



City of Arts & Innovation

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES **DATE: DECEMBER 13, 2021**
FROM: RIVERSIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY **WARD: ALL**
SUBJECT: UPDATE TO CALIFORNIA HUMANITIES RELIEF GRANT EXPENDITURE PLAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000

ISSUE:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive an update to the California Humanities Relief Grant expenditure plan in the amount of \$20,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive an update to the California Humanities Relief Grant expenditure plan in the amount of \$20,000 to support the digitization of Press Enterprise resources, youth poetry series, virtual adult humanities classes, storytelling programs, and adult, children and young adult poetry collections.

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Public Library actively pursues grant funding as an alternative funding source and/or supplement to City funds to enable the purchase of library materials to enhance its collection for use by the public. Grants offer valuable, unique opportunities for local jurisdictions to compete for funding sources available through, State, Federal, or other agencies to assist in covering the costs of select projects.

DISCUSSION:

On September 3, 2021, Library Staff submitted an online application for a grant opportunity from the California Humanities for support to organizations for funds lost over the COVID-19 pandemic.

On October 12, 2021, the California Humanities notified staff that the Riverside Public Library was awarded the grant from the California Humanities Relief Grant in the amount of \$20,000. Funding for this grant has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The grant period is from November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022. Grant funds are only applicable during the award period.

On November 16, 2021, the City Council approved the acceptance of the grant funding with five affirmative votes, authorized an increase in revenue in the amount of \$20,000 and appropriate expenditures of the same amount to the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund, and authorized the City Manager, or designee to execute grant documents with California Humanities, including making minor and non-substantive changes.

In accordance with the City Grant Administration Policy 01.006.00, the Department Director evaluated the award to determine the benefit to the customers of the City's Library, long and short-term financial implications, feasibility and compatibility with existing City priorities/goals and services, and determined the community and City would benefit with accepting this grant.

The program expenditure plan will include: 1) Software and hardware costs for the digitization of the local newspaper The Press Enterprise; 2) Five offerings of a poetry writing series lead by a local poet/artist specifically for youth that focuses on resiliency and overcoming hardship as experienced over the last year; 3) Four-part series of virtual programs with non-profit organizations for adults to explore humanities topics; 4) In-person holiday storytelling programs for children at all eight library locations; and 5) Expansion of the library's adult, children and young adult poetry collections to include works from local, regional, national and international poets in both physical and digital formats.

Funding from the California Humanities Relief Grant will supplement the items listed below:

Humanities	
Description	Amount
1. Digitization of Press Enterprise	\$3,000
2. Five Offerings of a Youth Poetry Series	\$2,000
3. Four Virtual Adult Humanities Classes	\$1,000
4. Storytelling Programs	\$4,000
5. Adult Poetry Collection	\$5,000
6. Children's Poetry Collection	\$3,500
7. Young Adult Poetry Collection	\$1,500
Total	\$20,000

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

The item presented in this report contributes to Strategic Priority No. 1 *Arts, Culture & Recreation* and Goal 1.1 - Strengthen Riverside's portfolio of arts, culture, recreation, senior and lifelong learning programs and amenities through expanded community partnerships, shared use opportunities and fund development.

The item aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** - This item aligns with Community Trust by This item aligns with Community Trust by minimizing the expenditure of City funds through community partnership and involving the Board of Library Trustees and members of the community to encourage or enhance communication.

2. **Equity** - This item aligns with Equity by facilitating equitable distribution of services to every member of the community.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** - This item aligns with Fiscal Responsibility as the community would benefit by accepting this award with no financial implications to the City other than in-kind contributions of staff time and no city match.
4. **Innovation** - This item aligns with Innovation by continuing partnership with the California State Library.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** - This item aligns with Sustainability & Resiliency by potentially providing fund development opportunity.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact is the City Council approval and acceptance of the grant funds in the amount of \$20,000 as described in the report.

Prepared by: Erin Christmas, Library Director
Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager