the Richmond Arts Strategy, including recommendations to improve communication between arts groups and to strengthen the arts community. As a direct result, The Richmond Arts Coalition (RAC) was formed as a Society on November 1st, 2005. In 2008, the City endorsed a '2010 Arts Plan', identifying RAC as the advocacy organization responsible for bringing local artists and arts organizations together. RAC partners with the City on community events such as the annual Richmond Arts Awards. RAC also applies for grants to hire local artists for the annual Richmond Maritime Festival, among other events. In 2013, RAC established an endowment fund with the Richmond Community Foundation. (This currently funds a Youth Arts Award.) Also in 2013, RAC surveyed artists, arts organizations, and the public about the state of the arts in Richmond. Since 2015, RAC has collaborated with the Richmond Art Gallery on ArtRich, a bi-annual, month-long, juried exhibition of local artists. (A Youth ArtRich took place in 2024.) Since 2018, RAC has collaborated with the Steveston Historical Society on the annual Songs in the Snow: A Vintage Christmas event, running the artist call and seeking out grants to bring arts funding into Richmond. RAC's website, email newsletters, and social media accounts share arts events and opportunities, and feature local artists. In 2020, RAC organized a digital Maritime Festival; the virtual online event received over 46,000 viewings. In 2021, RAC launched the Let's Celebrate Together video series highlighting artists, with five iterations. Since 2022, RAC has supported local artists and youth during Culture Days, partnering with the School Board on workshops and exhibitions. In 2023, RAC connected artists and students between Richmond and Wakayama, Japan, Richmond's sister city, with online art workshops and exhibitions. As an advocacy organization, RAC engages with City staff and Council on arts issues, speaks with BC and Federal representatives, and reaches out to community groups to promote and advocate the importance of supporting Art and Artists for a healthy and vibrant Richmond. RAC advocates for an Arts Needs Assessment, for formalized Arts Strategies, for community partnerships, and for other ways to support local Arts and Artists.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$87,986.00

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Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$9,100.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$68,828.16	\$87,986.00
Total Expenses:	\$71,864.01	\$87,986.00
Surplus:	(\$3,035.85)	\$0.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$27,776.76	\$27,776.76

Other Funders

BC Community Gaming Grant - Spring 2025:	\$9,500.00
Canadian Heritage Building Communities through Arts and Heritage - Local Festivals Grant (Richmond Maritime Festival):	\$30,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$10,000.00

Aggregate Score: 46.75

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to promote, support and advocate for the arts in Richmond. Programs include a monthly online newsletter as well as producing visual and performing arts events throughout the year.

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Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Richmond Community Band Society

Society Mandate Summary

To provide the Richmond public with focused musical concerts, as well as providing seniors in long term/permanent residential care with some outside entertainment. To promote music in local schools through joint concerts and to provide an outlet for the musical aspirations of our members, many of whom are returning to an instrument after years or even decades of not playing.

Society History

Branch 5 of the Royal Canadian Legion created the band in 1973 and fully supported it until 1976 when it became independent of the Legion and was incorporated as The J.S. Thompson Band Society. In 1996 it was renamed The Lulu Island Music Society and in 2003 the Richmond Community Band Society. Throughout these name changes the band retained the same musical focus. Rehearsals are every Monday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 pm in the Ukrainian Hall on Francis Road. Our music director is Cheryl McHugh, a local professional musician, conductor, and educator. Cheryl joined us this September, following the retirement of our previous conductor, Bob Mullett, who had been in that role for 46 years. Our role in Richmond is to provide a varied series of musical events by improving the skills of our members at rehearsals. Past performances have included November 11th ceremonies at the City Hall, the July 1st Canada Day parade in Steveston, the Ladner Bandfest, and an annual (for 34 years) ticketed fund raising concert at the Gateway Theatre. We relocated to the Peace Mennonite Church for concerts when the Gateway Theatre changed its focus to professional performances. We also have performed at various seniors' residences, the Minoru Seniors' Centre (now the Minoru Centre for Active Living), Aberdeen Shopping Mall, the Steveston Fish Cannery, the Britannia Heritage Shipyard and Westwind Elementary School. In past summers we have present outdoor concerts in Richmond parks. In 1995 we were invited to participate in the ceremonies celebrating the liberation of the Netherlands by Canadian Armed Forces at the end of WW2. In 1989 the band toured England and Scotland. In the summer of 2021, we held outdoor rehearsals and presented an outdoor concert at Thomas Kidd School Park. Due to the closing of Brighthouse United Church, we lost our previous rehearsal space, but are pleased with our new home at the Ukrainian Community Centre.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,400.00

Society Operating Budget: \$19,075.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable) 308

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$5,400.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$3,350.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$2,052.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$18,460.00	\$19,105.00
Total Expenses:	\$18,435.00	\$19,075.00
Surplus:	\$25.00	\$30.00
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$6,649.55)	(\$6,644.55)

Other Funders

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$5,400.00

Aggregate Score: 46.25

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs for this long-standing musical band's performances at annual local events such as Remembrance Day and Canada Day. The organization provides year-round engagement for seniors in the community.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Richmond Community Orchestra and Chorus Association

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

Founded in 1986 ROCA has been in continuous operation (two Covid years excepted) with 5-6 concerts per year in three Richmond churches. Concerts are usually well attended by 200-300 each and we play music of all kinds from classical works to Disney and Star Wars. Special works included presentation of local Canadian composer Bruno Cavalca's "Dissolution" composition just prior to Covid. The 2023 Season saw a contemporary pop music concert featuring arrangements of Frank Ludwig (of legendary rock and roll group Trooper) arranged a medley of songs by Trooper, with other arrangements by local musicians including Pink Floyd by Rook Bridson, Gordon Lightfoot's Rainy Day People arranged for choir by Erica Phare-Bergh and Metallica's Nothing Else Matters arranged for ROCA by Steven Robb. Other notable performances include: performing with guest conductor Pablo Sosa from Argentina, a Canadian premiere of "The Dragons are Singing Tonight" by New Zealand composer David Hamilton (1998), a commission and premiere of Brian Tate's "This Island" (2000), singing with Canadian Imant Raminsh at Carnegie Hall in New York (2006), a performance with Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra at the River Rock Theatre (2010), leading the singing of the official Olympic Torch Anthem as part of the Torch Ceremony at Richmond's "O Zone" (2010) and performing with Chantal Kreviazuk for the Richmond Hospital Foundation's 15th Starlight Gala (2013). ROCA continues to seek new members, performers and opportunities for community partnerships within Richmond. An important annual event is our Rising Stars concert with solo performances from local senior students. Some winners have gone on to professional careers in Canada and abroad.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$125,100.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$9,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$8,300.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$7,600.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$82,902.58	\$114,400.00
Total Expenses:	\$124,549.18	\$125,100.00
Surplus:	(\$41,646.60)	(\$10,700.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$23,449.53	\$12,749.53

Other Funders

BC Gaming Grant:	\$13,500.00
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Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$9,000.00

Aggregate Score: 43.25

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs for providing an annual program of orchestra and choir concerts to Richmond residents.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra

Society Mandate Summary

The Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra (RDYO) is a professional orchestral preparation program for young musicians, ages 6 to 25, providing instruction and performance opportunities in an ensemble setting.

Society History

The Orchestra's journey started back in September 1971, commencing rehearsals in Ladner. Under the leadership of Harry Gomez, who served as both the Conductor and Music Director, the ensemble took shape with approximately forty dedicated musicians. The Orchestra's inaugural performance took place at an open rehearsal held at the Ladner Community Centre for Mayor Dugald Morrison later that same year. Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, the Orchestra experienced remarkable growth, drawing talented young musicians not only from Richmond but also from across the Lower Mainland. Its core mission remained centered on offering exceptional orchestral training under the guidance of highly qualified musical instructors. In 2013, acknowledging that a significant portion of its young talent hailed from Richmond, the Orchestra officially rebranded itself as the Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra. After the relocation to Richmond, the organization's enrollment nearly doubled to roster of 111 young performers organized into seven divisions: Symphony, Senior Strings, Intermediate Strings, Junior Strings, Senior Winds, Junior Winds, and Chamber Music. Through the pandemic (2020-2022), RDYO creatively offered online classes and persisted through all its challenges. The board uses this time to engaged in a thorough strategic planning process. In 2022, thanks to the consistent and creativity of the RDYO board, faculty and staff, RDYO become the youngest community group to ever win GOLD at the MusicFest National competition. In the fall of 2022, the number of young musicians enrolled at RDYO skyrocketed to over 150 students In 2023, following its strategic planning, RDYO established its first full time staff position, and established co-leadership of professional administration: Operations Director and Music Director. Despite the challenge of a venue closure, RDYO continues to draw increased number of musician. Currently, 167 students played weekly at RDYO. Year after year, the RDYO presents a multitude of outreach concerts in Richmond and the greater Metro Vancouver area, with notable appearances at events such as the Richmond World Festival, Culture Days, Richmond Cultural Centre, Richmond Public Library, WE Day, Maple Residences, and Aberdeen Centre. The RDYO stands as a vibrant and continually expanding contributor to Richmond's rich cultural landscape.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00
Society Operating Budget: \$305,719.18

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,130.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$9,100.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$239,982.17	\$294,270.25
Total Expenses:	\$267,684.57	\$305,719.18
Surplus:	\$27,702.40	\$11,448.93
Accumulated Surplus:	\$4,519.82	(\$6,929.11)
		Other Funders
40,000 Gaming, 25,000 BC Arts Council:		\$65,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$10,000.00
Aggregate Score: 46

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide a professional orchestral preparation program for children and youth. This educational opportunity is enhanced with active engagement in the community by providing performances at local events.

