

Allocations Committee

November 6, 2024

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City of Dallas

Office of Arts and Culture
City of Dallas

Voting Items Agenda



1) Approval of the October 2, 2025 Allocations Committee Meeting Minutes.

2) Vote to recommend funding allocations for ArtsActivate 2026, Round 1



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A. ArtsActivate, Round 1 Scenarios [Julia Hosch, Cultural Programs Manager]

B. Culture of Value Update [Julia Hosch, Cultural Programs Manager, Itzel Quintero Marmol Ramos, Administrative Specialist]

C. Allocations Committee Meeting Calendar for 2026 [Julia Hosch, Cultural Programs Manager]

D. Allocations Committee Chair Updates & Announcements [Commissioner Mickie Bragalone, Chair]

E. Staff updates: Program reminders [Julia Hosch, Cultural Programs Manager]



ArtsActivate Round 1: Recap



- Round 1 applications opened on June 4, 2025 and closed July 7, 2025.
- 106 applications received by deadline
 - 1 Spanish language applicant | 105 English
 - 54 Individual Artists | 52 Nonprofit Organizations
 - 32 new IA, 22 returning IA | 14 new orgs, 37 returning orgs
- Of these, 99 were reviewed by 40 participating panelists
 - Reasons 7 did not go to panel: incompliant project (1), withdrew (2), address not in Dallas (1), 501c3 expired (1), mural on city property (1), artist now an OAC employee (1 😊!)
- This year, we have been delayed in our review of Round 1 applicants, due to summer months spent to ensure that our guidelines were federally compliant.



ArtsActivate 2025 Round 1: Budget



- The total ArtsActivate budget for FY 2024-25 is \$1,300,000 to be divided among 3 rounds (same as FY 2023-24; FY 2024-25 had a slight increase due to reallocation of Dallas Black Dance funding.)
- Rounds are not always divided evenly. In past years...
- FY 2023-24 had a particularly large Round 1, due to a huge influx of applicants. In Round 1, OAC spent **\$612,667**. This left \$687,333 for the two remaining rounds, or \$343,667 per round.
 - With a higher influx of people at the beginning, staff was significantly challenged to keep up with the high influx of new contracts at the beginning of the fiscal year.
- FY 2024-25 was a particularly large ArtsActivate year overall. In Round 1, OAC spent **\$475,897**.
 - Allocations and OAC staff started with a budget of \$433K (\$1.3M/3 rounds). This amount was increased due to Round 1 last year having a particularly large volume of applicants, with the intention of having a lighter yield in Round 2, which was indeed smaller (\$434K).
 - Due to reallocation of Dallas Black Dance funding, we increased the funding in Round 3 (\$500K).
- OAC proposes again splitting the budget equally among the three rounds, for a **\$433,333** spend each round, which is about 35-40 projects.



Projects before December 1



- Some ArtsActivate applicants applied for projects to begin as early as October 15, which was the earliest possible date listed in the published guidelines.
- Due to delays in federal compliance, we cannot start R.1 contracts until December 1st. Artists were told this as soon as we knew, in August. However, we still **considered all applications as they were submitted.**
- We will be giving the following options to artists selected for funding with October and November projects:
 - If project has NOT yet occurred:
 - Move the project post-December 1 (if project has not already occurred, or could be repeated), **OR**
 - Provide OAC an alternative, but similar project to support from Dec. 1, 2025 – Sept. 15, 2026 (same art form, themes, audience, etc.), **OR**
 - Receive an automatic admission to ArtsActivate, Round 1, 2027 with the same project as proposed in R.1 2026
 - If project DID occur:
 - Present at a moderated artist talk in December to showcase the work of artists in our community. Receive payment for presentation (the same amount as ArtsActivate award.), **OR**
 - Receive an automatic admission to ArtsActivate, Round 1, 2027 with the same project as proposed in R.1 2026



Scenario 1 - BLUE: Awards Top Scorers

94%+ IA, 93%+ Orgs



- **Individual Artists Funded (22)**

- Awards full funding to top scorers with scores above 94% in their panel group
- 39% funding to individual artists
- Funds 44% of IA applicants

- **Organizations Funded (23)**

- Awards full funding to top scorers with scores above 93% in their panel group
- 61% funding to organizations
- Funds average 43% of NP applicants

- **Total budget: \$444,200**

- Allows for more **returning individual artists** to rejoin ArtsActivate
- Project in every City of Dallas district except District 10.



Scenario 2 - YELLOW: Awards approximately half of each panel, emphasis on smallest organizations



- **Individual Artists Funded (20)**

- Awards full funding to individual artists in the top 5-6 applicants of their panel groups.
- Approximately 35% of total funding to individual artists.
- Funds 40% of individual artist applicants

- **Organizations Funded (25)**

- Awards full funding to organizations in the top 5-6 applicants of their panel groups.
- Approximately 65% of total funding to organizations.
- Funds average of 45% of nonprofit applicants

- **Total budget: \$457,500**

- Allows for **more small organizations funded**, who are not eligible for COP funding
- Project in every City of Dallas district except District 10.



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Culture of Value



- Culture of Value takes place Nov. 1 – 30
- At least 2 events in every district!
- All Commissioners received an email on Friday with events in their home districts; a full calendar is also available online.
<https://dallasculture.org/cultureofvaluemonth/>
- Hope to see you there! Please share widely.



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Allocations Committee Meeting Calendar for 2026



2026 Allocation Meeting Dates

January 8, 2026

February 5, 2026

March 5, 2026

April 2, 2026

May 7, 2026

June 4, 2026

July 9, 2026

August 6, 2026

September 3, 2026

October 1, 2026

November 5, 2026

December 3, 2026



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COP Update



- COP recommendations went to the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee.
- QOLAC questioned the reinstatement of Dallas Black Dance Theatre into the COP for FY 2025-26. A DBDT board representative present at the meeting responded to questions of the committee.
- QOLAC requested a memo of measures that the organization had taken to resolve conflicts with their artists and respond to recommendations of the National Labor Relations Board.
- DBDT wrote a memo to the QOLAC committee and City Council explaining actions taken.
- On November 12, all 65 organizations' funding recommendations, including DBDT, will go before City Council.



You're Invited: Panelist Party



- Please save the date! Panelist Party at South Dallas Cultural Center
- December 16, 2025, 6 p.m.
- Celebrate and thank our 2024-25 and 2025-26 panelist volunteers and learn about OAC's work in 2025-26!



Save the Date: COP Orientations



- November 13, 14, 18, 19
- Calendar invitations coming from Adriana
- Not mandatory for Commissioners, but a great time to meet your organizations' representatives in person, and understand their requirements for the FY 2025-26 year



Upcoming Calendar



- Culture of Value projects run until November 30th!
 - <https://dallasculture.org/cultureofvaluemonth/>
- November 12th: COP vote in Council
- November 13th, 14th, 18th, 19th: COP Orientation
 - ALL COMMISSIONERS INVITED
- December 4th, Allocations Meeting | ArtsActivate, Round 2



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