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# SPECIAL MEETING ARTS COMMISSION: GRANT REVIEW PANEL

# Friday, May 01, 2015

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### MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING ARTS COMMISSION: GRANT REVIEW PANEL

### Friday, May 01, 2015

### I. Call to Order

A Special Meeting of the City of Santa Fe Arts Commission was called to order by Bryan Chippeaux, chair at approximately 8:30 a.m. on the above date in the Nambe Room, Santa Fe Community Convention Center, 201 West Marcy Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

### II. Roll Call

Bryan "Chip" Chippeaux, chair Gabe Gomez (arrived later) Penelope Hunter-Stiebel Kathlene Ritch Ashlyn Perry Todd Eric Lovato Sandra K. Deitch

### **Others Present**

Debra Garcia y Griego, Director, Arts Commission Anna Blyth, City of Santa Fe Program Planner Rod Lambert, Santa Fe Community Gallery Manager Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

(Sign-in sheets are incorporated herewith into these minutes by reference.)

### III. Approval of Agenda

# Mr. Lovato moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Hunter-Stiebel seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

### **IV. Application Review Process Overview**

Chair Chippeaux said he could only imagine how much work it took to prepare and then organize the applications. He said the process seemed to be very organized and he appreciated everyone's efforts.

Introductions were made of the panel and those present.

<u>Audience Introductions</u>: Shannon Murphy, Director and Frank Rose of After Hours Alliance; Stephanie Ramirez, Co-Director Entre Flamenco/Spanish Art Society, Aaron Leventman, Artistic Director/Co-Producer for Almost Adults.

Ms. Blyth explained the review process. The panel books are organized by the Special and New Projects Program (SNPP) followed by the Community Arts Development Program (CADP) and each category has different criteria. The Lead reviewer will begin and the Backup Reader will add comments followed by the other Commissioners.

Clarifications will be made before each Commissioner scores an application. Commissioners are asked to recuse themselves and leave the room in the case of conflicts of interest. They will return to the room after the project has been scored.

## V. Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest were noted as follows:

Chip Chippeaux-	Santa Fe Botanical Garden
Gabe Gomez-	New Mexico School for the Arts
Penelope Hunter-Stiebel-	None
Kathlene Ritch-	New Mexico Performing Arts, NMSA and NDI
Ashlyn Perry-	None
Todd Eric Lovato-	None
Sandra K. Deitch-	None

### VI. 2015-2016 1% Lodger's Tax Applications: Special and New Projects Program Applications

### SNPP-01 After Hours Alliance dba AHA no conflicts of interest

*Lead-Todd Lovato:* \$10k (thousand) is requested for the Fifth Annual AHA Festival of Progressive Arts on September 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The Sunday portion of the Festival will highlight contemporary performing arts and different styles of music, site specific dance and performance art, in the context of an alternative style visual arts market in the Railyard. Artists are selected in May through an open application process. There will be 12 music performances with 25 artists' booths and more than 12 dance performances. The festival is expanding this year in scope and location with a new component called *Art Cruise* that celebrates cars as works of art. The event will culminate in the Siler Road Arts District and will be combined with outdoor music and performance.

*The cultural contribution* is the approximately 3000 visitors who attend the event. AHA does a good job gathering the data numbers and the organization has matured and is learning a variety of things and proving their sustainability and success as an event. About 120 artists participate and work in genres of performance, visual arts, music etc. One of the goals is to contribute to Santa Fe's artistic identity and bring more attention to the avant-garde styles of art. The project will need more funding and resources in order to

grow and make a greater contribution. AHA's outreach opportunities have expanded through the expansion of their programming.

The programming is more diverse and is a reflection of Santa Fe as a diverse city in a good way. In addition to the Hispanic population they often represent the Mexican population, which is underrepresented. The *Attraction of tourists:* the application states their website gets a lot of visitors from out of state and helps shape people's perception of Santa Fe, with appeal to families and teens. The boost in marketing and the "ramped up arts" component is drawing more artists and bigger name acts and allows more room for draw. *Tourism* is an important component. The organization will have to focus beyond just drawing the tourists who are in Santa Fe on that weekend. Many of the performing artists and bands come from out of town and count as tourists.

*Back-up Reader- Gabe Gomez:* the organization is being more responsive to the community, but in a nonpredictable way. The integration of *culture* as an art form is interesting, but AHA is not selling it as such and the response is the kind of things included in the programming. You can see a natural progression and growth and a response to some of the research they have gathered. *Marketing:* the event is really about the experience and does not necessarily align itself to selling in a booth. It is about the larger ethos of community and a different kind of exposure that speaks to the vanguard of certain art forms that is interactive and has reciprocity. There is no fixed target, it can be a whole family experience or not. When looking at the site for AHA, the breath of the experience does not come across. A lot is lost in the translation of marketing; the social media properties and website text and in the advertising. A general recommendation is AHA might do well to collect more of material and use it as a promotional vehicle and in that way could reach a broader audience.

In talking organic marketing, SEO, etc. can be a useful tool to tell the story, not so much of what the Festival is or is not, but how it integrates. A missing piece is to first beef up the content of the website overall. They should look closely at media buys and how the overall integrated *marketing* happens off season to strengthen the dry market ties. There are pieces that could be better coordinated through the print advertising, Facebook, the landing page for AHA, etc. That is a matter of resources and time allocated to those specific things. The research leads what they do in their programming and now it is time to do that with *marketing*. The Car Cruise is also shedding light on an area of town that is burgeoning, the Siler Art District. AHA is conscientiously spreading out, which is notable.

*General Panel Comments*: going to a festival like this, you want to take a piece home, probably because there is so much experiential. The *economic impact* could be improved by incorporating more of the retail experience for visitors without 'selling out'. *Financial*: the budget shows no ticket admission, but there is *other earned income* and unclear where the \$14,500 comes from.

### [Staff Note: the Commission can recommend the applicant clarify the amount in the budget narrative.]

The institution that started as all-volunteer now has seven professionals and is impressive, including their board. The 40-page double program given to visitors is very expensive and is a take-away and a token that this is a real Festival. The underground music scene and tying in headliners with nationwide recognition is an important collaboration. *Marketing:* the expansion to Denver is smart. *Financial*: as expenses increase substantially, the requirement for unearned income will increase substantially, which can be a difficult issue. The applicant is cautioned that committing to expenses on the front end will leave them scrambling on the

back end. The website should be optimized and tracked for results. The tie to Denver mentioned in the use of the Lodger's Tax funding should be strengthened. To solidify into a more structured organization is great and gives hope that in the future staff will take care of themselves.

[Staff Clarification: regarding the \$14,500 and where it came from; under unearned income the application states that the bulk of their funding is from businesses supporting the Festival through small sponsorships and program ads.]

<u>Applicant Note</u>: the organization does show a loss from the last fiscal year and if approved for funding, no Arts Commission funds can be used for deficit reduction, as that is a funding restriction.

### SNPP-02 Almost Adults

no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Gabe Gomez:* this organization produces and creates original theater and film, literary performances, radio, etc., specifically for the LGBTQI2 community. This is a new organization and many of the numbers and projections are not as detailed as other applicants. The funding is for six performances of essentially a theater festival September 17-27, 2015 in partnership with Warehouse 21. Productions include local talent from pre/post production, actors, etc. The funding requested is not only for the performances, but to create a safe space for the LGBTQ12 community and in a sense is building community. The *contribution to community:* this is an artistic endeavor and builds community, but is also seeking a designated place to create art. The *quality of education programs:* many of the programs feed into the community and national organizations, etc. and specifically with the LGBTQ12 community history, lives, etc. This organization wants to repackage that as the *educational* program and present this in a new way in Santa Fe where they have identified a need. *Outreach:* the ticket price will be \$12 and rural access prices will help align some of the costs. There are young people and interns and the program will be able to touch all of the diverse communities in Santa Fe and be a hub. They will at the same time, send their message through the respective communities.