Grant Conditions:

N/A



Society: Richmond Improv Theatre Society

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

The Richmond Improv Theatre Society (RITS), formerly known as Tickle Me Pickle (TMP), has been an integral part of the Richmond arts scene since its inception in 2000. Having officially transitioned to a not-for-profit society in 2013 and subsequently rebranded as RITS, we are proud to offer improv classes, presentations, and performances throughout the City of Richmond. With the support of a Project Assistance grant, we have significantly expanded our programming to include youth improv sessions, adult drop-in classes, registered classes of varying skill levels, and seniors’ classes. Additionally we have forged ongoing partnerships creating programming with BC Culture Days, Children’s Arts Festival, the Richmond School District, and a variety of other community organizations. Over the past five years, we have encountered challenges, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, and had to start from the ground up. Nevertheless, through the drive and dedication of a few individuals, RITS created a wide range of engaging and effective programs through strategic marketing, networking within the Richmond community, and program implementation. Moreover, we have cultivated a diverse community, and have made improv accessible to everyone. We have expanded our board of directors, and we have a roster of staff who deliver our programs, and run the organization; we are now poised to enhance our operational systems and continue to grow our improv community for the long term.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$30,470.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,150.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$4,550.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$23,798.66	\$30,470.00
Total Expenses:	\$23,643.13	\$30,470.00
Surplus:	\$155.53	\$0.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$0.00	\$155.53

Other Funders

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$10,000.00

Aggregate Score: 46.75

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide a series of entertaining improvisation workshops and performances for adults and youth throughout the city. This organization also provides engagement opportunities for community members of a diverse range of ages and cultures under the banner of their motto to “share the stage.”

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Richmond Music School Society

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

The Richmond Music School Society (RMS) has been a committed contributor to the cultural life of Richmond since it was established in 1979. As we enter our 45th anniversary season, we remain as committed as ever to a high standard of professional criteria with a focus on the accessibility of quality music education to all sectors of Metro Vancouver. As a founding member of the BC Association of Community Music Schools, RMS must adhere to a high standard of professional criteria to which commercial schools are not bound. Our focus is on the accessibility of music education to all sectors of the Richmond community, with an emphasis on program excellence and community work. Between the cost of instrument purchases, equipment rentals, sheet music, lesson fees, and program fees, music lessons can be a luxury that not everyone can afford. RMS is bridging this gap by ensuring equity of access to quality music education through its various outreach programs, bursaries, scholarships and affordable lesson fees. Offering lessons in a wide range of styles—from classical to jazz, rock, and pop—RMS serves students of all ages and abilities. While much of the instruction prepares students for the Canadian Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) and U.K. Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) examinations, the school also offers interest-based programs like songwriting, ukulele, and music appreciation. RMS also offers outreach programs to bridge the gap for those who may find music education financially out of reach. RMS has maintained a strong community presence, performing at notable Richmond events like Winter Wonderland at City Hall, Culture Days, and Aberdeen Centre. Students regularly participate in outreach concerts at senior living facilities, providing joy and connection to those often isolated from society and the performing arts. RMS' community engagement includes the 2010 music marathon, during which RMS musicians performed 40 hours of music to welcome Olympic athletes to the Winter Games, as well as performances at events such as the Arts Education Awards Ceremony (by invitation of the City of Richmond) held at the Gateway Theatre on May 4, 2022, the grand opening of the Richmond Kids exhibition in September 2023 and the Richmond Community Foundation's Donor Appreciation Event in April 2024.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$529,100.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

GP - 316

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$9,370.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$10,000.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$621,795.00	\$529,100.00
Total Expenses:	\$599,659.00	\$529,100.00
Surplus:	\$22,136.00	\$0.00
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$5,072.00)	(\$5,072.00)

Other Funders

BC Gaming Grant:	\$80,000.00
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Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$10,000.00

Aggregate Score: 46.5

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide high-quality music education and to foster community appreciation of music. This organization also provides accessible music programs for people with disabilities.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Richmond Singers

Society Mandate Summary

Society History

The Richmond Singers is a diverse community of 55 women that produces two to three major concerts annually and is an active participant in community life in Richmond, singing at City of Richmond events and for charity benefits. The choir has sung at the BC Seniors’ Games, participates annually in Culture Days, represented BC at UNISONG celebrations in Ottawa and Festival 500 in St Johns, Newfoundland, and in 2016 sang at the Kathaumixw International Choral Festival. During the pandemic lock-down, members faithfully participated in weekly virtual rehearsals and produced four virtual choral recordings including “O Canada” for the City of Richmond’s Canada Day celebrations. The Richmond Singers Ensemble was created in 1989 to perform in smaller venues. They are group of 18 singers (active and retired choir members) and 1 accompanist that meet Wednesday mornings at the Richmond Yacht Club and perform mini concerts at senior, care facilities and small community events. Part of their program is to engage the audience to sing. During the COVID lockdown the Ensemble produced a “sing-a-long” video and distributed it to care homes. Our founding member, Pam Hiensch, still sings in the Ensemble and her strong sense of community service and love of singing has inspired the choir for 50+ years. In 2021, Pam was awarded the Governor General’s Canada Volunteer Award for her initiative and community impact.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$10,000.00

Society Operating Budget: \$136,525.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$8,100.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$8,100.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$9,182.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$76,533.00	\$97,025.00
Total Expenses:	\$60,110.00	\$136,525.00
Surplus:	\$16,423.00	(\$39,500.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$53,565.00	\$14,065.00

Other Funders

\$12,000.00
received before
Jun 30/24 in our
gaming account
and Restricted
Funds for use Jul
2024- June 2025
financial year.:

\$12,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$8,650.00

Aggregate Score: 41.75

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs of this choir that provides public and private performances for the community. The group also commissions new artistic work and provides outreach performances for local seniors.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Richmond Youth Choral Society

Society Mandate Summary

To provide the children and youth of Richmond and the surrounding Metro Vancouver area an excellent choral music education and a diverse range of prestigious performance opportunities. Our desire is to enrich their lives and nurture them through choral music, building their self-confidence, respect for each other, balancing harmony within diversity, to become proud community contributors and builders of our city's multicultural atmosphere.

Society History

In 2000, a choir of 75 elementary school voices from across our city formed under the direction of 3 Richmond teachers. This choir was formed to sing at the BC Music Educators Conference. These teachers continued a Richmond School District Choir (Richmond Elementary Honour Choir) for 2 years. With school district cut backs, Lorraine, Catherine and parents created the Richmond Youth Choral Society in 2002. Membership began with 45 singers. By October 2003, a Secondary Choir was added. In our 12th season we launched our 3rd choir, the Prelude Choir for children 5 - 8 years of age. Performance highlights include 2010 Olympic performances, performing with and hosting the Wakayama Children's Choir from our sister city. Wakayama, Japan and in 2015 we returned the visit to Wakayama. In 2013 we commissioned "Listen to the Music" by Timothy Corlis and premiered it with the VYSO. It was received with a standing ovation. We have worked with other composers like Larry Nickel and Iman Habibi. In 2015 we participated in "World Beat" with international conductor Henry Leck. For our 15th Anniversary season we planned a year of celebration including a collaboration with the RDYO to premier another new commission partnering with Timothy Corlis called "We Will Sing You Home". We also represented Richmond and BC in Ottawa on July 1st for Canada 150. In 2017 we collaborated with a professional Theater production called "The Ridiculous Darkness" with Alley theater, which won a Jessie. In 2018 we represented Canada at the World Choir Games in South Africa. We managed to stay active during the pandemic despite significantly reduced registration. We also resurrected, "Voices in Peace" a free community concert for Richmond on Remembrance Day. We participated in Kathaumixw, in Powell River this past July 2023. In July of 2024, we collaborated with the Fraser Valley Children's Chorus and attended the World Choir Games in New Zealand! With the support of the Sister City Committee we plan to return to Wakayama in July of 2025.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$7,650.00
Society Operating Budget: \$26,605.00

GP - 320

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$7,650.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2023	\$7,650.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$7,600.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$23,843.61	\$27,450.00
Total Expenses:	\$24,196.73	\$26,605.00
Surplus:	(\$353.12)	\$845.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$471.39	\$1,316.39

Other Funders

BC Gaming:	\$7,000.00
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Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$6,539.00

Aggregate Score: 40

Recommendation:

Support organizational expenditures such as artist fees, supplies, venue rental, insurance and general operational costs in order to provide Richmond children and youth with choral music education. Participants have the opportunity to perform at community gatherings while also representing Richmond at international events.

Grant Conditions:

N/A



Society: Arisun Yue Opera Society
Project Name: The Five Daughters Offer Birthday Felicitations
Dates: November 2025

Project Summary

In April, we will have "Yue Opera Exerpts" performance in Michale J Fox Theatre. In November, the full play "The Five Daughters Offer Birthday Felicitations" will be performed (venue TBD).

Society Mission/Mandate

Yue opera, is the second most popular opera form out of over 360 opera genres in China. Founded in January 2018, The Arisun Yue Opera Society (AYOS) is the largest Yue Opera Society in our British Columbia. The AYOS has a mandate to promote Yue Opera Performance Development. Our program is to deliver both formal and informal Yue Opera production, learning and appreciation workshops, conferences and seminars for opera lovers and all Canadians.

Society History

Our association is a 40+ members organization which will produce a formal public performance at a formal performance hall such as the Michael J Fox Theatre or similar community centers every year. Since the inception, we organize workshops for the purpose of opera practice under the guidance of our senior professional performers on every Saturday at a rental place in Richmond until February 2020 as Covid-19 became a serious threat. Most of our members are residents in the Richmond community and our association play a very unique role to promote, to train and to produce live Yue Opera performances to the local citizens. We have on a regular basis an audience of 30 to 40 (non-members from our association)to come and enjoy live performance of Yue Opera. On April 22 2019, we produced the first ever formal Yue Opera Performance at the Michael J Fox Theatre to the citizens of Vancouver. We have a full house of audiences over 530 and was a big success. Local citizens from all walks of lives and different ethnic backgrounds came and enjoy a professional level of Yu Opera performance. With hard working from our members, we have been able to set tickets at a reasonable price and seniors and students are happy to get their 20% discount. On the other hand, our AYOS also performs for the local community during Ethnic festival (e.g. during the Chinese Spring festival, Canadian Multi-cultural events, Christmas time) at local community centers such as The Vancouver Round House Community Center, Sunset Community centers and senior homes . Since February this year, we basically move all activities on line. Using Zoom and wechat, we have been able to provide Yue Opera training and appreciation to our members as well Yue Opera lovers. In 2021, we have been able to produce

quarterly cloud production and have all been released on both the Youtube and the Wechat platforms.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$31,100.00
Society Operating Budget: \$31,100.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$3,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,050.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$3,800.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$15,130.00	\$31,100.00
Total Expenses:	\$15,252.00	\$31,100.00
Surplus:	(\$122.00)	\$0.01
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$3.00)	(\$3.00)

Other Funders

BC gaming grant: \$9,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$0.00
Aggregate Score: N/A

Recommendation:

Project could not be considered due to not meeting 2025 Grant conditions.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: BCPhilharmonic SOciety
Project Name: "The future of the music" winter concert 2024
Dates: 2024.12.21

Project Summary

"The future of the music" is an upcoming winter concert that will be performed by the BC Philharmonic Orchestra with some Chinese Traditional percussion instruments, featuring various Studio Ghibli pieces such as "Merry go round of life", "A summer's" and theme from "no ni kuni". Such themes of hope and friendship, which is quite apparent in studio ghibli films, are reflected in a way through the pieces. Since we are a youth orchestra, we would definitely like to inspire the younger generations to enjoy music and be able to play along with us.

