

Proposal  
Coral Gables Youth Arts Program  
Coral Gables Cultural Development Board  
Prepared by Eric Fliss

The City of Coral Gables provides grant programs to arts organizations to produce meaningful cultural experiences for the betterment of the quality of life in the city.

The current Coral Gables Cultural Development grants program provides two categories of grants to support arts activities that take place within the city of Coral Gables. These programs are:

**Coral Gables Core Cultural Organizations (CGC)**- Cultural groups who qualify for this category must be located within Coral Gables, have an operating budget of over \$500,000.00, provide year-round programs/performances and achieve visibility for the city.

**Awards in this category are capped at \$15,000**

**Coral Gables Cultural Program (CGP)**-Cultural Groups in this category must present a series and events with cultural significance, have a reputation for excellence, and demonstrate a positive impact on the reputation of the city as a dynamic cultural community.

**Awards in this category are capped at \$10,000**

The total amount awarded in FY24-25 competitive grants was \$228,228.00 \*

\*An additional budget line-item of an additional \$225,000 is provided to the CG Museum

I propose the establishment of the **Coral Gables Youth Arts Program (CG-YAP)** for established non-profit youth arts organizations who provide year-round or event programming in Coral Gables, and whose primary mission is to create, present or exhibit cultural arts programs for and/or with children and youth. Eligible organizations must have a 2-year consecutive track record of providing arts activities for children/youth in Coral Gables.

Units of government and educational institutions such as schools, colleges and universities are not eligible to apply.

**The establishment of CG-YAP would eliminate the current condition in which professional arts organizations are evaluated head-to-head with youth arts programs under the same criteria and rubric.**

In the most recent grant cycle, 9 of the 34 funded organizations would qualify for the CG-YAP

The rubric for scoring these organizations will be weighted heavier for their effectiveness in:

- Project Excellence
- Outreach & Community Partnerships
- Organization & Management Capacity
- Outcomes

While secondary emphasis will be placed on:

- Artistic Excellence
- Marketing
- Finance and Budget

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It is proposed that the Coral Gables Youth Arts Program provides 2 Categories of eligibility:

**Category A:** Cultural Groups in this category must have *project budgets* over \$50,000 excluding in-kind

**Awards in this category are capped at \$10,000**

In 2024-25 -Four (4) Cultural applicants qualified in this category and received an average grant of \$5,175.00

**Category B:** Cultural groups in this category have *project budgets* under \$50,000

**Awards in this category are capped at \$5,000**

In 2024-25: Five (5) Cultural applicants qualified in this category and received an average grant of \$4,980.00

**A request to the Mayor and Commission to fund the Coral Gables Youth Arts Program (CG-YAP) separately from the existing grant funding would require an additional \$45,000-\$50,000. (\$45,600 in 2024-25). Leaving the existing \$228,228. For CGC and CGP programs.**