There are notable names behind the organization because it is new; Warehouse 21 and the Santa Fe Mountain Youth Center, Youth Shelters and Agave Health, etc. There is a strong foundation not only for the work, but socially and culturally that speaks to the art in a creative sense, as well as socially and politically. The organization looks at outreach, education and cultural impact all in one. *Attraction to tourists:* building a center of activity and a program within that brings a certain voice and "brand" and that brings the attention. This is a space for the LGBTQ12 to come that reflects the nature and culture of Santa Fe and the community. *Marketing*: the organization is doing smart things. One is KUNM which is important and a public radio station is the way to go. The PSAs (public service announcements) are strong, and different organizations are looked at for distribution from Oklahoma to Colorado. It is smart that the applicant utilizes their partners or parent agencies to distribute the information. The website has a cumbersome URL. A suggestion is to consult a partner that has a web developer. This is the optimal time because the organization is new and building visibility. The applicant has invested in marketing research and understands audience segmentation and targeting segmentation is half the battle. The *economic impact* in the first year; the project uses an art form to build space and identify and ultimately build support and that speaks to the community.

*Back-up Reader-Kathlene Ritch:* first and foremost the organization needs to focus on a dedicated website, because we are an Internet community and the organization is targeting youth. She Googled the

organization and nothing came up. The business, foundation and private support is good and for a new group is really important. The in-kind salaries for *administrative and artistic* are donated and there is funding sought for contracted services and fees and \$6000 for marketing and promotion. The applicant shows no one that helps with in-kind donations for marketing, printing or the placement of ads, etc. The next step is to ask people to donate those services. They use the links of their collaborators, which is smart. The application lists other things the organization wants to do through the year: documentary film screenings, developing new theatrical and literary works for public presentation, a recording archive and radio broadcast by the local LGBTQ12 population and a resource guide, but it is nebulous. The resources are there to be a hub and a great contribution to the community. *Demographics:* it is important that out of the 900 total audience members, 350 are Hispanic/Latino and the age range is evenly spaced.

General Panel Comments: the collaborations and adding links is imperative because of the startup nature. The use of YouTube and other vehicles and linking that and the use of SEO (search engine optimization) so their website is picked up as a theater production, will visually show people what is going on. The applicant is headed in the direction of building the infrastructure and their thinking is in the right place for the first year to fulfill the need. But there is also an advocacy in speaking to the larger support community and the use of the organization as a hub.

*Mr. Lovato*: the Community Arts Development criteria is evidence of *community impact* and the criteria of the 1% Lodger's Tax is evidence of *tourism impact*. He would argue that the evidence of tourism is the weakest in this application. When looking at the tourism impact in the application, you get what the project is *not*. The application states that Santa Fe's website does not do a good job featuring marketing material and resources for this type of travel, but that does not have anything to do with the applicant. That is not an argument for why they will have an impact. Data can be pulled for future applications to show the gay travel impact and economic multipliers, etc. to provide the Commission with numbers to determine an argument for scoring economic impact to the City and the attraction of tourists.

<u>Applicant Note</u>: the theater event is listed for September, 2015 and if the applicant is approved for funding there will be an opportunity to refine the schedule of programming for activities that are eligible for the Arts Commission support; the public presentations of the arts throughout the contract year.

### SNPP-03 Arte Flamenco de Santa Fe

no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Kathlene Ritch:* \$10k is requested to help produce the holiday concert series December 17-19, 2015 at El Museo Cultural in the Railyard encompassing dancing, singing and music. The hope is to foster awareness of Santa Fe's Spanish and Hispanic ancestry and raise public awareness of modern trends in Flamenco performance. There will be a costume exhibit, drawings and a public lecture and a concert performance for free Flamenco dance lessons as an incentive for audiences to sign up for more information about future performances and to track the audience demographics. The organization also offers two dance classes during the production, one a traditional dance and music and the other a modern take on flamenco. *Education-* talks are planned at Santa Fe Public libraries as well as a costume exhibit and children's dance class and all are free to the public. *Tourism:* a holiday package with local hotels is planned with discounted tickets and information about the series and their outreach. They are developing two separate markets, one for tourists and one for New Mexico residents, because there are few out-of-state attendees. *Demographics* show only 64 people under 24 years of age. A suggestion is a demonstration in the public schools to draw youth. The music teachers are always looking for things to keep kids interested.

*Tourism/Promotion:* ads and press releases are placed in all the New Mexican newspapers, on radio and television and in the Denver Post, which is smart. The website is great, but there was nothing about the programs in the upcoming events for those planning a trip to Santa Fe in December. The website should at least have a posting that states: "don't miss our holiday special on these dates". The Facebook page is great and has recent posts and there are postcards and posters. The *marketing* strategy seems to be working because ticket sales increased 63% in 2014. *Economic impact*: the application states indirectly \$143,700, which is good for a three day festival. *Financial:* the budget shows nothing for the last fiscal year, but a surplus of about \$3300 is planned this year and \$12,500 for next year. The business and foundation support is not good and is suggested they find someone to help with that. The private support income is good, as well as the volunteer support. *Marketing*: \$5000 is requested for marketing and the same for artistic contracted fees. The applicant is looking for a larger venue so more tickets can be sold and programming can be expanded for jazz/flamenco fusion concerts, which explains the expectation of more income in the next two years. Also a donor campaign will be started next year.

*Back-up Reader-Penelope Hunter-Stiebel:* the application and what the organization brings are incredibly impressive. It is exciting that locals came together and are active and engaged on the board. The board has a three year organizational strategic plan and a budget and marketing plan with plans for arts education. Many of the applications appear to have pulled together an education program to conform to the standards and requirements of funding, but this is not the case. The application states they are trying to promote that *"learning is often the best introduction to the arts form"*. The oldest traditional form is being treated in a new way and is looking not just at an historical art form, but a new artistic direction in Flamenco. Although not referred to as collaboration, the applicant is bringing in outstanding people to advance the art form.

*General Panel Comments*: that the event is in December and tourists are in town and because of the number of events during that time, promotion will be needed.

### SNPP-04 CENTER

no conflicts of interest

Lead-Penelope Hunter-Stiebel: \$10k funding is requested for the current exhibition series that showcases outstanding local photographers. Participants are listed who presented in Santa Fe early in their careers and reached world-wide fame. Three exhibitions coincide with *Photo Summer*, a collaborative marketing effort to cross-promote CENTER, UNM (University of New Mexico) Art Museum and 516 Arts. A comprehensive catalogue will be mailed regionally to 18,000 people. CENTER not only does exhibitions, but showcases their own members in December and highlights the photography/arts community in Santa Fe. There will be an alumni exhibition at the University of Art and Design (SFUAD) in June showcasing the work of 20 notable past alumni who now reside in New Mexico, as well as a student exhibition. That the organization's work is local, national and international and is drawn for review from all over the world is impressive. The level of artistic excellence and originality, as well as some very prestigious jurors this organization attracts, is incredible. This year has a curator from the National Portrait Gallery in London, the head of an Italian festival and the photo editor *Time Magazine*. The opportunity funnels talent from around the world narrowing to the top people and gives artists a way to be seen while giving the community a way to see what is happening around the world. *Economically:* people are brought to Santa Fe and the rooms for participants are paid by CENTER and a \$4000 exhibition reception is held. Collaboration is with SFUAD and shows students in the context of CENTER presentations. There is outreach to not only UNM, but Albuquerque art galleries involved in photography. The commercial art galleries are often overlooked. A

concern is the appearance that the executive director does everything and there are only five board members and a three member advisory council. The hope is the organization will recruit more support in professional staffing and board membership as an organization of such importance to Santa Fe and in their position as an international arts center.

*Back-up Reader-Sande Deitch:* really impressive is the interview of the CENTER photography artist by the *Today Show* that has five million viewers.

*General Panel Comments:* the website is good and the social media is strong with over 10,000 followers between Twitter and Facebook. The applicant should look at radio blurbs for marketing, especially because their national and international status last year was impressive. It seems that the organization is Santa Fe's best-kept secret. A surprise is that only 500 come out of Santa Fe and the business support is lacking. Santa Fe has a lot of galleries and this seems a niche that has a lot of tourist potential. A suggestion is to consider adding Instagram.

<u>Applicant Note</u>: the applicant lists a loss for their last fiscal year and no Santa Fe Arts Commission funds may be used for deficit reduction, as that is a funding restriction.

## SNPP- 05 Concordia Santa Fe, Inc. no conflicts of interest

Lead-Ashlyn Perry: Concordia requests \$4050 for their March 20th concert at the New Mexico Museum of Art. There is a musical theme tied to an art exhibit and great that the event is during spring break. Arts/cultural contribution to the community: this is an original piece and the guest conductor has conducted in Santa Fe before with the event being highly attended. Outreach opportunities: the concert is free and accessible. Part of the outreach is through the High Desert Winds Program where 30% of the members are high school students. The program is offered to students looking for a challenge outside their high school music program and free tuition is offered. Attraction of tourists: there is a small audience of about 300 of mostly local and surrounding cities, such as Albuquerque and Los Alamos. The performance is on Sunday and close to the Plaza and has the ability to attract people visiting Santa Fe. Promotion and marketing: the applicant utilizes Pasatiempo, the Albuquerque Journal and the Los Alamos Monitor, press releases and a Constant Contact database, the website and has 153 followers on Facebook. A suggestion is trade magazines or other ad forms that could attract tourists not already in Santa Fe. The guest conductor might be able to promote to his following or possibly Concordia could co-market with the Museum and use their database. Economic impact is fairly big even though the audience members are small. Two-thirds of the musicians live outside of Santa Fe and stay in the city for their four day rehearsal period and bring in tourist dollars for meals and lodging.

*Back-up Reader-Kathlene Ritch:* Concordia tends to have a \$500 surplus every year, which is amazing since their concerts are free. This is one of nine concerts throughout the year. *Educational outreach:* it is wonderful that High Desert Winds and the music educators are part of this and high school students not only play, but are learning on the spot. *Advertising:* there are trade magazines and wind ensembles across the country that are both professional and non-professional, especially in the neighboring states of Texas and Colorado and cross-promotion should be considered. Local artists are used to create a piece for the event most often based on New Mexico experiences, which is *culturally* good. The next step is to reach out to other ensembles and cross-promote and participate in trade magazines.

*General Panel Comments*: a suggestion is to ask for the full amount to improve the economic impact by growing. The event does not have a lot of business tie-in and the applicant could work with hotel concierges. Spring break marketing in Santa Fe could be interesting for drive traffic in Texas, Colorado and Arizona, etc. and would be another aspect of *culture* that is diverse.

## Ms. Ritch left the room due to conflict of interest with this proposal.

### SNPP-06 New Mexico Performing Arts Society conflicts of interest: Ms. Ritch

*Lead-Sande Deitch:* the application is well-written and \$10k is requested for the November 2015 Winter Solstice concert, the Valentines concert in 2016 and a May Finale with Verde operas. NMPAS is unique in the state. They go to rural communities outside Santa Fe and perform complimentary programs at Immaculate Heart. *Tourists* are from Santa Fe and outside the city and there is a broad audience from other states. *Outreach for the community:* student discounts and complimentary tickets are available. They are media partners with KSFR and KSFM radio and there are many collaborative partners like New Mexico Highlands University, New Mexico Tourism, New Mexico School for the Arts and Santa Fe Hospitality Group. *Financial:* the total audience is about 825 with some international. The ticket admission income is \$15,000 and earned income is \$16,500. *Marketing/promotion:* the advertising placements look good. This is a worthwhile organization.

*Back-up Reader-Todd Lovato:* the organization is good at using time-tested marketing channels, which is also safe. They have a core audience, with ticket prices of \$28.50, a specific demographic of heavily white, age 65 plus. There is room to grow and one way is the use of social media and their Facebook likes could be higher. There should be more emphasis in newer marketing channels to supplement the current use. The application is well put together and although the audience is niche, it covers the criteria of the 1% Lodger's Tax.

*General Panel Comments*: NMPAS has two marketing specialists helping them explore new avenues for the effective use of social media. The use of venues is well chosen in terms of music acoustics, but the venues are also significantly branding Santa Fe. The *educational outreach* to the School for the Arts is great, but there could be additional effort to work with the public schools to provide opportunities.

Ms. Ritch returned to the room.

# SNPP-07 Sacred Body Santa Fe Dance no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Mr. Gomez:* the request is for \$10k to fund two performances at the Greer Garson in November, which is a recurring event. The performance will be webcast in real time, worldwide and is a homegrown event with global implications. This event builds on previous events with a combined attendance over 1100 people and 80 volunteer artists. The event is over two evenings with multimedia performances that include singing, chanting and live painting, mostly with local artists. *Cultural contribution:* this is a performance organization that develops and features original work. *Education program:* art therapy informs a big part of the productions and the dancers have a mentorship program called *Espanola Healing Arts* with Roger Montoya, among other artists, and a program with Aspen Santa Fe and others in the community. *Outreach* is accessible with a \$15 ticket for students and \$20 for adults and donations through giveaways. There are other media sponsors through Warehouse 21 and schools, youth centers and many partners from

### Warehouse 21 to Site Santa Fe.

*Marketing:* the importance of the simulcast is stressed, which provides a glimpse of the lives of people in Santa Fe. The performances and recordings could be parlayed into much larger audiences and if performances were on the Internet, would open up a new breadth of audience. There could be targeted audiences after the event for future performances. The *marketing* is robust locally and their interest in increasing awareness is not a hard sell, which is good and bad. You want to be as persuasive as possible, but avoid the heavy hand, especially with social media. Looking at the properties online, their Facebook is small with 543 likes and was last populated in March. The website has the November performance from last year. The organization does not explain what it does and how important and organic it is, or note their wonderful partnerships and players in the community. They thought ahead by doing a simulcast and will attract a new audience, which will probably go to the organization's website. Marketing does not sleep and when one event ends, it starts up again. There are a lot of hidden gems in the assets that need to be brought forward and is a way to build visibility.

