



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
March 11, 2025

ITEM TITLE:

A Resolution approving updates to the annual Cultural Grant Guidelines and Process including adding a category for Coral Gables Youth Arts Programming (CGYAP) with dedicated funding of \$50,000, further maintaining funding at \$228,228 for Coral Gables Core Cultural Organizations and Cultural Programs (CGC and CGP respectively) for fiscal year 2026 (Recommended by the Cultural Development Board Approval/Denial vote: 6 to 0).

BRIEF HISTORY:

The Cultural Development Board annually assesses the cultural grant guidelines, application, and process from the previous year with the purpose of recommending updates that are then incorporated into the next grant cycle.

Board member Eric Fliss presented a proposal to address the distinct intent of professional arts programming that primarily addresses youth. The proposal recommended an additional category with dedicated funding, revised grant use, and an evaluation process that removes certain competitive evaluation criteria.

In addition, minor text updates were presented by staff for the Cultural Grant Guidelines to clarify the overall use of cultural grant funds.

The Cultural Development Board thoroughly reviewed the proposal and structure of the grant categories, text updates, and recommended fiscal year 2026 funding, and agreed on the following recommendations:

- Include a cultural grant category for Coral Gables Youth Arts Programming (CGYAP) with dedicated funding of \$50,000 for Fiscal Year 2026.
- Modify Grant Use for CGYAP category.
- Modify evaluation criteria for the CGYAP category.
- Include text updates.
- Maintain the Cultural Grant budget of \$228,228 for Coral Gables Core Cultural Organizations (CGC) and Coral Gables Cultural Program (CGP) categories for Fiscal Year 2026.

The Cultural Development Board voted unanimously to recommend the updates at their meeting on February 18, 2025.

ADVISORY BOARD/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION(S):

| Date. | Board/Committee | Comments |
|-------------------|--------------------------|---|
| February 18, 2025 | Cultural Development Bd. | Recommended: approval/denial vote: 6 to 0 |

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 1. Draft Resolution**
- 2. Cultural Grant Guidelines with marked revisions**
- 3. Excerpt Minutes from the Cultural Development Board meeting of February 18, 2025**

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

| No. | Amount | Account No. | Source of Funds |
|--|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | \$228,228 | | General Fund |
| | \$ 50,000 | | General Fund |
| Total: | \$278,228 | | |
| Fiscal Impact: General funding request for cultural grant program. | | | |

BUSINES IMPACT:

Increase support to cultural arts programming in Coral Gables increases economic impact by driving visitors and residents to area businesses and parking; and increases quality of life through access to a variety of cultural experiences.