

CULTURAL & AESTHETIC GRANTS PROGRAM

PROGRAM SUMMARY

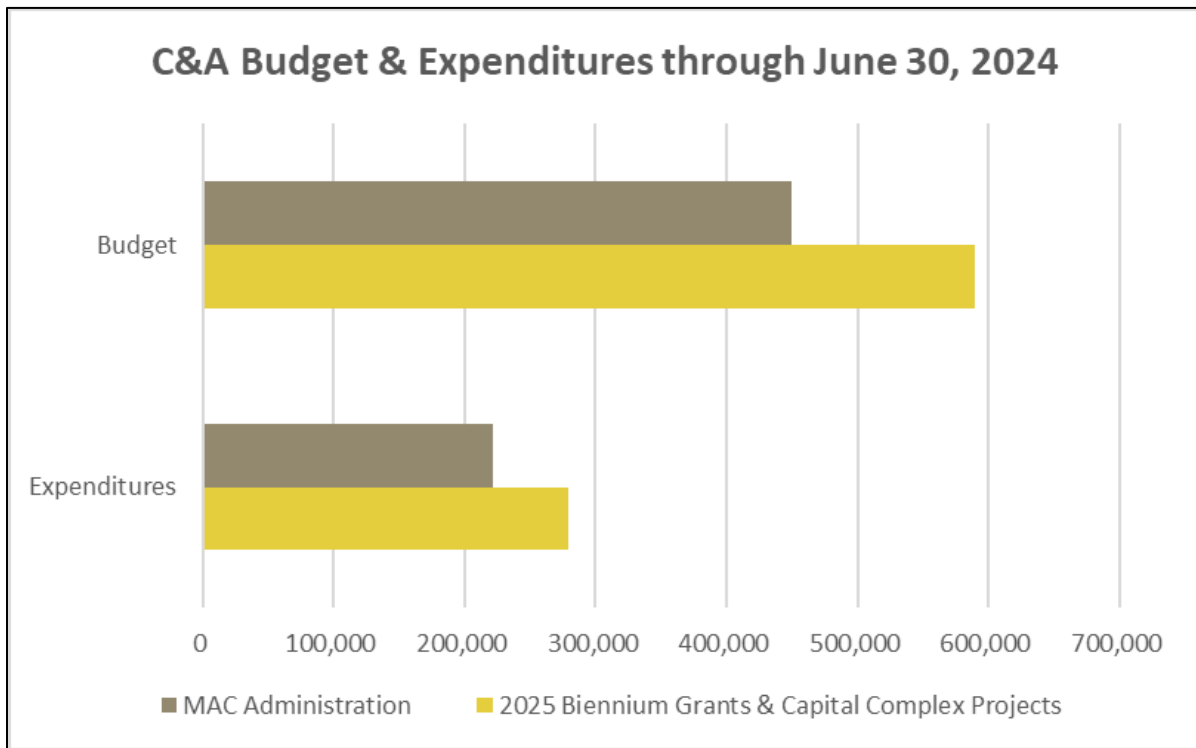
The Cultural and Aesthetic (C&A) Grant Program, administered by the Montana Arts Council (MAC), provides grants for cultural and aesthetic programs across the state. The program is funded with the investment earnings from a statutory trust. The trust receives distributions of coal severance tax. By statute, the interest from the cultural trust is appropriated for protection of works of art in the Montana State Capitol and for other cultural and aesthetic projects (15-35-108, MCA). Grant applications for cultural and aesthetic projects are submitted to the MAC on a biennial basis. Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, the State of Montana and regional, county, city, town, or Indian tribal governments.

BUDGET & EXPENDITURE

The 68th Legislature passed HB 9, which appropriates \$589,000 for cultural and aesthetic grants. The legislature authorized 65 C&A grant awards totaling \$559,000, and \$279,439 was spent in fiscal year 2024. Additionally, HB 9 includes an appropriation of \$30,000 for the care and conservation of capitol complex artwork to be spent in fiscal year 2025.

C & A GRANTS PROGRAM FUND BALANCE

The following chart shows the projected C&A grant fund balance, based on fiscal year 2024 actuals and 2025 biennium projections.



C&A Budget and Expenditures through June 30, 2024				
Item	Budget 2024	Expenditures	Balance	% Expended
2025 Biennium Grants & Capital Complex Projects	588,876	279,439	309,437	47.5%
MAC Administration	449,147	221,387	227,760	49.3%
Total Appropriations/Expenditures	1,038,023	500,826	537,197	48.2%

Under HB 2 and HB 13, the MAC was appropriated a total of \$449,147 from the C&A grant fund for the biennium for the agency’s administrative costs, and \$221,387 of that was spent in fiscal year 2024.

Cultural & Aesthetic Grant Fund Balance Analysis - 2025 Biennium					
Account - 02009					
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	2025 Biennium
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected	Projected
Estimated Beginning Fund Balance	\$37,705	\$124,251	\$904	\$ 148,653.26	\$904
Interest Earnings (09037)	(25,672)	0	0	0	0
Interest Earnings Transferred-02009 ¹	<u>493,977</u>	<u>320,631</u>	<u>648,340</u>	<u>641,590</u>	<u>1,289,930</u>
Total Revenues	468,305	320,631	648,340	641,590	1,289,930
Expenditures					
MAC Administration ²	232,703	237,105	221,387	227,760	449,147
Capitol Cmplx Works of Art	0	30,000	0	30,000	30,000
Prior Biennium	11,400	0	0	0	0
Fund Balance Adjustment (State Fund Dividend)	(194)	(77)	(236)	0	(236)
2025 Biennium Grants	<u>137,850</u>	<u>176,950</u>	<u>279,439</u>	<u>279,437</u>	<u>558,876</u>
Total Expenditures/Appropriations	381,759	443,978	500,590	537,197	1,037,787
Ending Fund Balance	\$124,251	\$904	\$148,654	\$ 253,046.68	\$253,047
¹ HJ 2					
² HB 2					

Revenue from interest earnings resulted in \$648,348 that was transferred to the cultural & aesthetics fund for FY 2024 expenditure. A total of \$221,387 was expended for grants in fiscal year 2024, along with \$279,439 spent under the HB 2 authority for the MAC’s administrative costs.

Revenue projections for the 2025 biennium are based on HJ 2 revenue estimates. The current estimated ending fund balance is projected to be \$253,046.