*General Panel Comments*: part of the goal of *marketing* is to bring people to the City and the organization could look at other areas that would bring people in. A suggestion is to take the next step and develop their website that is not linked to the Lensic. With a visual medium their social media outlets could be accessible through their web page and a website "about" page to solve the issues mentioned. It would be helpful to showcase their private, business and corporate support and recognize their sponsors. The simulcast raises an interesting question about how that will impact tourism and if 10,000 people are watching they will need to track Google analytics. This is a soft marketing effort because the people are not in Santa Fe, but is a new and compelling audience and somewhat promotes Santa Fe. The organization has had a deficit for three years and they are confident they can match expenses to income and are changing the venue. The application mentions there are exhibitions that will not be repeated at a reduction of \$6000 and funding will increase the payments to staff. A question is why they would do that if there is a deficit. There will be a 52% increase in marketing with the funding. The unearned income projection dropped over three years and it appears the small business support could be increased. The application states: "*our marketing is less an effort to entice, but more one of increasing awareness and involvement*", but this is the Lodger's Tax and the applicant needs to bring visitors to Santa Fe.

[Staff Clarification: the applicant indicated an administrative error in their organizational budget. They did show a deficit for last year, but with the corrected figures do not show a loss for the present and next fiscal year. The corrected budget figure for unearned income is \$13,500 and for earned income is \$10,350, which counteracted the deficits shown. However, the error is still noted as an administrative error.]

<u>Applicant Note</u>: there was a small deficit shown for the last fiscal year and no Santa Fe Arts Commission funds can be used for deficit reduction, as this is a funding restriction.

Chair Chippeaux recused himself due to a declared conflict with the next proposal.

### SNPP-08 Santa Fe Botanical Garden conflicts of interest: Mr. Chippeaux

*Lead-Penelope Hunter-Stiebel:* \$10k is requested to fund an invitational sculpture exhibition that will run for one year in the garden on Museum Hill. The garden is designed to show how ecological principles can support gardens. The major focus is on beauty and art and embraces the concept that nature is the

ultimate teacher and inspiration for the arts. The garden through the sculpture exhibition celebrates Santa Fe's artistic legacy and provides the community with a venue for every age to experience fine art. This is a new institution that has made amazing progress over the last few years with a focus on plants and the environment and is now going into the fine arts starting with sculpture. This new "arts trail" is a path around the periphery as they develop the garden with the hope to develop into a larger space. The idea of introducing the *art walk* is helpful to the Botanical Garden in that admission will be charged, however there is not much to see. The garden is open year-round and has few plants in the winter. They will look for other areas such as their *Glow* over the Christmas period to offer something. The exhibition is co-created by Clayton Bass Director of the Botanical Garden, who has significant experience in museums in the administrative and Dr. Leticia Chambers with expertise in government and education and the past president of the Board of Trustees at the Heard Museum. *Education:* six artist-led garden walks will use smart phone technology to scan signage for each sculpture and there will be garden docents. *Outreach*: the Botanical Garden seeks funding to offer free Saturday admissions, which will be extremely important and is currently free for ages 12 and under.

The development and expansion into site-specific installations of sculpture is a great idea and there are important sculptors in Santa Fe listed. The selections of works offered are a real concern. The applicant states a selection will be presented of both rarely exhibited pieces and iconic works inspired by nature. The works presented to the Commission were a cacophonous assemblage of examples by outstanding artists, but do not seem to have any visible inspiration by nature. *Financial*: the budget is also a concern. The artists are sculptors and cost is involved in transporting and installing the sculptures with professional expertise needed. Contracted services show \$1500 which would be impossible to move and install the pieces for that. The galleries are listed as collaborators, but she could not see any collaboration in the selection and in what was shown to the Commission. The installation and transportation by the galleries does not seem possible, because in-kind contributions are listed at \$500 each. In addition the kind of work suitable for outdoor display, not including the insurance to secure a top sculptor's work, will not be cheap. The level of the application is a surprise and seems to have been drawn at concept and not in terms of the project budget. The application lacks territorial input in terms of selection and a budget would be required to accomplish this ambitious project.

*Back-up Reader-Ashlyn Perry:* two special walks will be done for children by the artists, which is wonderful. *Marketing:* the garden attracts over 30,000 people, but what is being done to bring people in. *There* could be ads in gardening publications and specialty magazines out of state that might draw visitors and would be a different approach to marketing.

*General Panel Comments*: The list of sculptures is excellent, but more detail of how the \$10,000 will be used would be nice, other than it will go to advertising. There is mention of press releases, but no mention of media relations. Cultivation with a writer or any type of media program could generate advertising value. The sculptors have enormous visible potential with serious star power in not only trade, but substantial publications and are a valuable resource. The organization has already identified the need for the resource in marketing, but it is just as important to cultivate the relationships with reporters. It is great that the galleries support their artists, which also benefits the Botanical Garden. People who might not go to the garden might attend *because* of the artists. The event will piggyback on the Summer of Color, but the application does not show how they will distinguish the exhibition sculpture with orange; there seems to be no connection. The application lacks focus and is unclear in some areas.

<u>Applicant Note</u>: the Arts Commission reviewers specifically recommend future applications outline the approach to the artistic programming in more detail in the support materials and in the approach of how programming will be curated.

The applicant shows a loss for the last fiscal year and no Santa Fe Arts Commission funds can be used towards deficit reduction, as that is a funding restriction.

Chair Chippeaux returned to the room at this time.

# SNPP-09 Southwest Traditional & Bluegrass Music Association dba Southwest Pickers no conflicts of interest

*Lead-Todd Lovato*: this is the Santa Fe Bluegrass and *Old Time Music Festival* and the 41<sup>st</sup> festival that started with roots music. The headliner is a Grammy nominated bluegrass artist and they want to bring more traditional northern New Mexico influence into their entertainment. There is nothing else like the Festival in Santa Fe and it is a great climate for bluegrass and old-time music. The event is unique and adds a lot to the cultural identity. Work will be done with the northern New Mexico musicians to bring in Spanish and native influence and it is nice when funding helps in working with diversity. There are informal jams with amateurs and a great workshop component. To improve the *artistic cultural contribution* there is room to grow their attendance and after 41 years it is time to tighten up. *Outreach:* much of the focus is on youth, but kids of all ages can gravitate to this kind of music and regardless of the level of music expertise everyone can get something from the festival. The festival pass is affordable, ages 16 and under is free if accompanied by an adult. The event expects to attract 1500 to 2350 attendees this year, half from outside the area. More details were needed on who will actually attend. A subculture exists that draws a diverse crowd in age and ethnicity. A suggestion is to collect usable statistical data. *Attraction of tourists:* a lot of people attend, but there is also a camping component that does not help the 1% Lodger's Tax, although people still spend money in restaurants. Many people will stay in hotels, especially the musicians.

The website is nice and the music is fantastic. Additional funding could be used in graphic design because the flyers, main stage banners, etc. do not set the mood. There could be a better way to incorporate the sponsors, but without a keen sense of the audience data it is hard to justify the expanded ad buys. The applicant mentions they want to use some of the funding to attend similar festivals and hand out brochures for marketing, etc., which is another good way to reach the target audience.

*Backup Reader-Chair Chippeaux*: the organization has shown a deficit for the last two years. They bring people to Santa Fe and should consider concierge and other groups to synergize with for support. The event is an interesting and unique niche in Santa Fe that could have the same draw as Telluride. Layering the Hispanic and Native music could have a different and exciting vibe. Given the organization's mission to educate the public; the jamming and hands-on is nice, but there could also be outreach to schools, youth groups, summer programs and internships. There is a lot of uncovered opportunity. Regarding the camping component, it could be fun and interesting to invite restaurants to bring in food trucks, etc. *Marketing*: the festival is getting close to the deadline to place ads and they should be on top of that. A suggestion is to link to local websites like Candy Man or other groups. SEO (search engine optimization) could help.

Ms. Deitch: questioned why the current fiscal year is estimated at \$30,500 and the application there is a difference of income of \$25,000.

