



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL      DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2019**

**FROM: LIBRARY DEPARTMENT      WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: GRANT AWARD OF \$6,000 FROM CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY, LIBRARY SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY ACT, FOR CREATIVE THURSDAY'S - SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION**

## **ISSUES:**

Accept \$6,000 in grant funds from the California State Library, Library Services and Technology Act for the Riverside Public Library's Creative Thursday project and appropriate expenditures in the same amount.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the City Council:

1. Accept \$6,000 in grant funds from the California State Library, Library Services and Technology Act for the Creative Thursday project;
2. Authorize, upon approval, an increase in estimated revenues in account 9338800102-33410000 in the amount of \$6,000 and appropriate expenditures in the same amount into Creative Thursday account 9338800102-44021000; and
3. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, execute all grant related documents and make non-substantive changes.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Riverside Public Library actively pursues grant funding as an alternative funding source and/or supplement to City funds to enable unique program opportunities for the community. 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 selected projects.

On December 10, 2018, the Riverside Public Library submitted a grant application to the California State Library for the Creative Thursday project for a total of \$6,000 in federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds. The LSTA is the only federal program exclusively for libraries. It is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). State libraries use the

funds to support statewide initiatives and also distribute the funds through subgrants or cooperative agreements to public, school, academic, research, and special libraries.

The City of Riverside is called the “City of Arts and Innovation.” Arts are a central part to all that we as a City strive to achieve. Over the last year, stakeholders from many departments have been working together to ensure all facets of City life have an arts component be it through specific programs, public art or as merely a component of a larger event.

During the two day Arts and Culture retreat held in March 2018, one of the identified needs was to have art programs at locations throughout the City. The Riverside Public Library is in a unique position to ensure art is seen at locations throughout the entire community. With eight (8) library locations, the Library is in every City Ward serving a diverse set of customers in each space. The Creative Thursday’s grant opportunity is a perfect match with this increased citywide focus on arts in the community.

This funding would provide adult art activities at all eight (8) locations both during the grant period and after with supplies purchased for the grant. These programs would include visual arts like painting, fabric and sculpture, performing arts such as dance, theater and juggling, and even modern art including digital art. The goal will be to expose adults in Riverside to a full array of art opportunities available in the community and as an opportunity to give local artists a chance to teach adult community members how to expand their artistic talents. Library staff and local artists will be tasked with teaching the classes. Following these classes, the expectation is that adult customers will become more familiar with the arts, have tangible items to take home with them that they have created and to increase art awareness in the community overall.

Partners identified for this project include the Riverside Arts Council, the Riverside Art Museum and the City of Riverside Arts and Cultural Affairs Division of the Community & Economic Development Department. With these partnerships we will also see a greater connection among the City and local artists.

## **DISCUSSION:**

On January 2, 2019, the Riverside Public Library received a letter (attached) from the California State Library approving the grant application for the Creative Thursday project for a total of \$6,000 in LTSA funds.

The Creative Thursday grant would support the Library’s mission and goals of the Riverside Public Library. The Riverside Public Library’s Mission Statement is “To be the foremost promoter of self-directed life-long learning. We spark curiosity and provide the tools for discovery.” One of our specific goals is to “serve as a cultural art, literacy, and learning center, with a focus on special collections.” Providing adult art activities will help the Library ensure it is meeting the needs of the adult community by offering them opportunities for life-long learning and providing cultural arts experiences for the community at large.

As stakeholders in the new Arts and Culture vision and mission it is important to acknowledge this project will fit with those guiding statements as well. The Vision statement is “To inspire everyone through meaningful arts and cultural experiences” and the mission is “Through dynamic and diverse arts, culture and entertainment, we enrich, elevate and motivate our community and its visitors.” All eight (8) Library locations across the City would provide these art classes to the entire Riverside community.

The grant term is January 1, 2019, through September 30, 2019.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no Fiscal Impact to the General Fund associated with this report. The total grant award is \$6,000 and will cover the costs associated with Creative Thursday project. No matching City funds are required. Upon approval, there will be an increase in estimated revenues account 9338800102-33410000 in the amount of \$6,000 and appropriate expenditures in the same amount into Creative Thursday account 9338800102-44021000.

Prepared by: Erin Christmas, Library Director  
Certified as to  
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez Chief Finance Officer/City Treasurer  
Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager  
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachment: Letter