

CULTURAL AND AESTHETIC GRANT PROGRAM

Program Description

The Cultural and Aesthetic Grant Program (C&A), as provided in Title 22, Chapter 2, part 3, MCA, is administered by the Montana Arts Council (MAC). The C&A program provides appropriation for the protection of works of art in the State Capitol, and grants for cultural and aesthetic projects, including but not limited to: the visual, performing, literary, media arts, and folk arts; history, archaeology, archives, collections, research, and historic preservation; and the construction or renovation of cultural facilities. The executive recommendation for C&A grants is contained in HB 9.

Grant applications for cultural and aesthetic projects are submitted to the MAC on a biennial basis. Eligible applicants include the state of Montana and regional, county, city, town, or tribal governments. A 16-member Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Advisory Committee, with eight members appointed by the Montana Arts Council and eight appointed by the Montana Historical Society, reviews each application. The committee prioritizes the requests and makes funding recommendations to the legislature as part of the executive budget. All grants require legislative approval in accordance with 22-2-306 through 309, MCA.

Program Budget Comparison

Figure 18 summarizes the proposed executive budget for the program by biennium, type of expenditure, and source of funding.

Figure 18

Program Comparison - Cultural and Aesthetic Trust				
Budget Item	Budget 2023 Biennium	Budget 2025 Biennium	Biennium Change	Biennium % Change
Number of Grants	74	65	(9)	-12.2%
	<u>Appropriated</u>	<u>Proposed</u>		
Grants Cost	\$314,381	\$558,876	244,495	77.8%
Capitol Complex Works of Art	30,000	30,000	0	0.0%
Total Costs	\$344,381	\$588,876	\$244,495	71.0%
State Special	344,381	588,876	244,495	71.0%
Total Funds	\$344,381	\$588,876	\$244,495	71.0%

Executive Proposal

The first C&A priority recommended for funding is a \$30,000 appropriation to the Montana Historical Society for the care and conservation of capitol complex artwork, in accordance with 2-17-805, MCA. The second priority is 65 C&A grant awards totaling \$558,876. The recommended awards are prioritized within three categories, which include: special projects, operational support projects, and capital expenditure projects. In the 2025 biennium, appropriations for the C&A program would be 77.8% more than the amount appropriated for the 2023 biennium.

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Provision for revenue shortfalls

In past biennia, the C&A grant program has experienced interest earnings that have not kept pace with legislative appropriations. When revenue shortfalls occur, language contained in HB 9 has provided for a reduction of grants on a pro-rata basis. The language makes it possible for the program to provide all the approved grants with smaller amounts instead of needing to cancel grant awards.

A complete listing of the C&A grants may be seen in appendix A-17 of this report. The details behind the grants requested for the 2025 biennium C&A, along with a status of grants awarded in the 2023 biennium, are presented in Vol. 7 of the Governor’s Executive Budget.

Funding

Funding for the C&A program comes from the interest earnings from the cultural trust. The trust receives a statutorily dedicated 0.63% of coal severance tax revenues.

Figure 19

Cultural & Aesthetic Grant Fund Balance Analysis - 2025 Biennium					
Account - 02009					
	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Projected	FY 2024 Projected	FY 2025 Projected	2025 Bien. Projected
Estimated Beginning Fund Balance	\$37,705	\$124,251	\$221,472	\$11,986	\$221,472
Interest Earnings - 09037 ¹	(25,672)	0	0	0	0
Interest Earnings Transferred-02009	<u>493,977</u>	<u>539,414</u>	<u>595,773</u>	<u>641,590</u>	<u>1,237,364</u>
Total Revenues	468,305	539,414	595,773	641,590	1,237,364
Expenditures					
MAC Administration and Folklife ²	232,703	235,243	216,383	217,246	433,629
Capitol Cmplx Works of Art	0	30,000	30,000	0	30,000
Prior Biennium	11,400	0	0	0	0
Fund Balance Adjustment	(194)				
2025 Biennium Grants	<u>137,850</u>	<u>176,950</u>	<u>558,876</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>558,876</u>
Total Expenditures/Appropriations	381,759	442,193	805,259	217,246	1,022,505
Ending Fund Balance	\$124,251	\$221,472	\$11,986	\$436,331	\$436,331

¹HFJ 2
²HB 2

Figure 19 shows the projected balance of the C&A state special fund for the 2025 biennium. The fund is expected to begin the 2025 biennium with a balance of \$221,000. Revenues in the 2025 biennium are expected to be higher than the 2023 biennium. The projection for total revenue is \$1.2 million in the 2025 biennium. For more information on interest earnings, see page F-5 of this report.