Society Mission/Mandate

Formed at the end of 2016, the BC Philharmonic Orchestra Society BCPO (formally known as Vancouver Youth Philharmonic Orchestra Society) is a non-profit society with a mandate to promote, to perform and to produce orchestra music in Vancouver as well as all over the world. The mission of the BC Philharmonic Society is to provide organizational support to promote and serve the needs of its members in their many musical activities. The founding principles of the Society are inclusion and innovation in developing a musical legacy. The mandate of the Society is to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of regional cultural activities, both contemporary and traditional, and share and develop common cultural understanding and experience with members and audience alike through public performance events and educational programs.

Society History

Since the end of 2016, the BCPS has become very popular in the greater Vancouver (including Richmond) community by giving out many public performances by musicians under the supervision of music director/conductor Ray Zhuo, who won the first prize at Romania Black Sea International Conducting Competition. Our orchestral group has been involved in community events and concerts starting from 2018-present. A few (of many) events are listed below: 1. Annual Concerts @ Fraser-View Church, Scottish Culture Centre, UBC Chan Centre 2. Christmas/New Year Concerts @ Aberdeen Centre 2017-2019 3. Disney World Concerts @ Orlando, Florida 2018, 2024 4. New Year "Concert in the Clouds" @ Richmond 2019 5. "Culture Days" Concerts @ Downtown Vancouver 2021-2024 6. Disability Fundraiser Concert @ Richmond Centre for Disability 2021-2022 7. Local Community Concerts @ South Arm Park, Courtyard & Pinegrove Senior House 2022 8. Open rehearsal @ Scottish Culture Centre 2024 9. Sunshine

Concert @ UBC Chan Centre 2024 10. “Sounds of Silver World” Concert @ Norman Rothstein Theatre, Vancouver 2024 Furthermore, our value of interconnectedness within Richmond’s community is demonstrated with our “Open Rehearsal” program. Catered towards curious students and adults alike, we accommodate live practice demonstrations weekly for those individuals to come see us practice! Over the years, we have had multiple individuals express their surprise of our ensemble and its diverse musicians, which has opened their insight towards youth orchestral groups in the lower mainland.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$42,500.00
Society Operating Budget: \$42,500.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$3,850.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$4,550.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$91,662.00	\$43,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$79,882.00	\$42,500.00
Surplus:	\$11,780.00	\$500.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$10,315.00	\$10,815.00
		Other Funders
BC gaming:		\$4,000.00
Canadian Heritage Fund:		\$5,500.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$0.00
Aggregate Score: N/A

Recommendation:

Project could not be considered due to not meeting 2025 Grant conditions.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association
Project Name: Multicultural Musical Recital - Dedicated for Mom & Dad
Dates: 2025/05/11

Project Summary

The Multilateral Music Recital: Dedicated for Mom & Dad (Organized by the Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association) is an annual event that celebrates the virtues of family affection, respect for the elderly, and the promotion of multicultural integration. This event, which has been held for several consecutive years, is a significant cultural gathering aimed at fostering greater understanding and appreciation of diverse traditions and values within the Richmond community and beyond.

Society Mission/Mandate

The Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association (CCCA) is a non-profit business association dedicated in promoting international business, investment and cultural exchange. Our Mission: To Create, Develop and Promote the platform of learning and exchange of talented youth and children performers. To offer help to vulnerable seniors to improve their overall well-being. To promote cultural exchange, media interlink and philanthropic activities for the community, especially the seniors. We will continue to promote international business, investment and culture exchange too. Our Community Senior Service focuses on services to minority groups and non-white of colour, especially senior women, through different programs such as Senior Digital Literacy Courses, Senior Connections and Senior Party. Our Community Youth Service offers opportunities to show their talents, take part in volunteer activities and learn social experience.

Society History

The Canada Chain Commerce and Culture Association (CCCA) is a non-profit business association founded in Richmond, BC, with a mission to promote international business, investment, and cultural exchange. Since its inception, CCCA has actively engaged with the community through programs designed to enhance the lives of both youth and seniors, fostering a strong sense of cultural unity and social well-being. One of CCCA's signature initiatives is the annual "Dedicated for Mom & Dad Multicultural Musical Recital," which has been held every Mother's Day for the past three years. This event is offered free of charge to seniors living in Richmond and celebrates diverse musical traditions, bringing together people from various cultural backgrounds. By providing this platform, CCCA helps promote cross-cultural understanding and appreciation, while offering seniors an enjoyable and enriching experience. Additionally, CCCA organizes regular one-day trips for seniors living in Richmond, providing them with opportunities to experience beautiful

surroundings of Vancouver. These trips not only help seniors stay socially connected but also support their physical and mental well-being. By focusing on minority groups, especially senior women of color, CCCA continues to advocate for inclusivity and improved quality of life for vulnerable populations. CCCA's contributions extend to the younger generation as well, offering youth opportunities to showcase their talents, engage in volunteer work, and develop valuable social skills. These programs nurture young leaders and strengthen their connection to the multicultural fabric of the community. Through its wide range of initiatives, the CCCA has played a key role in promoting multiculturalism and diversity in Richmond. Its commitment to fostering international cultural exchange, community service, and philanthropic activities has made it an integral part of the city's vibrant and inclusive society.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$10,800.00
Society Operating Budget: \$31,500.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$31,520.00	\$32,500.00
Total Expenses:	\$31,465.00	\$31,714.00
Surplus:	\$55.00	\$786.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$55.00	\$841.00

Other Funders

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$0.00
Aggregate Score: N/A

Recommendation:

This organization is not eligible.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society

Project Name: Moon Celebration

Dates: September 6, 2025

Project Summary

In this proposal, the Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society proposes a Full Moon Celebration event in Richmond City. Full Moon Celebrations are cultural traditions in many Asian countries and nations. The content of the event is Han Music performance by a professional Chinese instruments ensemble, singer, narrator, a community choir and dancers.

Society Mission/Mandate

The organization was established 13 years ago as 'Huayi' (VBCM) Production and later on registered as a non-profit organization as The Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society. The organization puts its energy to promote performing arts based on Chinese culture and to promote cultural exchange between Canada and China. The mission for the Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society is to promote performing arts and make a pool to pull people together from different cultures to work with music. Even though the Society is based on traditional Chinese culture, there is no limitation on opening and exploring new ideas and styles for the potential of creating new concepts for performing arts. Through these efforts, the society desires to benefit professional artists and audiences from our community.

Society History

The society has a professional profile with the Canada Council for the Arts and currently is working a CD recording for Han Music that is supported by a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts. Han Music ensemble under management of the society is based in Richmond professional ensemble. Some leading musicians are residents of Richmond city. The society also manages a community choir. The choir rehearses regularly in Richmond and most of the singers and the vocal director are also residents in Richmond city. September 26 BC Richmond Cultural Day - Full Moon Celebration July 15 2023, outdoor event at Canadian Flower of Winery and the event received a cultural grant from Richmond city. July 2022, outdoor event at the Canadian Flower of Winery and the event received a cultural grant from Richmond city. Early 2022, a large video recording project at the Civic Theatre of Surrey Arts Center for music works from Canadian composers. Spring of 2022, brought some Canadian musicians traveling to USA for a collaborative project with Center of Chinese Music and Culture in Middle Tennessee State University. In the past: September 2019, produced "Red Moon" – expression of poem and music, concert At Fraserview Church in Richmond. February 2, 2018, partnered with the White Rock Chinese Association GPCP330 produced a

successful large scale stage show “Gala Showcase of Han Culture) at Bell Performing Arts Centre in Surrey. April 2017, cooperated with Vancouver Intercultural Orchestra for the “Hands On” international drum music festival. The Canada Chinese Performing Arts Society organized the Chinese music session. August 2016 produced the second music festival at Norman Rothstein Theatre Vancouver. In 2015 the singers of the society performed with the Orchid Ensemble at Pyatt Hall of VSO school. Invited to perform at The Sound of Dragon International Music Festival in May 2014. The Han Chinese Music Ensemble, solo singer and Huayi Choir performed a concert titled "The Burst of Folk Songs" Productions to celebrate BC 150 and Vancouver 125 anniversary.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$10,600.00
Society Operating Budget: \$48,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$3,850.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$4,550.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$48,600.06	\$43,206.11
Total Expenses:	\$41,093.95	\$47,925.00
Surplus:	\$7,506.11	(\$4,718.89)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$10,206.11	\$5,487.22

Other Funders

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$4,500.00
Aggregate Score: 42.25

Recommendation:

Support the presentation of Han music and the cultural celebration of the Full Moon at a unique outdoor location.

Grant Conditions:

Project must take place in Richmond.

Society: Direct Theatre Collective Society

Project Name: Monster - Stage Production

Dates: August 22-25, 2025

Project Summary

After a year of dedicated work developing our original musical MONSTER into a full-length production, an intensive workshop and a co-produced in-concert sharing set for Dec 2024, DTC plans to stage the first full-scale production in Richmond in 2025, and we need financial assistance to make that happen. The first iteration debuted as a 55-minute proof-of-concept at the 2023 Vancouver Fringe Festival. In 2024, with the City of Richmond's support, we expanded it into a 110-minute, two-act musical with new characters, ten new songs, and a richer narrative.

