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NEWS RELEASE

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City Arts and Culture Grants Awarded

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The Dubuque City Council recently accepted the recommendation from the Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission to award \$210,000 of operating support grant funds to 13 Dubuque arts and culture organizations and \$35,000 in special projects grant funds to six organizations.

The City's arts and culture grant programs are designed to support organizations that contribute to the cultural vibrancy and vitality of the community. The operating support grant is open to high-quality, established 501(c)(3) arts and culture organizations located in the city of Dubuque that primarily serve Dubuque residents with year-round arts and culture events, programs and services, and can demonstrate a record of programmatic and administrative stability. The special project grant program was designed to support unique projects and encourage innovation in the arts and cultural offerings in the Dubuque community, foster partnerships among local organizations, and improve diversity and inclusion among residents. The requests for funding were reviewed, scored, and ranked by members of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission with careful consideration based on the program guidelines. Their recommendations were forwarded to the City Council for consideration.

Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Support Grant

The funding format for this program employs a cap and/or a percentage of the applicant's total operating costs. This year, the cap was \$35,000 or seven percent of total operating costs. The organizations were tiered according to the ranking of their score and each tier contained three organizations. Organizations in the first tier received seven percent of their operating budget, those in the second tier received 6.5 percent, those in the third tier

received six percent, the fourth tier received five percent, and the fifth tier received 4.2 percent of their operating budget.

Grant recipients, in ranked order, are:

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra	\$35,000.00
Northeast Iowa School of Music	\$16,329.02
Dubuque County Historical Society	\$35,000.00
Bell Tower Productions	\$20,537.37
Dubuque Arboretum Association	\$19,580.01
Grand Opera House	\$27,169.69
Fly-By-Night Productions	\$763.52
Dubuque Arts Council	\$4534.06
Colts Drum & Bugle Corps	\$35,000.00
Rising Star Theatre Company	\$2819.56
Matter	\$10,011.55
Dubuque County Fine Arts	\$2,383.34
Dubuque Barbershop Harmony Society	\$871.88
Total	\$210,000.07

FY17 Special Projects Grant

Due to the nature of the projects, the City Council approved the commission’s recommendation to limit funding to no more than two consecutive years per organization. The commission also recommended that the projects be fully funded in descending order of rank.

The Commission recommended that the five top-ranked applicants be funded at their full grant request and that the organization ranked next receive partial funding equal to the remainder of the funding allotment. This year’s recipient and projects are:

Dubuque Museum of Art, <i>Self-portrait Exhibition & Teen Engagement Project</i>	\$7880.65
Steeple Square, <i>From St. Mary's to Steeple Square: A Community Portrait</i>	\$7992.00
Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, <i>Podium Exchange</i>	\$2500.00
Bell Tower Productions, <i>Big Band Time Warp</i>	\$4500.00
Studio Works, <i>Art Village</i>	\$7250.00
DubuqueFest Fine Arts Festival, <i>World Music Night (funded at 57.38%)</i>	\$4877.35
Total	\$35,000

For additional information on this program, contact Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator Debra Alleyne at 563-690-6059 or dalleyne@cityofdubuque.org.

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