Expenditures for the C&A program, which include both administration costs and grants, are limited by the amount of interest earned from the trust investments. The executive budget proposal includes HB 2 appropriations of \$433,629 for administrative expenses of the C&A program. In the 2025 biennium, HB 2 appropriations are 35.0% of the total program revenues; in HB 2, the executive has requested to fund \$50,000 of personal services costs in the 2025 biennium with federal special revenue rather than using C&A funds to help reduce the administrative costs. The HB 9 executive proposal includes \$30,000 for a statutorily required appropriation for capitol complex works of art and an appropriation of \$559,000 for project grants. This results in a projected fund balance of \$436,331 at the end of the 2025 biennium.

Cultural and Aesthetic Grants (C&A)

HB 9 - 2025 Biennium

Proj. #	Applicant / Project	Grants Proposed	Cummulative Total	Proj. #	Applicant / Project	Grants Awarded	Cummulative Total
Special Projects				Operational Support (continued)			
2407	Preserve Montana (Formerly Montana Preservation Alliance)	10,000	10,000	2450	Pondera Arts Council	4,000	284,199
2406	Montana Historical Society	9,000	19,000	2433	MAGDA	8,000	292,199
2402	Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives	6,500	25,500	2443	Montana Performing Arts Consortium	10,000	302,199
2401	Billings Preservation Society	7,000	32,500	2457	Verge Theater	10,000	312,199
2405	Lewistown Art Center	9,450	41,950	2449	Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art	10,000	322,199
2404	Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture	10,000	51,950	2444	Montana Repertory Theatre, University of Montana	10,000	332,199
2409	Upper Swan Valley Historical Society, Inc.	4,000	55,950	2421	Carbon County Arts Guild & Depot Gallery	10,000	342,199
2408	Support Local Artists and Musicians (S.L.A.M.)	10,000	65,950	2432	Intermountain Opera Association	10,000	352,199
2403	City County Preservation Committee	5,000	70,950	2456	The Roxy Theater (Formerly International Wildlife Film Festival)	4,000	356,199
Total Special Projects		70,950		2418	Butte Citizens for Preservation and Revitalization	4,500	360,699
Operational Support				2437	Missoula Symphony Association	10,000	370,699
2445	Montana Shakespeare in the Parks	10,000	80,950	2441	Montana Ballet Company	10,000	380,699
2431	Humanities Montana	10,000	90,950	2417	Bozeman Symphony Society	10,000	390,699
2436	MCT, Inc.	10,000	100,950	2455	The Paradise Center	7,000	397,699
2430	Holter Museum of Art	10,000	110,950	2425	Grandstreet Broadwater Productions, Inc.	10,000	407,699
2435	MAPS Media Institute (Formerly Irwin & Florence Rosten Fn)	10,000	120,950	2461	Whitefish Theatre Co	10,000	417,699
2423	Cohesion Dance Project	5,000	125,950	2427	Hamilton Players, Inc	10,000	427,699
2459	Western Heritage Center	10,000	135,950	2440	Montana Association of Symphony Orchestras	10,000	437,699
2434	Mai Wah Society Museum	6,749	142,699	2422	Carbon County Historical Society	7,500	445,199
2429	Hockaday Museum of Art	10,000	152,699	2416	Bozeman Art Museum	10,000	455,199
2411	Alpine Artisans, Inc.	6,000	158,699	2428	Helena Symphony	10,000	465,199
2453	Sunburst Arts and Education	6,000	164,699	2462	Zootown Arts Community Center	10,000	475,199
2439	MonDak Heritage Center	10,000	174,699	2420	C.M. Russell Museum	10,000	485,199
2413	Art Mobile of Montana	10,000	184,699	2419	Butte Symphony Association	10,000	495,199
2454	The Myrna Loy	10,000	194,699	2448	North Valley Music School	9,000	504,199
2415	Billings Symphony Society	10,000	204,699	2447	Museums Association of Montana	10,000	514,199
2451	Schoolhouse History & Art Center	10,000	214,699	2426	Great Falls Symphony	10,000	524,199
2458	WaterWorks Art Museum	10,000	224,699	2446	Montana State Firefighters Memorial	6,000	530,199
2438	Missoula Writing Collaborative	8,000	232,699	2460	Whitefish Review, Inc.	10,000	540,199
2442	Montana Dance Arts Association	5,000	237,699	Total Operational Support		469,249	
2412	Archie Bray Foundation	10,000	247,699	Capital Expenditure			
2414	Billings Cultural Partners	4,500	252,199	2463	Friends of the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula	3,677	543,876
2452	Stillwater Historical Society	8,000	260,199	2464	Red Lodge Area Community Foundation	5,000	548,876
2424	Glacier Symphony and Chorale	10,000	270,199	2465	Yellowstone Art Museum	10,000	558,876
2410	Alberta Bair Theater	10,000	280,199	Total Capital Expenditure		18,677	
Subtotal Operational Support		209,249		Total C&A Grants Requested/Recommended			
						\$558,876	