Society Mission/Mandate

Direct Theatre Collective Society is a not-for-profit organization committed to producing original new work through devising and collaborative exploration, recognizing art as a vehicle for social and societal change, representing marginalized communities, and using theatre as a device to evoke and provoke. In order to carry out this mandate, the Society will: a. Strive to provide opportunities to collaborators/participants of all races, ages and gender identities, b. Focus on producing new artistic works or presenting established works in revised ways, c. Provide honorariums for all artistic and technical contributions.

Society History

Direct Theatre Collective was founded in 2018 after it burst onto the arts scene with the seminal work HYSTERIA, which premiered at the Vancouver Fringe. Formed on the idea of collective creativity and community, now approaching its sixth anniversary - Direct Theatre Collective (DTC) is an award-winning and critically acclaimed group of writers, producers, actors, and change-makers. Key projects over the last five years include Hysteria (Theatre Production, Vancouver Fringe 2018), Hysteria (Theatre/Music Production, 2019), ver·i·si·mil·i·tude (Theatre/Film Production, 2022), Where Women Gather (Film/Documentary Production, 2022), and MONSTER (Musical Theatre Production, 2023). The latter has been in continuous development throughout 2024, with its potential to evolve into a full-length musical theatre piece marking the biggest milestone for the company to date. Throughout its journey, Direct Theatre Collective has been deeply woven into the fabric of Richmond's arts scene. Notable achievements include winning the City Award for Artistic Innovation in 2020 and creating numerous community events, such as free screenings of productions for Richmond residents and talkback sessions with youth and other community members. DTC p

creative home, where it holds development meetings, rehearsals, auditions, readings, and all other operations. The collective has become a prominent fixture in Richmond's growing artists' district, consistently drawing media attention and accolades. Yet, it is the feedback from the community and audiences that truly fuels the work DTC does.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$83,860.00
Society Operating Budget: \$83,860.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$13,345.23	\$83,860.00
Total Expenses:	\$12,694.71	\$83,860.00
Surplus:	\$650.52	\$10.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$1,966.42	\$1,966.42
		Other Funders
Canada Council for the Arts:		\$25,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$4,500.00
Aggregate Score: 42.50

Recommendation:

Support the updated and expanded version of a new play, Monster, to be performed in Richmond, created and performed by local artists. The play explores modern discourse on topics such as gender roles and cultural identity. The organization is also creating digital tools to reduce accessibility barriers for the audience.

Grant Conditions:

GP - 334

N/A

Society: Familogue Education Society
Project Name: Bridging Cultural Heritage: Empowering Families through Experiential Fair
Dates: Bi-monthly through January 2025 – December 2025

Project Summary

This project will offer an interactive cultural learning experience designed to connect seniors, new immigrants, and families through a variety of activities. The Experiential Fair will include craft workshops, storytelling sessions, culinary experiences, board games, and role-playing activities, all designed to explore and celebrate diverse cultural heritages. Participants will have the opportunity to share their own cultural backgrounds while learning from others, fostering both literacy enhancement and social engagement.

Society Mission/Mandate

Familogue is committed to fostering cultural inclusivity and artistic expression by creating spaces where immigrant families, particularly those with special educational needs, can connect through shared cultural experiences. Our mission is to bridge cultural gaps, promote artistic and educational equity, and provide accessible platforms for intergenerational and intercultural exchange. Through storytelling, creative arts programs, and community engagement, Familogue seeks to celebrate diversity, enhance social inclusion, and empower families to embrace their cultural heritage.

Society History

Recognizing the importance of cultural identity and artistic expression, Familogue offers programs that bring together families to celebrate their heritage through creative and educational activities. Since its inception, Familogue has been at the forefront of promoting cultural exchange and artistic expression through a range of programs and initiatives. These include:

- Cross-Generation Reading Fun and Parent-Kid Reading Fun, which use storytelling and reading to connect families across generations while fostering literacy and cultural understanding.
- Cultural Experiential Zone at our Richmond Service Center, featuring monthly cultural themes where families engage in immersive cultural activities and explore their heritage through hands-on experiences. Each month, the zone highlights a specific cultural tradition or practice, deepening participants' connection to their cultural roots.
- Language Classes and Storytelling Literacy-Enhancing Sessions, which integrate language learning with cultural storytelling, enabling children and families to explore their cultural roots through the arts.

Familogue's commitment to cultural preservation and artistic growth has been supported by partnerships with organizations like Connections Community Services, Gaia Community Care and Wellness Society, and the Chinese Community Library

Service Association. These collaborations have enhanced the reach of our storytelling events, workshops, and language programs, allowing us to make a profound impact on the Richmond community. Our initiatives help families celebrate their cultural backgrounds while promoting greater intercultural understanding.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$12,250.00
Society Operating Budget: \$127,313.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$54,862.00	\$127,324.00
Total Expenses:	\$12,159.00	\$127,313.00
Surplus:	\$42,703.00	\$11.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$42,934.00	\$11.00
		Other Funders
New Horizon:		\$3,500.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$0.00
Aggregate Score: N/A

Recommendation:

This organization is not eligible.

Grant Conditions:

N/A



Society: musica intima Society

Project Name: Confluence

Dates: July 2-12 2025

Project Summary

Developed in collaboration with guest curator Teiya Kasahara, Confluence is an immersive musical and artistic re-imagination of the historic Britannia Shipyards in Steveston. Through music-based performance, Confluence will traverse time, culture, and languages in order to dream about different futures. The unique land at the mouth of the Fraser River (meeting the ocean), traditional lands of the Musqueam, has hosted settlers of Chinese, Japanese, and European descent, demonstrating its importance in the culture and industry of generations of residents and visitors.

Society Mission/Mandate

Please see attached Constitution for official Mandate. VISION musica intima strives to foster human connection through vocal music. MISSION To connect, inspire, and profoundly move people through intimate and collaborative vocal experiences. CORE VALUES We are a professional vocal ensemble committed to artistic excellence. We use vocal music to create, collaborate and connect. We strive to ensure diversity and inclusion. We replenish our community through education and outreach. We are sustained by an artistic environment of trust, mutual respect and admiration.

Society History

Founded in 1992, musica intima has grown from grassroots beginnings to a fully professional vocal ensemble which has championed Canadian music on stages around the world. One of Canada's most esteemed vocal ensembles, musica intima's unique collaborative leadership model invites each of the 12 members to be co-artistic directors of the group, exchanging ideas freely and exploring their individual musical creativity. musica intima strives to be a role model in "going beyond the land acknowledgment" both in the arts communities, and beyond, through building relationships with IBPOC artists across disciplines. The groundbreaking collaboration NAGAMO, with Cree composer Andrew Balfour, demonstrates this commitment to art and society - generating a JUNO nominated, WCMA winning album, but also providing a platform for musica intima to demonstrate their commitment to education and outreach through multiple cross-Canada tours, working with thousands of young singers and artists on collaboration and fostering the decolonization of the choral arts. The ensemble has often had members from Richmond, and in December 2022 a quartet of singers performed throughout the heritage buildings at the Britannia Shipyards Museum site, beginning a partnership that continues as we develop this project with them. **GP - 338**

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$69,145.00
Society Operating Budget: \$269,600.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$363,242.27	\$269,600.00
Total Expenses:	\$389,232.81	\$248,644.08
Surplus:	(\$25,990.54)	\$20,955.92
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$44,807.46)	(\$23,851.54)

Other Funders

BC Arts Council (Arts Impact, confirmed):	\$30,000.00
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Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$5,000.00
Aggregate Score: 46.75

Recommendation:

Support for presentation of Confluence, a musical and artistic re-imagining of the historic Britannia Shipyards in Steveston, demonstrating its importance in the culture and industry of generations of residents and visitors.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Richmond Art Gallery Association

Project Name: Remember Your Teachings with Manuel Axel Strain

Dates: September - November 2025

Project Summary

"Remember Your Teachings" is a series of public programs designed to connect artists and the community through Musqueam artist Manuel Axel Strain's exhibition at RAG. Focused on themes of family and community connections, the initiative will highlight Indigenous cultural sharing and meaning-making. It will align with other related events in the Richmond Cultural Centre, creating a cohesive series of family-oriented activities. The project will feature workshops, talks, tours, and public events led by the exhibiting artist along with other guest presenters throughout the exhibition's duration.

Society Mission/Mandate

Richmond Art Gallery's mandate is to exhibit, preserve, and promote contemporary visual arts, as well as to provide exhibition related programming. The Gallery is dedicated to promoting dialogue among diverse communities on challenging ideas and issues of today as expressed through local, national and international contemporary art. Through its exhibitions, publications, educational programming, collections, and significant partnerships, RAG provides opportunities for the enrichment of life in Richmond while serving the contemporary arts community in Canada.

Society History

Richmond Art Gallery opened its doors in 1980, obtained non-profit charitable status in 1987, and moved to its present location in the Richmond Cultural Centre in 1992. The Gallery has 3,500 square feet of exhibition space, an activity room for workshops and programs, and storage facilities for a Permanent Collection of almost 400 works. To date, the Gallery has presented more than 1500 exhibitions of contemporary art. The Gallery is open and free to the public seven days a week. Education and outreach programs operate year round both online and in person, and include the School Art Program, artist talks and tours, and artist workshops. The Gallery currently offers tours in English and Mandarin, while gallery attendants welcome and orient visitors to the current exhibitions daily. The School Art Program is led by a professional artist and BC certified teacher who adapts all tours and workshops to the grade level and BC school curriculum and serves Richmond, Delta, Tsawwassen, and Vancouver area schools. With an average annual attendance of 20,000 the Richmond Art Gallery welcomes visitors from Richmond, the Greater Vancouver Regional District, the Gulf Islands and the Lower Mainland, as well as provincial, national, and international artists. The

Richmond Art Gallery is well respected regionally and nationally for its quality programming and publications, and for its excellence in art education.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$15,900.00
Society Operating Budget: \$243,400.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$4,582.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$319,282.00	\$244,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$321,644.00	\$243,400.00
Surplus:	(\$2,362.00)	\$600.00
Accumulated Surplus:	(\$2,362.00)	(\$1,762.00)
		Other Funders
BC Gaming + BC Arts Council:		\$10,900.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$5,000.00
Aggregate Score: 47.50

Recommendation:

Support a new initiative that celebrates cultural harmony through food, including a blend of Indigenous gardening practices, Chinese language translation and working with multiple local partners. This project will provide educational opportunities for volunteers and animates the Library/Cultural Centre's Rooftop Garden to engage the local community.

