



Strengthening arts, culture,
and creative expression as the
tools to cultivate a better
California for all.

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Danielle Brazell, **Executive Director**
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MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Thursday, February 1, 2024
10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Ebell of Los Angeles
743 S Lucerne Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90005

The members of the California Arts Council convened in Los Angeles and via web conference to discuss and vote on various items as listed in the minutes below. The full audio and video of the meeting can be accessed [here](#).

Council Members Present In-Person:

Roxanne Messina Captor, Chair
Leah Goodwin, Vice-Chair
Vicki Estrada
Ellen Gavin
Alex Israel
Phil Mercado

Council Members Present Virtually:

Gerald Clarke
Caleb Duarte
Olivia Raynor

Council Members Absent:

Nicola Miner

Arts Council Staff Present:

Danielle Brazell, Executive Director
Kayla Ungar, Chief Deputy Director
Ayanna Kiburi, Deputy Director
Carissa Gutierrez, Public Affairs Director
Kristin Margolis, Director of Programs
Kimberly Brown, Public Affairs Specialist
Mason Diab, Council Liaison

1. Call to Order

Chair Messina Captor opened the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

2. Land and Peoples Acknowledgement

Council Member Raynor read the CAC Land and Peoples Acknowledgement into the record.

3. Welcome from Stacy Brightman, Executive Director of the Ebell

Stacy highlighted the following:

- Ebell is a woman-led and woman-centered arts and culture home.
- Ebell was founded in 1894 by a small group of disenfranchised women.
- Art, literature, education, and service are the Ebell's hammers of choice.
- Five different theatres constitute part of the facility.
- We thank the CAC for designating the Ebell grantee status.
- The Ebell proudly welcomes the CAC.

4. Roll Call, Establishment of Quorum, and Community Agreements

Council Liaison Diab conducted a roll call.

Present: Chair Roxanne Messina Captor, Vice Chair Leah Goodwin, Gerald Clarke, Caleb Duarte, Vicki Estrada, Ellen Gavin, Alex Israel, Phil Mercado, and Olivia Raynor.

With 9 of 10 Council Members present a quorum was achieved.

Community Agreements were read into the record.

5. Chair's Report

Chair Messina Captor presented the following:

<https://arts.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Chairs-Report-Memo.pdf>

6. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Brazell provided the report as follows:

<https://arts.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/ED-Report-Memo.pdf>

7. PRESENTATION: Decision Support Tool

Race Equity Manager Morgan presented on the Decision Support Tool (DST) which is part of the Strategic Framework. She shared that the DST is an equity-focused tool to assist informed decision-making that will help identify and minimize unconscious bias.

- An updated DST is anticipated in 2024.

Council Discussion

Executive Director Brazell stated that the DST contributes to transparency in the CAC's decision-making.

Deputy Director Kiburi shared that DST should be helping guide decision-making that is aligned with the Strategic Framework and that the presentation can level-set an awareness of how we do our work and provide transparency of process.

Council Member Raynor suggested the development of a front sheet to the DST reminding users of definitions and identifications of disadvantaged communities to help define how the work is moving the bar forward related to the CAC's goals. She also encouraged the council to revisit questions that have to do with root causes. She noted that situations have changed, and accessibility and inclusion of targeted communities must depict these changes.

Council Member Clarke acknowledged that the council has not had all the current and relative data needed to make informed decisions.

Council Member Gavin noted the desire to better understand staffing needs at the CAC post pandemic. She suggested a need to update the Strategic Plan and asked that Council Members be updated on where the council stands in the plan. She shared the desire to have the guidelines created by the Program Planning Committee inform any updates to the Strategic Plan.

8. PRESENTATION: Strategic Framework

- Programs Manager Gollub presented on the CAC's Strategic Framework which is intended to guide decisions of the agency from 2020 to 2027. The five categories in the Plan include – Grantmaking, Programs, Partnerships, Public Communications, and Policy.

(A short break was taken at 11:40 a.m.)

Chair Messina Captor called the meeting back to order at 11:50 a.m. and discussed details pertinent to Agenda Item 9.