[Staff Clarification: the difference between the project budget and the organizational budget could be that there are other activities of the organization that are not included in the project budget. The relationship between the organizational budget and the project budget came up a lot with the panel yesterday. Notes were made on how that might be made easier for both the applicant and reviewer. There are often logical reasons why the two don't tie, but how staff conveys that between the applicant and the reviewer is an area for improvement.]

General Panel Comments: Travel expenses, etc. could fall into marketing and is a matter of positioning. This has all the ingredients to be enormous without a lot of effort, but there is an infrastructure issue. The organization could attend different festivals and hand out flyers, but they are not on Santa Fe.org. The event is a hidden gem, which is unfortunate because it does not have to be. A suggestion is New Mexico True. It would be nice to see their board structure. This might be an opportunity to bring people in with the specialized skills in areas the panel has discussed. The economic impact is confusing, \$45,000 flows into the city's economy and one third is used to hire national and regional professional entertainers, which is not the city's economy. The application states \$90,000 as the economic impact benefit to Santa Fe. It is wonderful that the New Mexico Special Orchestra was invited to be part of the Festival.

[Staff Clarification: what is spent on the event is looked at as economic impact, which is the \$30,000 and at \$50-60 per attendee, comes to \$60,000 and the two figures added is the \$90,000.]

<u>Applicant Note</u>: The Santa Fe Arts Commission recommends that the organization make the above clarification more clear. Also the organization shows a deficit from the last fiscal year and no Santa Fe Arts Commission funds may be used toward deficit spending, as this is a funding restriction.

# SNPP-10 The Film Festival dba the Santa Fe Film Festival no conflicts of interest

Lead-Gabe Gomez: a caveat for this application is that the Festival is for Santa Fe venues only. The \$10k is for a festival this December and this is their 15<sup>th</sup> year. The Festival is noted for local film and talent and new programming has been introduced that speaks not only to the technical side, but the things that define talent in film and accessibility in the film world. The Festival has not only those who appreciate film, but also those interested in expanding the film scene in Santa Fe. The project description states they are looking for support for various programs associated with the Film Festival in multiple venues. The *cultural contribution* brings the film audience locally, nationally and internationally, while expanding the dialogue of film locally. The Festival is naturally evolving the film programs in Santa Fe. A pilot project for filmmakers is to make a trailer and the winner will receive funding and industry-standard resources to create a pilot project that will be shown at another festival. Education programs are the cornerstone of the organization and they are advocates and contributors to the local film scene. Their core program is very strong; to bring film and educate people about film and provide accessibility to industry directors, etc. This includes students from the community colleges as well IAIA's (Institute of American Indian Art) program and the University of Art and Design. The *outreach to the community*: the organization is a cornerstone for providing accessibility and has Operation Sound Stage, a collaborative program and opportunity in special effects that is a great resource for veterans. The applicant took the initiative and time to develop human capital and invest in people to learn the craft in a variety of ways. One way is the "Tune Up" with specialists who build the economy and foster growth and bring professionals from the industry to help locals with their craft.

Marketing: the website is well done, easy to read, clear and up to date and is an extension of their

outreach. There is year round visibility and the information is current and updated as things happen. When Googling the *Santa Fe Film Festival*, two Facebook pages came up and one is clearly very old. The new Facebook page has more followers with 2768 likes. When doing organic type of marketing, Facebook likes could be a lot larger. The applicant could do a campaign to build the number even larger and the same is true with Twitter. There are a lot of local media buys; the *Hollywood Reporter*, *Sundance* and *Tribeca*, etc., an ad could be bought in those to cross-market and they have a multi e-blast package. The applicant is doing a lot of smart things industry wide, but there could be more by networking with *Sundance* and *South by Southwest*. The applicant should be looking at the metrics and targets for tourism, this has lots of legs.

General Panel Comments: the application states a guarter of a million dollars is generated in economic impact, which seems a lot. They mention they filled 400 hotel rooms in one event and expect to generate \$50,000 in room sales, but more information is needed on how the applicant determined those figures. There is a new board of directors and their executive director was just promoted from three previous titles starting with office manager and is now the executive director. That shows stability and progress within the organization. Their partners are impressive in terms of support from the community; Jon Hendry, with the union and the New Mexico Brewers Guild. Numbers for outside the state are relatively small and one would hope that marketing would bring those up. There is great in-kind support, yet no foundation or private support and they could draw on that. There is certainly room for collaboration in the business community and to leverage collaboration with the Santa Fe University of Art and Design, and it would be good to get more community college students. Theater space even as far away as Albuquerque could be drawn into Santa Fe to leverage the economic impact. There is a lot of opportunity and it is the right time of year to bring in new money. A suggestion is to step up the advertising in the Tribeca Film Festival, etc., because of the affluent audience. It would seem that the New Mexico Film Commission would want to engender something like the Festival in an economic fashion. Cultural contribution-the Festival has gone through a lot of changes in the last 3 to 5 years. The question is if Santa Fe needs two film festivals that have competing interests and overlap and whether another festival fills a niche or a need. The Santa Fe Film Festival does excellent work as does the Independent Film Festival and both might serve completely different audiences.

This speaks to target audience and the vastness of places to see film, and if we invest in it there is more of it, and more dialogue about art making. As an attraction, the Festival might be able to leverage that in different ways to start the conversation.

# VII. COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

There is no tourism requirement and the focus is more on education, human services and the local community and underserved populations. The marketing is more appropriately aimed at the local community.

# CADP-01 ARTsmart

### no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Kathlene Ritch:* the request is for \$6000 for public exhibitions and hands-on art and at least 10 exhibits throughout the year that start in July through June 30 next year. Youth 5-18 years of age who participated in the ARTsmart and the hands-on programming, will accompany the exhibits. Free workshops are offered at the Plaza and the Railyard throughout the year. *Education/outreach:* a methodology is used that includes art historical context language and literacy and a demonstration of hands-on art making and positive feedback, critique and an opportunity for a public exhibition. Students learn national, regional and

local art history that provides the foundation for developing art-making skills and materials. FACT (Fine Art for Children and Teens) ARTsmart was awarded in 2010 the *President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award*. The applicant states that the exhibition demonstrates to the community their investment in supporting the artistic aspirations of local youth. Youth have an opportunity for their work to be seen and talked about with the visitors to the exhibits. A diverse cross-section of Santa Fe of over 700 youth is featured with 75% from low income families and more than 80% from Hispanic and Native American cultures.

*Demographics* of attendance: there is a good distribution between age groups and a partnership with Meow Wolf, which will also increase their exposure this year. Their website is great and the advertising, press releases and social media being done is important. Their Facebook page averages two posts per day and they are on Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram and have flyers and invitations and brochures that kids take home. There was a surplus in the budget last year and a balanced budget is projected this year and next. The foundation, private, business and corporate and the in-kind support is great. The organization should continue to do what they are doing. They have found their niche and are emphasizing good things with youth and art in the community.

*Back-up Reader-Chair Chippeaux:* the program is great and the *education* methodology is sound. The *outreach* into the detention center is notable. The program outreach is to restaurants, broad business support and summer camps and they note internships on their website. There were no demographics on the number of schools served and a question is if 100% of schools are served or if there are goals to increase penetration into schools. The *marketing* is primarily through grassroots communication and would seem to be an opportunity to show what they do on a video link on their website to create a bigger buzz. The *financials* are sound.