Grant Conditions:

GP - 341

N/A



Society: Richmond Improv Theatre Society

Project Name: RITS Improv Programs

Dates: Sept. 2024-Aug 2025

Project Summary

We wish to maintain and grow our existing programs by building up the robustness of our society's infrastructure, increasing the number of instructors we have to teach our programs, investing in yearly insurance policies, and building new revenue streams. Our 2023-2024 programs throughout the year would include youth improv sessions, adult drop-in sessions, beginner and intermediate registered classes (at the Richmond Cultural Centre), registered seniors classes (Minoru Centre for Active Living and other community centres), community shows, presentations at community events and programs.

Society Mission/Mandate

The purpose of our society, as outlined in our constitution, is as follows: a) Present theatre shows, particularly improv-based, for the community at large; b) Promote the art of improv-based theater to the community at large; c) Provide theatre and leadership and team building education for seniors, adults, youth and children d) Create events for community organizations in need.

Society History

The Richmond Improv Theatre Society (RITS), formerly known as Tickle Me Pickle (TMP), has been an integral part of the Richmond arts scene since its inception in 2000. Having officially transitioned to a not-for-profit society in 2013 and subsequently rebranded as RITS, we are proud to offer improv classes, presentations, and performances throughout the City of Richmond. With the support of a Project Assistance grant, we have significantly expanded our programming to include youth improv sessions, adult drop-in classes, registered classes of varying skill levels, and seniors' classes. Additionally we have forged ongoing partnerships creating programming with BC Culture Days, Children's Arts Festival, the Richmond School District, and a variety of other community organizations. Over the past five years, we have encountered challenges, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, and had to start from the ground up. Nevertheless, through the drive and dedication of a few individuals, RITS created a wide range of engaging and effective programs through strategic marketing, networking within the Richmond community, and program implementation. Moreover, we have cultivated a diverse community, and have made improv accessible to everyone. We have expanded our board of directors, and we have a roster of staff who deliver our programs, and run the organization; we are now poised to enhance our operational systems and continue to grow our improv community for the long term.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$28,470.00
Society Operating Budget: \$28,070.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,150.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$4,550.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$23,798.66	\$28,070.00
Total Expenses:	\$22,215.91	\$28,070.00
Surplus:	\$155.53	\$0.01
Accumulated Surplus:	\$0.01	\$155.53

Other Funders

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$0.00
Aggregate Score: N/A

Recommendation:

This organization has been recommended for an Operating grant.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Steveston Historical Society
Project Name: Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes
Dates: January - August 2025 (performances summer 2025)

Project Summary

Steveston Alive! Walking Tour Vignettes is a unique historical performance series made possible with the collaboration of the drama teacher and students from Steveston-London Secondary school. Students audition for roles and then learn a script with the guidance of their drama teacher. These plays/vignettes are then performed by the students dressed in historical 1917 period costumes. Attendees are guided on an outdoor walking tour of historic Steveston Village with curated stops along the way where the vignettes are performed, showcasing historic sites and Steveston's waterfront.

Society Mission/Mandate

The Steveston Historical Society (SHS) has been in place since 1976. It's mandate is to connect Steveston's diverse heritage with the community through advocacy and by creating programs and events that educate and celebrate the heritage of the people of Steveston, British Columbia.

Society History

The Steveston Historical Society's Board of Directors is made up completely of volunteers who work on events, programs, and community engagement pieces that help to inform Steveston residents and visitors about its diverse heritage. Historically, the Society was responsible for restoring and establishing the Steveston Museum building, built in 1905 as Richmond's first bank. This included collecting artifacts, photos and documents and creating exhibits. In 1979, the building opened as "The Steveston Museum and Post Office" and became the informational hub for the village. The Society participated in the preservation of historic sites, buildings and other museum sites in the area, namely the Gulf of Georgia Cannery. Today, the SHS works in partnership with the City of Richmond to operate the Steveston Museum and is the franchisee of the Canada Post Office. The Japanese Fishermen's Benevolent Society (JFBS) building moved to the site in 2010 and officially opened in 2015. This extension features interpretation about the Japanese Canadian experience in the village from the time of their arrival in Steveston to the time of internment. Recent projects include: - Nikkei Stories of Steveston: 10-part documentary series paying tribute to the strengths and successes of Japanese Canadian pioneers and their descendants. Videos can be viewed in the JFBS building or online at www.nikkeistories.com/#videos - The Fisherman's Park Mural: 12-panel mural series celebrating Steveston's connection to the fishing industry. - Walking Tour Vignettes: a 5 part theatrical walking tour of Steveston. Attendees are taken back to the year 1917 as

high school drama students from Steveston-London Secondary School perform stories of Steveston's shared triumphs and tragedies. - Songs in the Snow: A free winter performance series in the Town Square Park next to the museum. - Steveston Heritage Experience: collaborative multi-site walking tour, with grant from Tourism Richmond

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$10,000.00
Society Operating Budget: \$62,000.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$5,000.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,125.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$4,550.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$103,979.00	\$62,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$99,621.00	\$61,500.00
Surplus:	\$4,358.00	\$500.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$15,681.00	\$16,181.00

Other Funders

Gaming: \$4,300.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$5,000.00
Aggregate Score: 46.25

Recommendation:

Support the return of "Steveston Alive", dramatized walking tours of Steveston. This activity provides educational theatre arts opportunities for youth in Richmond, ranging from acting to costume design.

Grant Conditions:

GP - 346

N/A

Society: Textile Arts Guild of Richmond

Project Name: TAGOR Speakers Series

Dates: 1 May 2025 - 30 April 2026

Project Summary

Since 1975, TAGOR has been offering its members presentations by local, regional, national and international fabric arts teachers and speakers. For its 2025-26 Speakers Series, the Guild will offer five speaker events

Society Mission/Mandate

The Textile Arts Guild of Richmond (TAGOR) currently fulfils its mandate by:

- 1) Advancing textile arts creation by offering members educational and inspiring services such as guest speakers, demonstrations, workshops and Library resources. It publicizes and encourages members to enter public shows and exhibitions with works by the individual and by the Guild. It offers demonstrations of art and hands-on learning experiences several times a year for the public (i.e. Culture Days)
- 2) Producing and creating quilts, book bags, knitted items etc., as requested by our community partner organizations. We also actively seek out new organizations with connections to Richmond that can benefit from our donations.
- 3) Repurposing/repairing textiles for the community to reduce textile waste in the landfill.

Society History

TAGOR was formed in 1975. From 1976 to 1988 the Guild focused on educational workshops and speakers. TAGOR offered eight major public exhibitions in these years. From 2000 to 2010 TAGOR members wanted to do more community work and began searching for local organizations to help. In December 2010 the TAGOR website was launched and that same month, TAGOR won the Constellation Award from the Richmond Volunteer Bureau. In 2011-12, over 70 quilts for the Japanese Tsunami victims were created and sent. In 2012, TAGOR began its partnership with the City of Richmond Parks Department and Tourism Richmond in the creation sale of utility bags made from Richmond Street Banners. In 2012-13, TAGOR launched and successfully completed its 100 Quilt Challenge for Lion's Manor. In 2016 TAGOR created 12 quilts for the families moving into the Habitat for Humanities Richmond Project houses. TAGOR applied for and received a Canada 150 Grant in 2017 and worked with Richmond Public Library to create Our Canadian Bookcase, a quilted wall hanging featuring 150 Canadian authors suggested by the public. In 2018 the TAGOR website was totally re-designed including online registration for workshops. In 2019, TAGOR was chosen by Richmond Public Art to participate in the No. 3 Road Art Column project, successfully completed in February 2020. In Spring 2021, TAGOR partnered with the Richmond Cultural Centre to present the public online

events. During the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 TAGOR produced regular hybrid meetings with speakers and regular attendees from all over BC and Canada. Two more community donation partners were added: Elmbridge Supportive Housing and Aster Place. In early 2023 TAGOR added textile repairing and repurposing to its aims and now regularly sends sewists to help at the Richmond Repair Fairs. In 2024 it connected with the Richmond Museum to provide 3 historic quilts for their "Family Treasures" Exhibit.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$1,300.00
Project Budget: \$2,610.00
Society Operating Budget: \$13,260.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$1,250.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$1,558.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance
2022	\$1,867.00	Arts & Culture Operating Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$13,967.00	\$13,260.00
Total Expenses:	\$9,200.22	\$13,235.00
Surplus:	\$4,766.78	\$25.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$4,766.78	\$4,791.78

Other Funders

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$1,300.00
Aggregate Score: 43

Recommendation:

Support a four-part speakers series that presents accomplished textile artists that share insights and techniques with a local audience.

Grant Conditions:

GP - 349

N/A

Society: The Chop Theatre Society

Project Name: Playing Fields

Dates: Sept 26, 27, 2025

Project Summary

‘Playing Fields’ is an outdoor, participatory theatre performance that takes place on a sports field. The audience is invited onto a field (wearing headphones) to hear the voices of multiple teenagers from Hong Kong, Whitehorse, Richmond BC, & Dublin, Ireland. While listening to the teens share their concerns about growing up, the audience is given live directions by a local teenage announcer, so that they both hear the stories and interviews and become part of the “team.” The show culminates in what feels like a contemplation of youth, and what looks like an audience playing a sports game.