9. VOTING ITEM: 2024 Grant Programs Guidelines

Council Member Gavin of the Programs Policy Committee presented on the 2024 Grant Program Guidelines. Alterations for the following seven programs – Impact, Creative Youth Development, Arts Education Exposure, Arts Integration Training, State and Local Partners, State and Local Partners Mentorships and the Arts and Cultural Organization General Operating Support were made with the intention to simplify, clarify and shorten these Guidelines to make them more accessible.

- The committee put forth four programs that they hoped could be researched for potential funding in 2025 - a Native Artists Initiative, a Disabled Artists Initiative, a Multi-Cultural Anger Organization Program, and a Touring and Presenting Program. She noted the development of ad hoc committees to be created this spring.

Council Member Gavin expressed that in light of a smaller budget, she supported the Committee's recommendations that Impact Projects be limited to organizations under \$3 million and that applicants be limited to one of the three youth grants to maximize impact.

Director of Programs Margolis noted a typo in the Memo for Voting Item 1 that should be corrected to read, "applicants with Tiers of **less than** three million" should be, "**more than**".

11. General Public Comment (Taken out of order)

Chair Messina Captor explained the purpose and prohibitions for making Public Comment at CAC meetings. Public Affairs Director Gutierrez explained the process and provided specific instructions.

In-person public comment:

Sarah Weber, Executive Director of the Association of California Symphony Orchestra:

- We work with hundreds of music organizations around the state.
- I ask the Council to not approve limiting the Impact grants to organizations with budgets less than \$3 million.
- Grant funds should be available to all organizations and not be excluded based on budget size.

Lori Sellick, Senior Director of Institutional Giving at the Music Center:

- I would advocate for continuing to make Impact funding available to organizations with annual budgets larger than \$3 million.
- These organizations support a vast ecosystem of teaching artists, public school educators, artists and local partners.

- Many organizations in this ecosystem operate with budgets well below \$3 million.

Julie Baker, CEO, California for the Arts:

- We are a proud Statewide Regional Network grantee and advocacy service organization.
- We have launched a statewide survey to assess field needs.
- Prop 28 will not be enough to provide comprehensive and sequential arts education for all K – 12 students in California.
- By making organizations eligible to apply for only one Arts Education program will lead to greater gaps in arts education especially in rural communities.
- We encourage you to remove this requirement.

Joselyn Therese, Director of Institutional Giving and Government Relations, L.A. Opera:

- LA Opera is committed to providing opportunities for LA County residents of all ages particularly from historically marginalized communities.
- Last season our programs reached 150,000 children and adults in 240 zip codes across five county districts.
- CAC grants have been essential in these efforts.
- Large organizations are essential to the state's art ecosystem and are highly effective in leveraging public dollars to scale equity and access.
- LA Opera urges the CAC to reconsider budget caps and other restrictions that will disrupt this work and legacy partnerships.

Elizabeth Kegley, Director of Institutional Giving, Geffen Playhouse:

- CAC grants give a stamp of approval to the grantee.
- Agenda Items 2, 3, and 4 restrict organizations from applying for more than one Arts in Youth grants and I urge you to remove this restriction.
- Geffen Playhouse is currently the recipient of more than one Arts in Youth grant allowing us to provide holistic education programming.
- CAC grants allow us to engage youth aged 18 – 24 who may not be pursuing college but are still seeking arts engagement.
- This funding is not duplicative, it is greater in its impacts.
- A significant negative effect will occur if we are not able to apply for multiple grants.

Virtual public comment:

Rachel Osajima, Director of the Alameda County Arts Commission:

- I am a member of the Leadership Team of the Coalition of County Arts Agencies that serves as the CAC State and Local Partners.

- We support the recommendations pertaining to the draft guidelines for the State and Local Partners program and the State and Local Mentorship program.

Deja Douglas, former Foster Youth living in rural Amador County:

- The Amador County Arts Council has played a crucial role in my life.
- Thanks to the State and Local Partners program I received free art classes in elementary school, volunteer and leadership experience in high school, and professional development coaching and scholarship funds to support my college education.
- With the help of the State and Local Partners program I served as the second Amador County Poet Laureate during the pandemic.
- I now have a part-time job in a creative field while I attend Sacramento State University.
- Rural students benefit from the State and Local Partners program.

Jennifer Caballero, Executive Director, California Association of Museums:

- CAM supports waiving restrictions on SLPs on a case-by-case basis who have been frozen out by their local boards of supervisors.
- We hope that restrictions on Tiers 2 and 3 organizations will be carefully reconsidered in future years when budgets are not as limited.
- Successful Impact stories should be considered as useful indicators of the ongoing, overall recovery effort we are all investing in for our California art sector, particularly for the museums community.
- We welcome the opportunity to showcase for the CAC the impact we are making.

Nikki Cardoza, Director of Resources, 916 Inc.:

- We are an arts education organization that serves Sacramento County students by providing creative writing workshops in class after school and during the summer intercession period.
- We have been recipients of Artists in Schools and Creative Youth Development funding from the CAC in past grant cycles.
- The recommendation of restricting organizations from applying for more than one Arts and Youth grant will negatively impact organizations like ours.
- This will limit our ability to provide year-round, high quality, hands-on opportunities for California students.

John Highkin, Executive Director, Ernst Street Community Arts:

- We are a San Diego-based CAC recipient since 1992.
- I have strong concerns about having all grants due on the same day.
- This may be convenient for staff and administration, but it causes a huge stress for us in the field who do submit more than one grant at a time.

- CAC grants have become very repetitive and unreasonably long.
- I urge the CAC to stagger deadlines.

Madison Shearer, Senior at Argonaut High School in Jackson, California:

- Thank you for funding the State and Local Partners program that allows me to have creative workforce experience before I graduate.
- Through the Amador Arts Council I get professional development and skills to help me launch my own arts business someday.
- This will help make possible my creative arts dream come true. Thank you for funding this program.

Snehal Desai, Former Artistic Director of East West Players in Los Angeles and current Artistic Director for Center Theater Group in LA:

- Excluding organizations with a budget cap of over \$3 million would exclude both of the organizations that I have led.
- We are a thriving culturally specific organization that has fought long and hard and now we will be excluded once again.
- What we do is very different, and we serve our community in different ways compared to a large organization.
- Barriers based on budget size are the ultimate in colonizing behavior. We should have more clarity on how this restriction was chosen.
- For many of us this restriction places funding and resources superseding measures of indicators of access, equity and reach and places that all over impact.
- We hope you will reconsider this motion.

Susie Tanner, Founder and Director of Theater Workers Project:

- We have an operating budget of under \$5,000 and I am speaking as one of the hundreds of quality arts organizations throughout the state who will benefit from the restriction on the \$3 million budget and over organizations.
- We serve formerly incarcerated youth and adults, teen moms in continuation high school and we do programs in prisons.
- I applaud the CAC for their foresight in including system-impacted youth.

Marie Acosta, Independent Artist:

- Several of the speakers were heads of Institutional Giving Departments. Most small organizations do not have this advantage, and this speaks to the importance of the limiting caps on \$3 million plus organizations.
- I think there are many more sources available to institutions that have budgets above \$3 million.
- I hope the CAC will continue with its efforts to make budgeting equitable, accessible, and diverse as possible in spite of the funding the agency receives.

Amy Eriksen, Executive Director, Angel's Gate Cultural Center:

- We can get donations from many different foundations, but if these foundations do not think local, state, and federal governments believe in our programs; they often do not continue funding programs like ours.
- The percentage of funding that comes from the CAC to organizations like ours is important.
- We have multiple funded programs that affect very different populations of students in our area.
- If we could only apply to one grant program, we would get less than one percent of the funding that we have received in the past.
- Our CYD program enabled us to focus on our teens here on our campus.

Griselda Suarez, Executive Director, the Arts Council of Long Beach:

- We are an independent, non-profit that works as the arts partner for the city of Long Beach and we are a CAC grantee.
- Our budget has grown tremendously, helping serve our local communities. We regrant many of those funds.
- You see a budget of over \$3 million but we are actually operating with barely \$1 million. We provide services to justice-impacted communities and many arts organizations.
- There are few of us in the state that act as independent arts agencies. Please consider agencies like ours when changing and approving these policies.

