

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 86

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND CULTURAL AND HERITAGE COMMISSION FOR 2024 BLOCK GRANT FUNDING.

WHEREAS, the City has received notice from the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission of award of grant funds through their Calendar Year 2024 New Jersey State Council on the Arts Block Grant in the amount of \$1,500.00, pursuant to the City's request for funding to support an arts program at the Vineland Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, said grant will be supplemented with \$1,500.00 in matching funds in the City's Calendar Year 2024 Budget; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City of Vineland to accept said grant award.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Vineland that:

1. The Mayor and City Comptroller of the City of Vineland are hereby authorized to execute a grant agreement and such other related documents as required with the County of Cumberland Cultural and Heritage Commission for participation in the Calendar Year 2024 New Jersey State Council on the Arts block grant opportunity.
2. The City of Vineland agrees to undertake its obligations under the grant agreement.

Adopted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

February 14, 2024

Mr. Gregory Gallo  
City of Vineland  
640 E. Wood Street  
Vineland, NJ 08362

Dear Mr. Gallo:

The Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission is pleased to inform you that your organization has been awarded a grant for calendar year 2024 (January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024). The amount of your award is \$1500

This grant review round was very competitive. Nearly \$515706 was requested for arts programming by Cumberland County nonprofit agencies. The Commission had a re-grant budget of almost \$285880 to satisfy the grant requests. The Grants Review Panel had a difficult assignment and they completed it well.

The Cultural and Heritage Commission strives to ensure a fair and thorough evaluation process. Each application is carefully evaluated by an independent grants review panel against standard criteria. Enclosed please find a copy of the consensus panel comments on your application. They are offered in order to help all applicants understand the strengths and weaknesses of the application as viewed by all members of the independent panel that evaluated it. We urge all applicants, regardless of the Commission's specific funding action, to thoroughly review the comments and to use them for the benefit of the organization and any subsequent applications for funding.

The Cultural and Heritage Commission recognizes the possibility that an error can be made. This is why the Commission maintains an appeals process. An appeal must be solely based on the premise and ability to demonstrate that the application **as submitted** was misinterpreted by the panel that evaluated it. If you believe, based on the panel comments, that your application was misunderstood or misinterpreted you may file an appeal. The appeal must be requested in writing by February 29<sup>th</sup>. Please include your panel comments highlighted where you believe the application was misinterpreted. Please address those appeals to my attention. Please be advised, that **no new information can be submitted** for review, the appeal will be based solely on what was originally submitted. All appeals will be reviewed by the independent panel. A determination will be returned to you on or before March 31, 2023.

If you are satisfied with the award stated above, please complete the enclosed contract and mail it back to me. **Please note, payment vouchers are no longer required. Upon submission of your fully signed contract the initial 75% payment will be authorized.** Contracts received by February 29 will be processed for payment in March. As a continuing component to the contract, please find enclosed an ADA Compliance Rider which must be completed and returned with the signed contract.

Please pay particular attention to the Requirements and Publicity Agreement (Attachments A & B of the contract). **There are some new requirements that were added for this year.** It is very

important that all conditions set in this agreement are completed. Given the reduction in available grant funding from all sources, it is more important than ever that the Board of Commissioners, the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the County Cultural & Heritage Commission receive the proper acknowledgments.

Additionally, individual members of the Cultural & Heritage Commission have been selected to serve as liaisons with our re-grantees. This effort will increase the interaction between the Commission and its re-grantees, thereby improving communication and collaborative efforts. Your organization's Commission liaison will be assigned in the future.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. On behalf of the Cultural & Heritage Commission and the Board of Commissioners I would like to congratulate you on your successful grant application. I look forward to working with you over the coming year.

Respectfully,



Omarey Williams  
Shared Service Coordinator  
Cultural and Heritage Coordinator

enclosures