Society Mission/Mandate

The Chop brings together artists to create new works of Canadian theatre. It was founded in 2006 in Vancouver, BC, by Emelia Symington Fedy and Anita Rochon. Recognized for work that is sophisticatedly “simple” – the artistic propositions are spare and clear so that complexities arrive in the depth of the investigation. The Chop is not afraid to explore current social issues and collaborate with the involved communities. With a global reputation of building and touring innovative new works for theatre and non-traditional performance spaces, The Chop integrates ecological and social responsibility into the full life span of their performance works. Artistic Mandate/Mission: The Chop’s work investigates the dynamic between performance and authenticity. It is made from scratch, candid, often derived from biographical material, often involves collaboration with non-performers, and almost always breaks the fourth wall. Equally important to our highly interactive aesthetic is an ongoing commitment to community-engaged programs that create space for locally-rooted exchange. Core Values: -We believe generosity builds connection. -We want our rehearsal processes to be a model for how we want the wider world to function and our processes to be designed in response to the needs of the people we work with. -We want to foster long-term engagement with artists and community members. -We believe in finding hopeful and useful ways of telling difficult stories.

Society History

History: The Chop is celebrating 18 years of creating, producing, and presenting theatre that showcases a multitude of voices, throughout BC, Canada and beyond. To date, The Chop has developed and produced 18 original, full-length pieces of theatre, ranging from intimate, biographical work (eg. How to Disappear Completely, the true story of **GP-351** who helps his

mother die with dignity, presented 30 times globally) to expansive productions showcasing national engagement and long-term rural involvement (eg. the ten-year creative process of Kismet, things have changed, and more recently, Playing Fields, a show about land and belonging (that began in Richmond BC), through the lens of teenagers across the world). We are a company that punches above our weight in the touring circuit and we have developed inventive and sustainable touring models (eg. Pathetic Fallacy, a show about climate change with a touring party of zero, which has toured to four continents). We have a strong history of collaborating with community members. These productions include Sonic Elder, a six-piece band—all aged between 65 and 75 years old—playing the music that inspired them artistically and politically at the Penthouse Nightclub. And, most recently, Playing Fields, built in collaboration with teenagers, its development included a week-long workshop on podcasting and interview skills. A newer value of the company is to bridge the rural and urban artistic divide, as our AD, Emelia Symington Fedy resides in the Shuswap area, with operational support in Vancouver. Through this shift we’ve developed a successful Artists Residency program, with no barriers to attendance, and access to accomplished local mentors. With this residency program we hope to develop long-term projects and meaningful connections, between urban and rural artists, and BC arts organizations. *In specific to Richmond, we are applying for a project grant to support 'Playing Fields' being programmed at Richmond Culture Days in 2025. Both Gateway Theatre and Manager of Community Cultural Development Camyar Chaichian support this application.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$12,300.00
Society Operating Budget: \$179,916.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$142,329.00	\$179,916.00
Total Expenses:	\$141,691.00	\$179,050.00
Surplus:	\$638.00	(\$866.00)
Accumulated Surplus:	\$15,358.00	\$14,492.00

Other Funders
GP - 352

Most Recently Completed Year Proposed Year

**Gaming
contribution from
The Chop
Theatre:**

\$1,000.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$5,000.00

Aggregate Score: 47.25

Recommendation:

Support for presentation of Playing Fields, a site-specific play taking place on a sports field, and co-written by youth from a Richmond secondary school. During Culture Days, community members will participate in this event highlighting the intersections of sports and the arts.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

Society: Vancouver Cantonese Opera
Project Name: Richmond Cultural Harmony 2025
Dates: 2025 February, April, June, July, September, October

Project Summary

Cantonese Opera Extravaganza: A free concert offering Richmond seniors an enriching cultural experience with captivating Cantonese opera performances.
Water-Sleeve Flash Mob Dance Workshop (Aug 22-24, 2025): A free, 3-session workshop for youth/adults, teaching water-sleeve dancing, ending with a public flash mob performance.
Free Workshops (English & Cantonese): Feb: The Art of Water Sleeve Apr: Behind the Scenes June: Opera Tidbits July: The Awakening Sept: Aftershow: The Flower Princess Oct: Meet the Stars

Society Mission/Mandate

The mission of Vancouver Cantonese Opera is to preserve and present the unique traditional art form of Cantonese opera at the highest level to both Chinese and non-Chinese audience. We strive to collaborate with our stakeholders to meet the fundamental need for spiritual and aesthetic satisfaction and richness in our lives. OUR ARTISTIC VISION AND ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES 1) Artistic excellence – creates high-quality works; maintains high standards and creative excellence from all performers. 2) Education – Provide educational seminars/workshops to the community and schools to broaden the reach, appreciation, and understanding of Cantonese opera. 3) Accessible, affordable & entertaining performances for the public 4) Provide employment and business opportunities to Cantonese opera artists, musicians, technicians, and local businesses.

Society History

Vancouver Cantonese Opera (VCO) has been a vital part of Richmond's cultural landscape, blending local community engagement with global connections to the opera scenes in China, Hong Kong, and North America. Since its inception, VCO has upheld core values of artistic integrity, innovation, and accessibility, fostering intercultural and intergenerational dialogue through its programming. VCO is known for its bilingual performances, providing live translations and English/Chinese subtitles to make Cantonese opera accessible to a diverse audience. In addition to traditional theatre venues, VCO performs in public spaces like libraries, community centers, parks, and festivals, ensuring wide community access to this art form. The organization has a rich history of outreach, offering regular classes in Cantonese opera singing and performance techniques, youth summer camps, and free concerts for seniors in care homes. Since 2005, VCO has actively contributed to Richmond's cultural scene by offering classes, participating in multicultural events, and performing at senior homes. In 2013,

VCO launched the Multicultural Heritage Festival in Richmond, further expanding its community reach. In 2016, it partnered with the Richmond World Festival to introduce "The Bamboo Theatre," a popular feature showcasing Cantonese opera. VCO has also hosted numerous free workshops and summer camps, including water sleeve dance workshops in 2018, 2019, and 2022, as well as the "Cantonese Opera Behind the Scenes" series. During the 2022 Culture Days, VCO presented four free water sleeve flash mob dance sessions at the Richmond Cultural Centre. VCO's ongoing mission is to continue offering free workshops, classes, and performances to the Richmond community, promoting Cantonese opera and cultural appreciation for future generations.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$5,000.00
Project Budget: \$14,000.00
Society Operating Budget: \$164,517.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
2024	\$4,500.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2023	\$4,050.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance
2022	\$4,550.00	Arts & Culture Project Assistance

Financial Summary

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$184,702.00	\$169,017.00
Total Expenses:	\$160,853.00	\$161,090.00
Surplus:	\$23,849.00	\$7,927.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$185,177.00	\$47,546.00
		Other Funders
B.C. Gaming Fund:		\$2,500.00
Canada Council:		\$2,500.00

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$4,500.00

GP - 355

Aggregate Score: 42

Recommendation:

Support a series of concerts and water sleeve classes both online and in-person in Richmond. Performances aim to entertain and to preserve the unique traditional art form of Cantonese opera at the highest level to both Chinese and non-Chinese audiences.

Grant Conditions:

N/A



Society: Vancouver Sustainability Initiative Foundation
Project Name: Children's Book on Environmental Sustainability
Dates: October 2024 - December 2024

Project Summary

Designed by a group of passionate high school students, our project involves the writing, drawing, and publication of a children's book about the importance of environmental awareness. This book will be an educational tool to raise eco-consciousness in the next generation, developing a more eco-friendly society. Our hope is to make our work and our mission as accessible as possible through getting it into 31 public libraries and 38 elementary schools across Metro Vancouver. This grant will make it possible for us to publish, print, and ship the book.

Society Mission/Mandate

The purpose of the Vancouver Sustainability Initiative Foundation is to promote environmental sustainability through youth-led initiatives such as fundraisers, community events and educational projects.

Society History

The Society was not officially registered as a non-profit organization until October 2024, but it has been actively serving Richmond residents since its founding in May 2023. We have organized fundraisers for charities, a clean-up drive in Garry Point, and continually promoted awareness of environmental sustainability and innovative solutions online. We are dedicated to work towards a more eco-friendly society as youth leaders and activists.

Grant Request

Requested Amount: \$1,000.00
Project Budget: \$1,000.00
Society Operating Budget: \$0.00

Most Recent Previous Grant(s) (if applicable)

Year	Amount	Grant Program
N/A	N/A	N/A

Financial Summary

GP - 357

	Most Recently Completed Year	Proposed Year
Total Revenue:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Surplus:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accumulated Surplus:	\$0.00	\$0.00

Other Funders

Grant Recommendations

Recommended Amount: \$0.00
Aggregate Score: N/A

Recommendation:

This organization is not eligible.

Grant Conditions:

N/A

City of Richmond Arts and Culture Grants Program



Operating Assistance Guidelines

The City of Richmond allocates grant funding for arts and cultural organizations that provide programming and activities for the benefit of Richmond residents.

This support acknowledges that the work of these organizations contributes to Richmond's quality of life, identity and economy and is extended to recipients who demonstrate vision, accountability and spirit of community service in their operations.

These guidelines incorporate recognized best practices and are designed to ensure accountability for use of public funds; **read through carefully before you make an application.**

Operating grants are by invitation only. Please note, if you are already in the Operating stream, you may apply. However, for the 2025 program, we are not accepting any applications for first time requests.

For existing Operating clients, the deadline for applications is October 23, 2024 at 5p.m.

Camyar Chaichian, Program Manager, Community Cultural Development
604-247-8326, Camyar.Chaichian@richmond.ca

This information, along with other details about our programs and services, is available on the City website at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant

2025: Arts and Culture Grants Program Objectives and Description

The Arts and Culture Grants program is intended to support a range of artistic and cultural activity including literary, visual, media, dance, theatre, music, multi-disciplinary, inter-disciplinary, and community-based arts, reflecting different cultural traditions as well as contemporary art forms and practices.

The program provides grants to support organizational capacity through Operating Assistance as well as one-time or time-limited initiatives through Project Assistance. Organizations may not apply for more than one City of Richmond grant per year.