*General Panel Comments:* the Meow Wolf partnership is interesting and has a lot of visibility. People coming into the Meow Wolf center see a glass classroom so it is not an overstatement that the new center will be a point of visibility for ARTsmart. They posted on their Facebook page 32 minutes ago and said that their application *"is up for review next and we are so appreciative of the support we get from the City and the SFAC."* 

[Staff Note: Ms. Blyth said she noted the questions on location. The location narrative mentions specific schools in the community they work with on (page 3), but she is not sure if the list is all-inclusive. She said a recommendation for the applicant could be to list all the schools they serve.]

### CADP-02 Compassionate Touch Network

### no conflicts of interest

Lead-Todd Lovato: support is requested for \$6k for their program *Minds Interrupted; Stories of Lives Affected by Mental Illness.* The performance is made up of seven presenters selected from six previous performances in the region and in Baltimore. The selection process is based on age, gender, ethnicity, class, familial relationship and illness and presenters have either an illness or a loved one with an illness. The presenters will participate in addition to the performance, in a one-day refresher writing workshop to update their story. There is a day in the presentation that has a dress rehearsal and a technical rehearsal. The projected audience is 300 people and the presentation takes place during Mental Awareness Week in October 2015. He appreciates the opportunity to review this grant because mental illness, drug abuse, homelessness more than anything else, might be Santa Fe's *"dirty little secret"*. The program is really important and gives a face to mental illness issues and the things that surround that; a creative face that uses expression not just for the audience, but also for the performers. The applicant states that the range of audience reached is different based on venue. The applicant is trying to secure a venue and the audience participation has been as high as 600. A suggestion is to try to get as much of an audience as possible. The application mentioned the Scottish Rite Temple on Tuesday, depending on availability, October 6, but a Friday would be ideal. The Santa Fe Performing Arts is an alternative.

*Outreach opportunities for the community*: there are seven presenters and tickets range from \$15-\$50 and the break point for ticket sales should be considered. *Promotion/marketing* has the usual and is very grassroots. A suggestion would be social media to bolster their presence. The school *outreach component* is good. Public radio could be a particularly good medium to share stories and KUNM and KSFR are good venues. The applicant is going into elementary schools and works with first responders to build awareness, but more information would have been nice on how that is done. The survey was great and the post survey of the production of audience members is good and more demographic questions are encouraged. *Financial:* more variety in income sources is suggested and the business/corporate and community foundation support and the zero government support, has room for growth. The DVDs of the performances could be an opportunity to use funding that increases not only the sale of DVDs, but an online presence of videos incorporated into their website and that would make that more accessible.

*Back-up Reader-Kathlene Ritch:* The applicant mentions that a professional theater gives importance to their stories and in turn helps reduce the stigma, which is good. Informational tables at the presentation post-reception are manned with people ready to talk about resources, which is also good outreach.

*General Panel Comments*: it was a surprise that there are no youth shelters listed among the collaborators. Linking websites could drive traffic back and forth. The promotional literature could be sent to individual therapists to make available for patients.

### CADP-03 Creativity for Peace

no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Ashlyn Perry:* the request is for \$3600 and the performance will be from a two-person performance piece developed from the diaries of young Palestinian and Israeli peacemakers. The organization is female Israeli and Palestinian women. Young ladies attend a three week camp in Santa Fe and share their experiences. The program will gather 8-12 New Mexico students ages 15-22 who will be co-creators and performers. There is six weeks of rehearsals with a performance the weekend of November 20 at Warehouse 21. The performance involves monologue, dance and video combined, however it was unclear although female based, if there are male students as well. The program seeks social change through the art of dialogue by building bridges between diverse cultures. There are plans to target local Jewish and Arab communities. *Cultural impact* could be significant on youth by bringing different cultures together to help them see commonality in humanity and their hopes and fears. *Outreach* opportunity: the target audience range is ages 15 to 22 and at \$5-\$10 for a ticket, is reasonably priced. A suggestion is outreach to other faith communities because of the importance of their message. Their Facebook page is well done with 2600 followers and there is a website and an email database of 3000 who receive email blasts. Printed posters will be used at local venues and crowd funding is used to help raise funds.

*Back-up Reader- Todd Lovato:* the organization requested \$3600, but the request should have been more. The production is small and there is a lot of volunteer work and would be nice if the organization is

sustainable and can take care of some of the administrative needs. The social media is solid and this is the first applicant to mention an online crowd funding campaign. It appears the person that coordinates their marketing efforts knows what they are doing.

*General Panel Comments*: There is a big interest in the community and not just on youth. There is a legitimate combination of social issues and arts often lacking in applications and this is a case where the applicant brings them together. They are making an enormous contribution to the New Mexico students. The link on the applicant's blog does not work. The relevance of the material embedded in the story should be added to some of the promotional platforms. The media page shows a lot about the organization and more individual voices could be added to the videos to create shareable material. Their work is good and the media could provide a foundation for who the organization is and why they do what they do.

[Staff Clarification: this is the first year the organization has done the performance and there will be time to harness the voice in the theatrical production for future marketing activities. This is a situation where there is a larger organizational budget presented and the applicant, in trying to be conscientious of their match, shows in the budget only what they can provide. The comment that the organization could request more funds could be helpful in their future applications.]

## CADP-04 National Dance Institute NM, Inc. no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Mr. Gomez:* \$6k is requested for the end of year showcase. NDI brings access to students who normally do not have this opportunity. There is not only an after school program, but training for older students and more possibilities are being opened for schools who do not have access. The entire organization creates a safe environment to explore creativity. The funding is for a culmination of all training for the year and dance performances for early May from kindergarten and up. Attendance is about 7900 people. *Cultural impact on the community* is the involvement of a significant amount of kids. *Outreach* is almost NDI's sole purpose and works on all levels. *Promotion/Marketing:* the Facebook page is well done and there is an e-blast to about 6600, but there is a lot of internal constituency. The organization cannot be static and should look closely at marketing. They have a large subscriber base and the ability to send their message to a lot of people, but there does not seem to be an effort to grow that. There is an enormous amount of printed collateral and investment in new media videos and integrated marketing, which is great. From a community point of view this organization is synonymous with youth arts and there is a lot of family support, but the audience and who they serve and their accessibility seems to be at their pinnacle.

General Panel Comments: The organization not only teaches dance, but how to be strong and healthy and educated and guides kids on life. The organization, because of the size of Santa Fe and the number of kids they serve, stands out. NDI is visibility for Santa Fe and there are many measures of how and why the Arts Commission should support NDI, but the question is how NDI can become more relevant in regard to the City and the arts. NDI is almost at capacity, but they are not in every school and the people who are not engaged are the school administrators. Some teachers resent the time that their kids are taken out of the classroom to practice, the administrators and teachers are the area to target for outreach.

[Staff Clarification: Ms. Garcia y Griego confirmed that the reviewer is speaking to the fact that the organization has a profound impact on the community and asking how the organization can promote/market the project to the community, rather than to the internal constituents.]