9. VOTING ITEM: 2024 Grant Programs Guidelines

Council Discussion on Item 9

MOTION: Council Member Israel moved to take consideration of Items 2, 3, 4 together, seconded by Council Member Mercado.

MOTION: Council Member Estrada moved to approve Voting Item 1, seconded by Council Member Gavin.

Executive Director Brazell informed the Council that the motion being discussed was to bundle Items 2, 3, 4, for discussion and approval moved by Council Member Israel. This was the only thing being discussed.

Parliamentarian Mezzera:

The Council was informed that a motion to divide was made and seconded, Robert's says that it is not debatable. You immediately vote for a majority of Council members, or you can say that if there is no objection then that motion is adopted by unanimous consent.

Chair Messina Captor:

Since there is no objection Items 2, 3, 4, will be taken as one unit.

MOTION: Council Member Mercado moved to group 5, 6, together, seconded by Council Member Israel.

Since there were no objections, this motion was accepted.

MOTION: Council Member Estrada moved to accept Voting Item 1 with the correction of Tiers of **more** than \$3 million, seconded by Council Member Mercado.

Item 1 Discussion

A discussion ensued where Council Member Estrada asked as to how the \$3 million number was reached. Council Member Gavin relayed the intention of the committee to support small, midsize and slightly larger organizations in light of tough times. Council Member Israel requested clarity around how need is determined for organizations and to better define impact. Council Member Gavin stressed the importance of needing more data.

- Vice Chair Goodwin responded noting that the Committee had clear graphs and panels in their own documents that state the need across the state for the smaller agencies and relayed that equity played an important role in this. She shared that a decision-making tool was developed to inform these recommendations. She asked the Council to consider how they could grow the ecosystem so that small grantees could grow. That it is often a do-or-die for smaller organizations.

Council Member Clarke asked if there was a mechanism to see how much pass-through of funds the larger organizations have.

Executive Director Brazell stressed the need to support everybody in making sure that you have data-informed decision-making. She asked the committee how the DST was used in developing their recommendations.

Director of Programs Margolis informed the Council that staff did not do a decision support tool for this. The Committee had little to no time to do a decision support tool for this. It would be a helpful tool here.

Council Member Duarte relayed his support of the cap and it noted that it places art in the hands of committees that are trying to create urgent acts of making or presenting. He stated that smaller organizations have more direct access to the concerns of the community.

Chair Messina Captor stated that as the CAC is a statewide organization, it has a responsibility to recognize all arts across the state and thus was against the cap. She shared that bigger organizations can do outreach that smaller organizations are not able to.

MOTION: Chair Messina Captor moved to accept the recommended guidelines for Item 1 but to not have a cap, seconded by Council Member Israel.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

The motion is to accept the Programs Policy Committee recommendations that the Council vote to approve the Impact Project Guidelines including the following policy changes – To restrict applicants with Tiers; to amend that by removing and not restricting applicants with Tiers of more than \$3 million in the most recently completed fiscal year from applying for Impact Project grants.

VOTE:

YES: Council Members Estrada, Israel, Messina Captor.

NO: Council Members Duarte, Clarke, Goodwin, Gavin, Mercado, Raynor

ABSTAIN: 0

There were 3 Yes Votes and 6 No Votes. The motion failed.

Chair Messina Captor continued by calling for a vote on Item 1 as written by the Committee. The Chair asked for a motion.

MOTION: Council Member Mercado moved to accept the Committee recommendation as submitted including the typo correction, seconded by Council Member Estrada.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

The motion is that the Council accept the Programs Policy Committee recommendation that the Council vote to approve the Impact Project Guidelines including the policy change of restricting applicants with Tiers of more than \$3 million in the most recently completed fiscal year from applying for Impact Project grants.

Council Member Israel stated that regardless of voting to keep the cap, all applications would still go to the peer panels. He expressed concern about removing the power of the peer panels to determine what they deem to be a valuable application.

Vice Chair Goodwin responded to Council Member Israel's concern and stated that peer panels determining the quality of the grant is one of the equity issues the Council had

previously discussed. She expressed that bigger organizations having more expertise in grant writing, for example, gave them an unfair advantage.