Operating Grants are provided to support the annual programming and operating activities of eligible organizations. All grants are reviewed on a yearly basis and are not to be viewed by applicants as an ongoing source of funding.

Organizations already receiving City funding that represents the equivalent of operating funds (e.g. ongoing yearly facility subsidies) are not eligible for Operating Assistance. They are eligible for Project Assistance funding if their project represents a new initiative and/or an outreach program that is not otherwise supported by existing City funding.

Application Forms

New applicants are encouraged to read through the Guidelines first to obtain a general understanding of the program and then contact staff at Arts, Culture and Heritage Services to discuss your proposal and confirm your eligibility.

- The application form is available online at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant
- Applications must be received on or before the submission deadline. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Answer all the questions on the form concisely, and include all requested supporting materials.

Operating Assistance Eligibility Criteria

- Operating Assistance is for established organizations that have an ongoing presence in Richmond and a track record of quality public programs and services. Applicant must be based in Richmond, registered as a non-profit society in good standing with the Province of BC, having been established legally and in operation for at least two (2) years prior to the application deadline and have recently received City Grant funding and successfully completed the projects.
- Applicants must be based and active in Richmond and provide programming and services that are open to the public and publicized citywide, or in the case of umbrella organizations, must further the interests of artists, creators, arts organizations and elements of the arts community. The organization's activities can include policy development, advocacy, provision of professional services, and production of collective projects.
- Applicants must be independent organizations with clear mandates that include the provision of public programs and/or services with an arts and culture focus. Presented work must be primarily with and/ or by local artists/performers/artisans (amateur and/or professional); activities may include some artists who are not Richmond residents.
- All principal professional artists should be compensated for their participation commensurate with industry standards. For more information about these standards, please refer to the following organizations:
 - American Federation of Musicians: www.afm.org
 - Canadian Actors Equity Association: www.caea.com
 - Canadian League of Composers: www.clc-lcc.ca
 - Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists: www.cadadance.org
 - Professional Writers Association of Canada: www.pwac.ca
 - Canadian Artists Representation/Le front des artistes canadiens/CARFAC: www.carfac.ca
- Applicants should have stable administration and artistic leadership, directed by recognized arts/culture professionals and/or experienced volunteers.
- Applicants must operate year-round in a fiscally responsible manner.
- Applicants must have other cash revenue sources for their activity that may include self-generated revenue (ticket sales, concession, and memberships), funding from other levels of government (provincial, federal) and private sector support (fundraising, foundations, sponsorship, cash and in-kind donations).
- Applicants must provide internal prepared financial statements endorsed by two signing officers (with balance sheet and income statement, at minimum), or independently prepared financial statements (review engagement or audit endorsed by two signing officers). Financial statements provided should represent the most recently completed fiscal year. For Operating grants:
 - *If your total operating budget is \$100,000 or more per year, you are required to submit an audited financial statement.*
 - *If your total operating budget is between \$50,001 and \$99,999 per year, you are required to submit a review engagement or an audited financial statement.*
 - *If your total operating budget is \$50,000 or less per year, you may submit an internal financial statement.*

Operating grants are awarded up to a maximum of 30% of the annual operating budget, to a maximum request of \$10,000.

Ineligible Organizations

- Organizations which do not meet eligibility criteria and requirements
- Other City of Richmond departments or branches
- Organizations already receiving City funding that represents the equivalent of operating funds including ongoing yearly facility subsidies
- Social Service, Religious, Political or Sports organizations
- Political parties and organizations

Ineligible Activities

- Fundraisers
- Deficit reduction
- Activity outside of Richmond
- Activity which was started prior to the application deadline
- Capital projects
- Activity that is not artistic or cultural
- Start-up costs
- Seed money for projects or events
- Showcases or recitals for schools/organizations with an educational mandate
- Political activities including, but not limited to:
 - Promoting or serving a political party or organization
 - Lobbying of a political party, or for a political cause
- Programs and services delivered in partnership with political parties and organizations
For clarity, this does not exclude programs and services that receive funding from other levels of government, including funding from the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada

Assessment Criteria

There are three key areas of evaluation that are weighted equally: merit, organizational competence and community impact. The organization's recent activities (as outlined in the previous year's Grant Use Report, for example) as well as proposed ones are taken into consideration when assessing an application.

Programming/Merit

- Project is clear, considered and led by leader/artists with relevant experience.
- Clear mandate/vision and degree to which the project(s) support mandate/vision.
- Project is innovative and/or advances an existing arts practice.

Organizational Capacity

- Project budget is realistic, has diversified income, and meets funding criteria
- Group/organization has competent administration and governance structure
- Project(s) has/have realistic schedules, timelines, and planning practices

Impact

- Project includes collaboration, partnerships and/or community/volunteer involvement
- Project has a clear and reasonable marketing plan
- Project is accessible to public and has a core audience
- Project aims to diversify audience, attract new/diverse communities

Assessment and Awarding of Grants

Complete applications are assessed by an Assessment Committee made up of City staff. A report on the Assessment Committee recommendations is written and submitted to City Council for their consideration and approval.

Council will make the final grant decisions, at its sole discretion, based on the program goals, criteria, policies, requirements and a review of City staff recommendations.

Council may:

- Approve a funding application:
 - in total, with or without conditions (i.e., subject to a mid-year review)
 - in part, with or without conditions
- Ask for more information
- Issue dollars in phases with conditions
- Deny an application

Council has final approving authority.

Funds will be dispersed as soon as possible after Council approval. The objective is to have all funds disbursed within 60 days of approval.

Grants are awarded on an annual basis. Applicants must re-apply each year. Continued funding is not guaranteed.

Conditions of Assistance

Please note that if your organization receives a civic grant, the following conditions will apply:

- Grant funds must be applied to current expenses, not used to reduce or eliminate accumulated deficits. Activities cannot be funded retroactively.
- The Society will make every effort to secure funding from other sources as indicated in its application. It will keep proper books of accounts for all receipts and expenditures relating to its activities and, upon the City's request, make available for inspection by the City or its auditors all records and books of accounts.
- If there are any changes in the organization's activities as presented in this application, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services Division must be notified in writing of such changes immediately. In the event that the grant funds are not used for the organization's activities as described in the application, they are to be repaid to the City in full. If the activities are completed without requiring the full use of the City funds, the remaining City funds are also to be returned to the City.
- The City of Richmond requires organizations receiving a civic grant to appropriately acknowledge the City's support in all their information materials, including publications and programs related to funded activities (i.e., brochures, posters, advertisements, websites, advertisements, signs, etc.). Such recognition must be commensurate with that given to other funding agencies. If the logos of other funders are used in an acknowledgement, the City should be similarly represented. Acknowledgement is provided by using the City of Richmond logo in accordance with prescribed standards. City of Richmond logo files and usage standards will be provided to successful applicants. Failure to acknowledge the City's support may result in the inability of an organization to obtain grant support in future years.
- Receipt of a grant does not guarantee funding in the following fiscal year.
- Successful applicants will complete a Grant Use Report online as a pre-condition for consideration of an organization's future grant applications. If the Project has not been completed at that time, an updated Grant Use Report must be submitted upon completion.

Use of Funds

The following guidelines and limitations are designed to meet best practices and to ensure accountability for use of public funds:

- It is expected that applicants will combine the Operating Assistance support they receive with other sources of revenue and financial investment (grants, donations, earned revenues) as well as in-kind support and contributions.
- Operating grants are provided to support the annual programming expenses and annual operating costs of the Society.
- Eligible use of Operating Assistance funds include, but are not exclusively limited to:
 - Fees and related expenses for artists, musicians, programming staff, cultural workers
 - Volunteer expenses (recruiting, training, support, etc.)
 - Production expenses (installation of artwork, equipment rental, costumes, sound, lights, etc.)
 - Marketing, community outreach and promotional expenses
 - Operating overheads (insurance coverage, rent, etc.)
 - Operating and administration expenses (insurance coverage, rent, equipment, software, etc.)
- Ineligible uses of Operating Assistance support include but are not exclusively restricted to:
 - Deficit reduction
 - Capital expenditures (i.e. construction, property renovations, equipment purchase, software, etc.)
 - Organizations that forecast a deficit budget must describe a clear plan to eliminate the deficit within two years of the grant application year.

Confidentiality

All documents submitted by Applicants to the City of Richmond become the property of the City. The City will make every effort to maintain the confidentiality of each application and the information contained within except to the extent necessary to communicate information to staff and peer members of the Assessment Committee for the purpose of evaluation and analysis, as well as to Council for recommendation report. The City will not release any of this information to the public except as required under the Province of British Columbia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act or other legal disclosure process.

City of Richmond Arts and Culture Grants Program



Project Assistance Guidelines

The City of Richmond allocates grant funding for arts and cultural organizations that provide programming and activities for the benefit of Richmond residents.

This support acknowledges that the work of these organizations contributes to Richmond's quality of life, identity and economy and is extended to recipients who demonstrate vision, accountability and spirit of community service in their operations.

These guidelines incorporate recognized best practices and are designed to ensure accountability for use of public funds; **read through carefully before you make an application.**

If this is your first time making an application to the City of Richmond, or if you require further assistance, we encourage you to speak with or meet with a staff member of Arts, Culture and Heritage Services to ensure that your proposal is eligible and to ask any questions that may assist you in putting together an application.

Camyar Chaichian, Program Manager, Community Cultural Development 604-247-8326,
Camyar.Chaichian@richmond.ca. **The deadline for applications is October 23, 2024 at 5 p.m.**

This information and other information on our programs and services are available on the City website at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant

2025: Arts and Culture Grants Program Objectives and Description

The Arts and Culture Grants program is intended to support a range of artistic and cultural activity including literary, visual, media, dance, theatre, music, multi-disciplinary, inter-disciplinary, and community-based arts, reflecting different cultural traditions as well as contemporary art forms and practices.

The program provides grants to support organizational capacity through Operating Assistance as well as one-time or time-limited initiatives through Project Assistance. Organizations may not apply for more than one City of Richmond grant per year.

Operating Grants are provided to support the annual programming and operating activities of eligible organizations. All grants are reviewed on a yearly basis and are not to be viewed by applicants as an ongoing source of funding.

