

Board of Library Trustees

TO: BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES DATE: AUGUST 24, 2020

FROM: LIBRARY DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 FROM THE CA CARES

HUMANITIES RELIEF PROGRAM

ISSUE:

Receive and file this report on the grant award received by the Riverside Public Library from the CA Cares Humanities Relief Program in the amount of \$15,000 to supplement adult programming and provide online programs for the community

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Library Trustees receive and file this report on the grant award from the CA Cares Humanities Relief Program in the amount of \$15,000 to supplement adult programming and provide online programs for the community.

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.

On August 4, 2020, the City Council unanimously approved the acceptance of grant funding in the amount of \$15,000 from the California Cares Humanities Relief Program to supplement adult programming and provide online programs for the community and authorized a supplemental appropriation in the same amount.

DISCUSSION:

On June 15, 2020, Library Staff submitted an online application for a grant opportunity from the California Humanities for support to organizations that had experienced the cancellation of their public humanities activities due to a decrease or loss of revenue, cancellation of programming opportunities, loss of paid staff, or venues as a result of COVID-19. Applicants could request between \$5,000 and \$20,000 in general operating support. Matching funds are not required but

award funds may be used to supplement (or match) resources (cash and/or in-kind) received from other sources.

On July 1, 2020, the California Humanities notified staff that the Riverside Public Library was awarded the grant from the CA Cares Humanities Relief Grant in the amount of \$15,000. The grant period is from July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

Funding from the CA Cares Relief Grant will provide a series of adult programs entitled Humanities Hour. Humanities Hour is a series of classes the Library will provide for adults to connect with arts, culture, and writing through an online platform. Upon City Council approval, the Library will contract with three local non-profit organizations that support various subsets of humanities programming in the Riverside community.

Funds for Humanities Hour will also be used to expand the digital offerings the Riverside Public Library provides the adult community in humanities related topics to reach adults who may not participate in the classes. These funds will allow for an enhanced collection in areas such as writing, culture, art, history, language, philosophy, and religion. Additionally, access to a new database that addresses areas related to the humanities will be provided to the community. The following table includes Humanities Hour Budget.

Humanities Hour Online Classes	
Description	Amount
Programs from Non-Profit(s)	\$4,500
Digital Content: E-Books	\$7,500
Digital Content: Database	\$3,000
Total	\$15,000

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.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total grant award is \$15,000 for Fiscal Year 2020/21.

Prepared by: Erin Christmas, Library Director

Certified as to availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer

Approved by: Moises Lopez, Deputy City Manager

Attachment: Award Letter