Chair Messina Captor asked for the motion to be repeated.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

The motion on the table is that, does the Council accept the Programs Policy Committee recommendations that the Council vote to approve the Impact Project Guidelines including the following policy change – restricting applicants with Tiers of more than \$3 million in the most recently completed fiscal year from applying for Impact Projects grants.

VOTE:

YES: Council Members Clarke, Duarte, Estrada, Gavin, Israel, Mercado, Raynor, Goodwin, Messina Captor.

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

The motion passed unanimously.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez repeated the final vote:

The Council has approved the Programs Policy Committee's recommendations and that the Impact Projects Guidelines including the following policy change which restricts applicants with Tiers of more than \$3 million in the most recently completed fiscal year from applying for Impact Project grants.

Chair Messina Captor announced voting on Items 2, 3, 4 as one piece.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

Voting Item 2

This lists that the Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Creative Youth Development Guidelines including the following policy change – restricting organizations from applying to more than one Arts & Youth grant program, either Creative Youth Development, Arts Education Exposure or Arts Integration Training.

Voting Item 3

The Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Arts Education Exposure Guidelines including the following policy change – restrict organizations from applying to more than one Arts & Youth grant program, either Creative Youth Development, Arts Education Exposure or Arts Integration Training.

Voting Item 4

The Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Arts Integration Training Guidelines including the following policy changes – restrict organizations from applying to more than one Arts & Youth grant program, either Creative Youth Development, Arts Education Exposure or Arts Integration Training.

MOTION: Council Member Raynor moved to accept the recommendations for Items 2, 3, 4, seconded by Vice Chair Goodwin.

Council Member Mercado asked if 80 percent of the applicants were in fact applying for multiple grants and if that wasn't indicative of the importance that organizations be able to apply for more than one grant.

Director of Programs Margolis informed the Council that the answer to this was not readily known but quite a few do apply for multiple grants. We can provide that number at the next Council meeting.

Executive Director Brazell re-emphasized that this was the data-informed decision-making that we want to be able to bring to Council.

Council Member Estrada shared her concerns of the people that may be affected by these recommendations.

Council Member Gavin responded to Council Member Estrada and restated that fairness was important to the committee and found that larger organizations have the ability to apply for multiple grants. She shared it was a question of scarcity and drastically reduced funding.

Council Member Duarte asked for data on how the rural communities would be affected by these recommendations.

Vice Chair Goodwin stated that the committee is trying to be equitable and maximize the funding that is available.

Council Member Clarke supported the motion and shared his appreciation of the reminders of the budget context. He stated that future accurate data on effects of this will be important.

Director of Programs Margolis emphasized that the CAC wants to reach out to as many organizations as possible. We need to be mindful of the effects of our decisions in all the different legislative districts in this really tight time.

Arts Program Specialist Miller informed Council that staff was still working to determine the numbers of actual applicants and grantees that overlap by category. We have had much more need in funding requests than funds available.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

As so motioned by the Board to include Voting Items 2, 3, 4 together.

Voting Item 2

The Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Creative Youth Development Guidelines including the policy change – restrict organizations from applying to more than one Arts & Youth grant program, either Creative Youth Development, Arts Education Exposure or Arts Integration Training.

Voting Item 3

The Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Arts Education Exposure Guidelines including the same policy change – restricting organizations from applying to more than one in Arts & Youth grant programs.

Voting Item 4

The Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Arts Integration Training Guidelines including the following policy change – once again, restricting organizations from applying to more than one Arts & Youth grant program.

The motion was made for all three by Council Member Raynor and seconded by Vice Chair Goodwin.

VOTE:

YES: Council Members Clarke, Duarte, Gavin, Israel, Mercado, Raynor, Goodwin, Messina Captor.

NO: Council Member Estrada.

ABSTAIN: 0

The motion passed with a vote of – Yes 8, No 1, Abstain 0.

Chair Messina Captor announced that Voting Items 5, 6 would be taken as one unit.

MOTION: Council Member Estrada moved that Items 5, 6 be approved, seconded by Council Member Mercado.

Discussion on Items 5, 6.

Council Member Clarke asked the council to consider what circumventing county supervisors' approval of these organizations might have.

Council Member Gavin stated that the intention of this item is to give the developing SLPs the support if they are not getting support from their county.

Director of Programs Margolis informed the Council that there is not a requirement to waive county approval but rather that there is the option to waive it.

Vice Chair Goodwin offered to work collaboratively with staff in determining this waiver.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

Voting Item 5

The motion is that the Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the State and Local Partner Guidelines including the policy change – allow the California Arts Council to waive the county board of supervisors' partner designation on a case-by-case basis.

Voting Item 6

The motion is that the Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the State and Local Partner Mentorship Guidelines including the following policy change – make optional the previously required letter of commitment from the mentee county which was moved by Council Member Estrada and seconded by Council Member Mercado.

VOTE:

YES: Council Members Clarke, Duarte, Estrada, Gavin, Israel, Mercado, Raynor, Goodwin, Messina Captor.

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

The motion passed with a vote of – Yes 9, No 0, Abstain 0.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

Voting Item 7 – The Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Arts & Cultural Organization General Operating Support Guidelines.

MOTION:

Council Member Gavin moved to approve the Programs Policy Committee recommendation, seconded by Council Member Mercado.

Council Member Clarke:

- I want the Tiers to be stated publicly.

Vice Chair Goodwin explained Tiers funding and some rationales.

Public Affairs Director Gutierrez read the following into the record:

The Programs Policy Committee recommends that the Council vote to approve the Arts & Cultural Organization General Operating Support Guidelines which was motioned by Council Member Gavin and seconded by Council Member Mercado.

VOTE:

YES: Council Members Clarke, Duarte, Estrada, Gavin, Israel, Mercado, Raynor, Goodwin, Messina Captor.

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

The motion passed with a vote of – Yes 9, No 0, Abstain 0.

Chair Messina Captor rescheduled Item 10, Committee Assignments after lunch. (A lunch break was taken at 1:37 p.m.)

10. PRESENTATION: 2024 Committee Assignments

(The Council meeting was reconvened at 2:44 p.m.)

Chair Messina Captor mentioned that Committee assignments were made very cautiously and with great consideration. They are as follows:

- Allocations – Phil Mercado, Nicola Miner
- Equity – Vicki Estrada, Olivia Raynor
- Executive – Leah Goodwin, Roxanne Messina Captor
- Governance – Vicki Estrada, Alex Israel
- Legislative – Roxanne Messina Captor, (New Council Member)
- Nominating – Nicola Miner, Olivia Raynor
- Programs Policy – Gerald Clarke, Caleb Duarte

- Strategic Framework – Ellen Gavin, (New Council Member)
- Disability & Access, Inclusion Ad Hoc – Ellen Gavin, Olivia Raynor
- Partnership – Leah Goodwin, Phil Mercado

Council Member Raynor asked that the responsibilities of and necessity of the Nominating Committee be revisited.

Council Member Gavin expressed her expectations of the committees including sharing lessons learned between committee members, that venue for that sharing would be that of a public meeting, that transitions would be improved by better informing new members, and that Allocations and Program should talk to each other in a public meeting.

11. General Public Comment

(In-person Public Comment)

Maevea, Interdisciplinary Conceptual Artist, Los Angeles:

- I support funding smaller organizations.
- We have to learn to let go so that others can benefit.

Leticia Soto Flores, the Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA):

- We are a statewide intermediary with direct programming.
- We are also a long-term partner in the CAC, SRN program.
- We are a statewide Administering Organization for Folk and Traditional Arts.
- The allocation of one million dollars indicates the needs and opportunities in this field.
- Our reviewers found that over 80 percent of applicants were suitable for funding which would \$2.5 million.

Betty Marin, Associate Program Director, Alliance for California Traditional Arts (Through interpreter):

- We are the Administering Organization for Folk and Traditional Arts (FTA).
- The 30 percent for program implementation and administration is necessary.
- In-person info sessions throughout the state bolster our efforts tremendously.
- We have provided English/Spanish information and outreach.

(Virtual Public Comment)

Jennifer Caballero, the California Association of Museums:

- The vast majority of CAC work is handled in private, two-person meetings.
- There is no clear path for input from the field using this venue.

- It would be helpful to be able to make contact with CAC members via email.
- There doesn't seem to be good, efficient or transparent mechanisms for communication.
- I ask that you consider onboarding an orientation.

Amy Ericksen, Angel's Gate Cultural Center:

- We must work together to bring more funding to the CAC.
- We would like to advocate with you to increase funds.

C Scoti Scott, Catherine Scott, Independent Cultural Worker:

- I have been funded through the Folks and Traditional Arts program.
- We are working with the Pala Tribe in Southern California.
- Many elders are aging, and the traditions need to be continued.
- ACTA has allowed me the opportunity to do this.

(In-person Comment)

Benita Martinez Sousa (Through an interpreter):

- I come from Oaxaca, and this is my greeting in Zapoteco.
- I am grateful for receiving funding from the Folk and Traditional Arts program.
- My work and purpose is to continue the work of Zapotec textile art.
- We use sheep wool in our textile art using natural dyes.
- Our work reflects the knowledge and essence of our ancestors.
- We will use part of this funding to create an online web space.

Elizabeth Cagley, Director of Institutional Giving at Geffen Playhouse:

- We are the grateful recipient of multiple grants.
- These grants enable us to provide services to teens and young adults.
- Our students have prospered and developed through these grants.

12. PRESENTATION: 2024-25 Governor's Budget

Deputy Director Kiburi highlighted the following:

- We will provide 2024-2025 Budget updates as the process progresses.
- There are three columns in the Governor's Budget – FY 2022-23 (actual expenditures), FY 2023-24 (projected expenditures), and FY 2024-25 (proposed expenditures).
- There are four fund accounts – General Fund, Federal Trust Fund, Graphic License Plate Fund, and Keep Arts in School Fund.

Executive Director Brazell noted that a budget is a value statement and pandemic funds served as a tremendous influx of money for the CAC. California is now facing a \$68 billion deficit and all agencies have received cuts except the CAC.

Our budget is going back to pre-pandemic levels and the reality in the field is not pre-pandemic. This is the weight that we bring to our current decisions, and we consider these decisions very carefully.

My goal is to get through this year without a cut and then figure out how we grow.

13. Committee Reports

Executive Director Brazell highlighted the following:

- I run this organization with a team structure of staff and the Council.
- This team operates in an intersectional manner.
- My job is to support this staff and to support this Council.
- There has been a tremendous amount of staff turnover in the last couple of years.
- We must fill vacancies before the next hiring freeze hits.
- There is a need to make meeting minutes more streamlined and accessible.

No Committee reports were given.

14. In Memoriam

- Colin John Burgess was an Australian rock musician and original drummer for AC/DC.
- Laura Lynch was the original bassist for the Dixie Chicks.
- Mike Nussbaum was an American actor seen on television and film.
- Tom Smothers of the Smothers Brothers was an American comedian, composer, and musician.
- Maurice Hines was an American actor and choreographer.
- Dexter Scott King was the third child of the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King.
- Cindy Morgan was best known for her role in the Love Boat.
- Shecky Greene was known for his performances on the Ed Sullivan Show.
- Scott N. Momaday was a Pulitzer Prize winning storyteller, poet, educator and folklorist.
- Chita Rivera was a dynamic singer, actress, and dancer and had 10 Tony nominations.
- Herbert Coward played the toothless man in the movie Deliverance.
- Charles Osgood was the longtime anchor of CBS Sunday Morning.
- Gary Graham was best known for his role in Star Trek: Enterprise.
- Joyce Randolph played Trixie on the Honeymooners.

- David Soul was one of the leads on Starsky and Hutch.
- Glynis Johns was a Tony Award – winning stage and screen star.
- Bill Hayes was a two-time Daytime Emmy - nominated for actor.
- Rod Holcomb was an Emmy winning director.

Council Member Gavin added:

- Joan Holden was a founding member of the San Francisco Mime Troupe.
- A homeless man in Central Park who we helped, died 10 days ago.

15. Adjournment

Chair Messina Captor adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

DRAFT