Organizations already receiving City funding that represents the equivalent of operating funds (e.g. ongoing yearly facility subsidies) are not eligible for Operating Assistance. They are eligible for Project Assistance funding if their project represents a new initiative and/or an outreach program that is not otherwise supported by existing City funding.

Application Forms

New applicants are encouraged to read through the Guidelines first to obtain a general understanding of the program and then contact staff at Arts, Culture and Heritage Services to discuss your proposal and confirm your eligibility.

- The application form is available online at www.richmond.ca/culture/citygrant
- Applications must be received on or before the submission deadline. Late applications will not be accepted.
- Answer all the questions on the form concisely, and include all requested supporting materials.

Project Assistance Eligibility Criteria

- Project Assistance is available for new and/or developing arts and culture organizations, or established arts and culture organizations working on a project basis or undertaking a special one-time initiative.
- Applicants must be registered as a non-profit society in good standing within the Province of BC, having been legally established and in operation for at least 6 months at the time of application deadline.
- Applicants must be active in Richmond and may be based outside of Richmond so long as their project takes place in Richmond, serves the Richmond community and employs Richmond artists (program may include some artists that are not local). For example, an art installation in Richmond organized by a Vancouver-based arts organization that employs Richmond artists and involves community engagement with Richmond residents would be eligible, but a concert in Richmond presented by a Burnaby-based organization would not be eligible.
- Programming and services must be accessible to the public and publicized citywide, or in the case of umbrella organizations, must further the interests of artists, creators, arts organizations and elements of the arts community. The organization's activities can include policy development, provision of professional services, and production of collective projects.
- Applicants must be independent organizations with clear mandates that include the provision of public programs and/or services with an arts and culture focus.
- All principal professional artists should be compensated for their participation commensurate with industry standards. For more information about these standards, please refer to the following organizations:
 - American Federation of Musicians: www.afm.org
 - Canadian Actors Equity Association: www.caea.com
 - Canadian League of Composers: www.clc-lcc.ca
 - Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists: www.cadadance.org
 - Professional Writers Association of Canada: www.pwac.ca
 - Canadian Artists Representation/Le front des artistes canadiens/CARFAC: www.carfac.ca
- Applicants should have stable administration and artistic leadership, directed by recognized arts/culture professionals and/or experienced volunteers.
- Applicants must have other cash revenue sources for their activity that may include self-generated or earned revenue (ticket sales, concession, and memberships), funding from other levels of government (provincial, federal) and private sector support (fundraising, foundations, sponsorship, cash and in-kind donations).
- Applicants must provide internally prepared financial statements endorsed by two signing officers (with balance sheet and income statement, at minimum), or independently prepared financial statements (review engagement or audit endorsed by two signing officers). Financial statements provided should represent the most recently completed fiscal year.
- Project grant funds may be requested for up to 50% of the total cost of the project, to a maximum of \$5,000.

Examples of Eligible Activity

- The development of arts and cultural activity that reflects cultural traditions or contemporary artistic practices that will result in some form of dissemination or presentation to a broad public audience. Public dissemination may include exhibitions, performance, publications, presentations, video, film, new media, radio, or web-based initiatives (not the development of organizational/program websites.)
- Artisanal projects that include manual work of a high standard to create items that may be functional and/or decorative, including furniture, clothing, jewelry, watercraft, etc.
- Collaborative and creative initiatives between professional artists and community members that will result in some form of public presentation and which clearly express community interests and issues and demonstrate a strong collaborative process.

- Special requests for audio recordings, publications, film, video or web-based unique initiatives.
- Artistic Residencies that facilitate learning, development and cultural exchange between professional artists or artisans and qualified host organizations. See Artistic Residencies, below

Ineligible Organizations

- Organizations which do not meet eligibility criteria and requirements
- Other City of Richmond departments or branches
- Social Service, Political, Religious or Sports organizations
- Political parties and organizations

Ineligible Activities

- Core-training, in-class or curriculum-based training, conferences, mentorships
- Bursaries orscholarships
- Contests or competitions
- Activity that is not artistic or cultural
- Fundraisers
- Deficit reduction
- Activity outside of Richmond
- Activity which has started prior to the application deadline
- Capital projects
- Delivery of services and resources by service organizations
- Political activities including, but not limited to:
 - Promoting or serving a political party or organization
 - Lobbying of a political party, or for a political cause
- Programs and services delivered in partnership with political parties and organizations.
For clarity, this does not exclude programs and services that receive funding from other levels of government, including funding from the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada

Individual artists cannot apply on their own but may make an application in partnership with a qualifying organization for artistic or skill development through an **Artistic Residency**:

Artistic Residencies

Artistic Residencies facilitate learning, development and cultural exchange opportunities between professional artists or artisans, qualified host organizations, and/or the community.

- Residency candidates must be Richmond-based professional artists. The City's definition of a professional artist is one that has:
 - completed basic training (university or college graduation or the equivalent in specialized training, such as two or three years of self-directed study or apprenticeships);
 - is recognized as such by peers; and
 - is committed to devoting time to artistic activity, if financially feasible.
- Applications may be made by a non-profit organization to either:
 - host a residency, or
 - sponsor a Richmond-based artist to be hosted by another organization (which may or may not be a non-profit but where the residency supports the program objectives and the Artist's residency objectives.)
- Applicants may apply to host consecutive residencies in the second year; however, priority will be given to new applicants each year. An applicant may sponsor more than one artist at a time within the same project.
- The organization must demonstrate the capacity to host or sponsor a residency and must meet the General Eligibility criteria.
- There must be clear artistic development objectives for both the artist and host organization.
- The residency should provide opportunities for development and creation of the artist's work and if possible, some form of presentation of the artist's work either in progress or at completion.
- There should be some public engagement component of the work during the residency that would offer learning opportunities for the artist, related staff, the arts and cultural community and/or the general public.

- The residency and work created therein must be in addition to the regular activities of the Host organization.
- The grant is applicable to project costs: artist fees, materials, presentation costs and project administration costs born by the host organization.

Artistic Residencies (cont'd)

A Residency Agreement should address the points below (4 pages max, min 11 pt font):

- Artist Letter of Intent demonstrating the residency objectives and how it will further the development of the artist or artistic practice
- Organization Letter of Intent indicating the residency objectives
- A work plan (including timelines, activities, milestone dates, etc.)
- Financial obligations of both parties
- How the project will be evaluated
- A contingency plan (addressing potential changes, conflict or non-compliance)
- Signatures of all parties involved agreeing to the terms
- Budget of revenues and expenses

Assessment Criteria

There are three key areas of evaluation that are weighted equally: merit, organizational competence and community impact. The organization's recent activities (as outlined in the previous year's Grant Use Report, for example) as well as proposed ones are taken into consideration when assessing an application.

Programming/Merit

- Project is clear, considered and led by leader/artists with relevant experience.
- Clear mandate/vision and degree to which the project(s) support mandate/vision.
- Project is innovative and/or advances an existing arts practice.

Organizational Capacity

- Project budget is realistic, has diversified income, and meets funding criteria
- Group/organization has competent administration and governance structure
- Project(s) has/have realistic schedules, timelines, and planning practices

Impact

- Project includes collaboration, partnerships and/or community/volunteer involvement
- Project has a clear and reasonable marketing plan
- Project is accessible to public and has a core audience
- Project aims to diversify audience, attract new/diverse communities

Assessment and Awarding of Grants

Complete applications are assessed by an Assessment Committee made up of City staff. A report on the Assessment Committee recommendations is written and submitted to City Council for their consideration and approval.

Council will make the final grant decisions, at its sole discretion, based on the program goals, criteria, policies, requirements and a review of City staff recommendations.

Council may:

- Approve a funding application:
 - in total, with or without conditions (i.e., subject to a mid-year review)
 - in part, with or without conditions
- Ask for more information
- Issue dollars in phases with conditions
- Deny an application

Council has final approving authority.

Funds will be dispersed as soon as possible after Council approval. The objective is to have all funds disbursed within 60 days of approval.

Grants are awarded on an annual basis. Applicants must re-apply each year. Continued funding is not guaranteed.

Conditions of Assistance

Please note that if your organization receives a civic grant, the following conditions will apply:

- Grant funds must be applied to current expenses, not used to reduce or eliminate accumulated deficits. Activities cannot be funded retroactively.
- The Society will make every effort to secure funding from other sources as indicated in its application. It will keep proper books of accounts for all receipts and expenditures relating to its activities and, upon the City's request, make available for inspection by the City or its auditors all records and books of accounts.
- If there are any changes in the organization's activities as presented in this application, Arts, Culture and Heritage Services Division must be notified in writing of such changes immediately. In the event that the grant funds are not used for the organization's activities as described in the application, they are to be repaid to the City in full. If the activities are completed without requiring the full use of the City funds, the remaining City funds are also to be returned to the City.
- The City of Richmond requires organizations receiving a civic grant to appropriately acknowledge the City's support in all their information materials, including publications and programs related to funded activities (i.e., brochures, posters, advertisements, websites, advertisements, signs, etc.). Such recognition must be commensurate with that given to other funding agencies. If the logos of other funders are used in an acknowledgement, the City should be similarly represented. Acknowledgement is provided by using the City of Richmond logo in accordance with prescribed standards. City of Richmond logo files and usage standards will be provided to successful applicants. Failure to acknowledge the City's support may result in the inability of an organization to obtain grant support in future years.
- Receipt of a grant does not guarantee funding in the following fiscal year.
- Successful applicants will complete a Grant Use Report online as a pre-condition for consideration of an organization's future grant applications. If the Project has not been completed at that time, an updated Grant Use Report must be submitted upon completion.

Confidentiality

All documents submitted by Applicants to the City of Richmond become the property of the City. The City will make every effort to maintain the confidentiality of each application and the information contained within except to the extent necessary to communicate information to staff and peer members of the Assessment Committee for the purpose of evaluation and analysis, as well as to Council for recommendation report. The City will not release any of this information to the public except as required under the Province of British Columbia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act or other legal disclosure process.