### CADP-05 New Mexico Literary Arts

#### no conflicts of interest

Lead-Gabe Gomez: the organization is the umbrella organization with the Alzheimer's Poetry Project (APP) a part of that. APP has a series of 24 bilingual poetry workshops held in Santa Fe adult care facilities. The project is led by three well established poets and through a series of workshops reads Shakespeare, etc. and creates a response with Alzheimer's patients. The concept is that the cognitive recognition helps Alzheimer's individuals be part of the poetry. The patients do not just read the poems, they go into the metrics. The \$6k request is to continue projects at the Folk Art Museum, the Santa Fe Opera and other locations that culminate in an event at the New Mexico History Museum. The cultural impact to the community is that the project speaks to a very specific part of the community. It is a vehicle that uses literature and poetry for those unable to communicate to have a voice through poems and allows them to be represented. Cultural and outreach-part of the program's strength is the use of national data through Alzheimer's organizations to reach and impact communities. Partnerships include Girls, Inc. Georgia O'Keeffe, the Santa Fe Opera, etc. *Marketing*-Santa Fe's healthy literary community uses this as a tool for people who are often marginalized. There are press releases, local radio, promo cards, e-blasts, television and YouTube, but the website gives a small piece of real estate on the New Mexico Literary Arts homepage about the APP, who they are and their relevance. The problem is the centralized message of "what do you do, who do you do it with, and why do you do it". Funding will help with the administrative fees and artistic contracts for poets, etc., some design and production and ancillary costs, but not much toward promotion. The organization as Literary Arts has been around for a while and has a pool of resources in town and does incredibly important work, but nobody knows about it. They are encouraged to centralize their message and promote their work. There is good collaboration with the state, and New Mexico Alzheimer's Association and senior facilities, but appears the collaborations are not leveraged. There are no links on the New Mexico Alzheimer's webpage and no business/corporate support. This project concept could be spread across New Mexico by tying into the Alzheimer's organization, and without a lot of work, could be bigger and better. This project alludes to the national websites and if the applicant is depending on the national organizations' data, why not use them for promotion. Looking for corporate dollars and sustainable help is key.

*Back-up Reader- Sande Deitch*: the budget asks for \$5200 for administrative contracts and services and artistic contracts and services and only \$550 for marketing.

General Panel Comments: there is no in-kind donation and would seem that should be available.

### Ms. Ritch left the room due to conflict of interest with the next proposal.

### CADP-06 New Mexico School for the Arts-Art Institute conflicts of interest: Ms. Ritch

*Lead-Sande Deitch*: \$6k is requested for performances and exhibitions over the next year for dance, theater and visual arts for 200 students. Many of the students are from northern New Mexico. Performances are at James A. Little Theater and Warehouse 21 and their art is exhibited at Site Santa Fe, the Santa Fe Convention Center, Community Art Gallery and other area galleries. The night before opening there is a free performance of ArtSpring Gala. The Institute has received three "A" grades and has a 96% graduation rate in mastery of the arts and academic curriculum. *Cultural impact:* the artistic talent of New Mexico youth is nurtured and students are prepared for a career in the arts and academics. *Outreach:* no one is turned away. Outreach is done in public schools. The dance and theater staff present master classes

in Santa Fe, Espanola, Roswell etc., and 250 students were bused in from six area schools to see the Winter Dance. They collaborate with the Lensic and have performed there in their past programs. *Promotion/Marketing-* \$4,000 is requested for artistic contracted services and fees, but only \$1000 for promotion and marketing and much of the advertising is from their own budget. There is an online presence and the use of social media, printed collateral and statewide PR/marketing and cross over with NDI. The business, corporate, foundation and private support is good and \$4200 of government support.

*Back-up Reader- Penelope Hunter-Stiebel*: the organization was in the top 5% of high schools in the *US News and World Report*, and getting into the report does not happen by accident. No one is better than NM School for the Arts in PR and connections and people are brought in from New York. Regular stories are written by their students and in their social media. *Financially*: the budget narrative shows renewed funding from Lannan, Sulica, Stranahan, Bettina Baruch, Frost, Estelle Yates Foundation, etc. Performance is an essential part of their student training. We are lucky to have NMSA.

<u>Applicant Note</u>: the panel recommendation would be to be to state the public schools where outreach is done.

*General Panel Comments:* 20 residential learning students are accommodated and they are growing in enrollment by 75 freshman.

Ms. Ritch returned to the room at this time

# CADP-07 Pandemonium Productions, Inc. no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Ms. Perry*: \$6k is requested for the fall production of *Into the Woods* taking place at the James. A. Little Theater. There are 50 student actors in all forms of theater production. Pandemonium offers tuition assistance and encourages participation of students from diverse, cultural, economic and educational backgrounds, as well as ELS students and students with developmental and physical challenges. Three productions a year are done ranging in age from 6 to 16 years old. The *outreach* program works with 15 local schools with scholarships offered to more than 40 students unable to afford tuition and free tickets and transportation are given to about 200 students. The teachers are given free study guides to teach the historical context of the production to children that attend the performance. The target audience is around 3200 attendees with \$8-12 tickets. *Promotion/Marketing:* there is a robust marketing campaign with many outlets and an online calendar. The website is good, but postings on their Facebook page should be updated and would be good to link their Facebook page to their website. *Financial:* Pandemonium has a lot of in-kind income. Funding will go toward marketing/promotion in the amount of \$2750 and the rest for artist contracted services, fees and salaries, etc.

*Back-up Reader- Ms. Deitch*: each production costs \$8000 in scholarships and they are seeking additional funders. There are two new business partners, Del Norte Credit Union and Chevrolet Cadillac, and they collaborate with El Museo, the New Mexico School for the Arts, Theaterwork, Warehouse 21, the Santa Fe Opera and Eldorado Children's Theater.

*General Panel Comments*: regarding the collaboration with the Santa Fe Opera, the nature of the collaboration is not spelled out; props, sets or costumes, etc. The teachers study guide sounds good, but the samples were not impressive. Organizations should never rest on their laurels when it comes to

maintaining your brand and the website and social media presence should be kept current and active. It is great that the SFAC has a nice tile on the bottom of their website, but the tile is pixilated.

<u>Applicant Note</u>: specificity is needed when listing an amount for other earned income, especially if significantly high relative to ticket prices over 50% of the total earned income. Although the applicant is not required to list the information, it could be noted in the financial narrative.

## CADP-08 Pomegranate Studios no conflicts of interest

*Lead- Mr. Lovato*: Pomegranate specializes in Middle Eastern and Tribal dance. Funding is requested for *Invaders of the Heart* in June 2016 for two performances at the James A. Little Theater. In addition, funding is requested for their annual free performance series at schools, nonprofits and community events. There is a lot of collaboration with 20 dancers from the Mosaic Dance Company and other apprentice companies. Bridging Santa Fe to Middle Eastern culture makes the organization unique in their contribution to the cultural scene. An estimated 5000 people are served annually. The SEEDS program has grown significantly and has developed into satellite programs called the National SEEDS Teacher Training with over 19 SEEDS programs across the United States. The focus is females and the model is successful and is working even outside of Santa Fe. It is great that Santa Fe was the incubator for the program. *Education:* the education component is strong with 40 to 60 donated performances. The funding supports the production and performances. The applicant failed to update the dates and language from their past grants and the typos are notable.

<u>Applicant Note</u>: in some cases the applicant has referred to performances from the past. A recommendation is that the applicant keeps the information current to the request.

*Mr. Lovato: outreach to the community-* Pomegranate works with many organizations and many of their shows are *donation only* or donated performances. Performance attendance numbers of 4000 are unclear whether relevant for this year. The organization is roughly 30% Hispanic, Native American and other non-Caucasian ethnicities. Scholarships are provided to young women to study dance three times a week for a total of 4 ½ hours a week for one year. Many of the teen girls are at high risk when starting the program and no one is turned away. *Marketing/Promotion* is good and events are performed all over the City and the applicant is aggressive with their printed collateral with advertisements all over town for upcoming events. Even though this is Middle Eastern/tribal dance, the SEEDS Program could be emphasized more. The website and social media could provide opportunity for a greater community impact through their pro bono performances and as their core mission, they should grow that.

Back-up Reader- Ms. Hunter-Stiebel: a concern was the applicant's statement: "we hope to once again receive funding from the SFAC, which we have received in recent past years, in order to offer realistic salaries to our key artistic personnel and many excellent artists". She thought the Commission would hope the funding would stimulate, rather than be relied upon.

# CADP-09 Sangre de Cristo Chorale of New Mexico dba Sangre de Christo no conflicts of interest

*Lead-Kathlene Ritch:* \$6k is requested for their July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> Winter and Spring concerts held at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Fe. The application mentions two final candidates for their position of

music director and that the venue and some concerts might change. The Chorale calls themselves a group of all volunteer singers and the caliber is good. They have weekly rehearsals. The application has been enhanced from last year. Educational: all of their students under 18 attend free. There are four high school student apprentices that sing with the group and attend an intensive workshop that culminates in a free concert. Cultural: familiar choral repertoire is presented, as well as new works sometimes commissioned from local composers. A strategic plan is in place to explore free community concerts. Performances at schools and community centers, particularly on the south side and at nursing and retirement homes are being considered to provide music to those not physically able to attend a concert. Marketing: they utilize regular ads, print and radio and give away tickets, do interviews and concierge outreach. They have enhanced their website and do email blast and mailings and post to their Facebook page. The organization explained a big deficit last year was due to their chamber orchestra and paid soloists and higher music and artistic contracted costs and a concert that had to be canceled due to snow. They are back on track this year and their in-kind and administrative support is great. Funding is for \$4000 for administrative and artistic fees and \$2000 for marketing. This is a great group of passionate volunteers who want to make good choral music and have a long history in Santa Fe. The applicant paid attention to their application this year and fixed issues from their previous grant applications.

*General Panel Comments*: the application mentions what they plan to do in the future, but what is planned for now. The applicant took under advisement on their last application that they were "*light on outreach*" and made that part of their current strategic plan.

<u>Applicant Note</u>: the applicant showed a deficit for last year, which is addressed in their narrative and no Santa Fe Arts Commission funds can be used towards any deficit reduction, as this is a funding restriction.

### CADP-10 Santa Fe Performing Arts School & Company no conflicts of interest

Lead-: Penelope Hunter-Stiebel: \$6k funding is requested to present 10 shows July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. This includes full-scale productions and the use of local actors and professionals brought to Santa Fe and youth productions with socially poignant content. There are collaborations and coproductions with other local nonprofit and theater organizations. One of the most important programs is the national New Play Competition from which the winning play is produced. The organization has a 27-year track record with the same person at their head the entire time. Their educational program is year-round and an onsite school. There is outreach and teacher training to integrate the arts with academics. The organization maintains the theater for the Armory for the Arts. The Executive Director, Nicolas Sabato has been with the organization since 1988 and an associate director for bilingual programming has been added. There is a bilingual touring production that goes to schools and focuses on social issues. The national playwright competition has been held 15 years and there are two children's' programs: the City Different Players for ages 8-12 and a Teen Company. The demographics are amazing reaching 8,300 total out of which 3,984 are Hispanic/Latino and 3,569 White, which is attributable to the artistic director for bilingual programming. That is not seen often in theater production and is very promising. Promotion/marketing: the playwright competition is listed with theater publications such as American Theater Magazine, Stage Directions, the Writer and Dramatist Guild Resource Directory, all good targets. There have been 200 submissions received each year from over 35 states.

The board looks strong and donations are up 80 percent. One concern is with the artistic quality of the children, teen and junior programs. The performance is the basis of their semester of education costing

over \$600 to participate. The credentials of the person in charge of the children/teen programs are unclear and appear to be just a graduate from the same program. In terms of the *cultural impact in the community*, there is unevenness in what is offered.

*Back-up-Reader- Gabe Gomez: cultural impact:* in a town not necessarily known for theater, this is another situation where an organization buries its assets. The website and Facebook page is just an extension of their announcements and flyers. The organization does not take the time to tell the story about why the competition is relevant and has been happening for 15 years. A suggestion if trying to increase subscribers and reach new audiences is to look at the stories generated within the organization. The organization is unique in many ways, but you don't get that. The website is text heavy and the Facebook page does not attract people to learn about their organization. The applicant has a lot of assets that could go a long way to support their visibility and they could collaborate with a lot of people in many ways from production help to facilities. There is a broader audience of people who do not know about the organization and they are not 'tooting their own horn' and they should. They do a lot of great things and that could dove tail into a larger visibility if done right.

*General Panel Comments*: participant demographics indicate over 64% of the children are low income or minority which is high, but that is not stated on Facebook or in their programming. That is enormous *cultural* and *community impact*. A high percentage of attendees are age 65 and over and could be an opportunity to reach out to the senior citizen communities and bring them in as well.

### CADP-11 Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Inc. no conflicts of interest

Lead-Kathlene Ritch: \$6000 is requested for the winter and spring concert downtown, jazz concerts at Santa Fe Prep, Mariachi and Elementary Strings at Capital High School, a February dinner and concert at El Museo Cultural, the student performances at the Railyard Park and various events around town throughout the year. Youth in Northern New Mexico are provided with educational opportunities to discover their musical potential. The big program is the Elementary Strings at six elementary schools that feeds all their other groups. After two years of Elementary Strings a student goes on to the Elementary Strings Orchestra called "the orchestra with training wheels", after which they can audition for the advanced groups. Students can choose from the jazz ensembles or the mariachi groups. There is outreach with international stars and the education outreach is great. It was smart to move the Elementary Strings and mariachi concerts to Capital High School from the touristy downtown Plaza. SFYSA performs concerts at nursing homes, schools, malls, restaurants and community events and are seen around town. The applicant is considering a side-by-side concert with the Santa Fe Symphony this winter and it is a big deal to work with a professional on stage and provides a different experience. Cultural: students represent over 40 schools from Santa Fe and surrounding areas. Students are required to attend performances in other genres and encouraged to compose and conduct. Demographics: surveys are given to the audience that show even numbers across the demographics.

*Marketing*: Facebook ads are done in Spanish and there are 'hip' ads for kids that are interested in more than jazz. The applicant redesigned their website last year and shows their enthusiasm about their success with an online matching grant campaign (crowdsource funding). Another funding campaign will be done for their March and April "Spring for Strings" with the hope of raising \$7000. The organization does Flickr and Instagram and has YouTube videos and is making their own promotional videos. *Financial*: a substantial donation was received in 2014 and they paid off their debts and repaired in-house instruments, which

lowered their monthly instrument rental fees. Funding of \$500 will go to advertising, \$4500 to artistic contracted services and fees and \$1000 to artistic salaries. Doing the dog show was smart and gave kids a chance to play.

Back-up-Reader: Ashlyn Perry: the website and the samples provided online are extremely impressive.

*General Panel Comments*: the organization tracks their metrics and optimizes SEO and their social media is impressive. The webpage is an opportunity to market their business and corporate donors. Their banners are by Coca-Cola, which is impressive and they advertise on KSFR radio and add key words and tags to their postings and do Robo-Texting.

### **Closing Comments:**

Chair Chippeaux thanked everyone for their qualitative input and great job. He acknowledged staff for all of their work.

Ms. Garcia y Griego thanked Chair Chippeaux, Ms. Blyth and Mr. Lambert for their work. She reminded the Commissioners about the next Arts Commission meeting.

### VIII. Adjournment

Having completed the agenda and having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

Approved by:

Chip Chippeaux, Chair Santa Fe Arts Commission

Submitted by:

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer