City of Lawrence
Outside Agency Funding
APPLICATION

General Information: Each year, the City Commission considers requests for the allocation of dollars to a number of agencies that provide services benefiting the Lawrence community. The decision on funding a request will be made during the City’s annual budgeting process. The decision will be based upon the availability of funds, the need demonstrated through the agency’s application, the stated objectives of the applicant’s program, past performance by the agency in adhering to funding guidelines (as appropriate), and the ability to measure progress toward the program objectives.

PLEASE NOTE THAT BEGINNING IN 2009, FUNDS WILL BE DISBURSED ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE UNLESS OTHERWISE AGREED TO IN WRITING:
- FIRST HALF OF FUNDS WILL NOT BE DISBURSED BEFORE APRIL 1
- SECOND HALF OF FUNDS WILL NOT BE DISBURSED BEFORE OCTOBER 1

Instructions: Applications for 2009 funding must be complete and submitted electronically to the City Manager’s Office at ctoomay@ci.lawrence.ks.us by the deadline of 5:00 pm on Friday, May 2, 2008.

Questions? Contact Casey Toomay, Budget Manager at ctoomay@ci.lawrence.ks.us or at 785-832-3409.

Section I. Applicant Information

Legal Name of Agency: Lawrence Arts Commission
Name of Program for Which Funding is Requested: Annual operating funds
Primary Contact Person: John Reeves, chair
Address: 906 Ward Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66044
Telephone: 785.840.5508 Fax: 
Email: John.g.reeves@gmail.com

Section 2. Request Information

A. Amount of funds requested from the City for this program for calendar year 2009: $31,050
B. Will these funds be used for capital outlay (equipment or facilities) in 2009? If so, please describe: No.
C. Will these funds be used to leverage other funds in 2009? If so, how: The Arts Commission may continue to seek grants from the Kansas Arts Commission or other agencies in accordance with Resolution 5966.
D. Did you receive City funding for this program in 2008? If so, list the amount and source for funding (i.e. General Fund, Alcohol Fund, etc.): The Lawrence Arts Commission received $25,500 in non-alcohol funds from the General Fund.
E. If you are requesting an increase in funding over 2008, please explain exactly how the additional funds will be used:

The Arts Commission administers three annual programs: the Phoenix Awards recognizing outstanding artistic contributions by members of the community (budgeted at $4,000 in FY2009). The additional funding will better compensate the artist commissioned to make the nine Phoenix awards at $2,700; the Grants, awarded to community groups for new or revised artistic programs (budgeted at $7,350 in FY2009); and the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition, a yearlong juried exhibition of sculpture on the streets of downtown (budgeted at $14,200 in FY 2009). The increased ODSE budget should allow the installation of a new mounting pad to accommodate the trend of larger size sculptures being submitted for exhibition.

The Arts Commission also has an administrative line that supports operating expenses, occasional workshops for the community, magazine subscriptions, and the development and management of a website. The administration fund also augments existing program funds as necessary (budgeted at $3,500 in FY 2009).

A new budget item in FY2009 ($2,000) reflects one of the high priority topics identified in our 2007 strategic planning meeting: document and appraise the City’s art holdings in catalog format. This activity will coincide with a second high priority topic: develop a Percent for Art conservation and maintenance plan.

Another increase in the FY2009 budget occurs in the administrative line. This will cover the cost of training city staff liaison. He works closely with the Arts Commission to plan, organize and present programs, and his experience makes him integral to the continued success of established programs. His value to the Arts Commission and to the City of Lawrence would be enhanced if he had new resources (i.e.: Public Art Magazine’s Full Public Art Review Collection at $250) and made contacts with arts administrators throughout the country and participated in their workshops, conferences and educational programs. By learning how other cities, larger and smaller, address such issues as public art, policy and new programs, the liaison will be able to work more efficiently and effectively to advance Lawrence’s already deep commitment to artistic enrichment.

Section 3. Agency and Program Budget information

A. How many paid full time employees work for your agency? 0  Volunteers? 11

B. What percent of your total 2008 budget goes to employee salaries and benefits? 0

C. What percent of your total 2008 budget is used for operating expenses? 100%

D. What is the total estimated cost to provide the program in 2009? $31,050

E. What percent of 2009 program costs are being requested from the City? 94%

F. List other anticipated sources of funding and funding amount for this program in 2009:

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<tr>
<th>Anticipated Funding Source</th>
<th>Dollar Amount</th>
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<td>Kansas Arts Commission Arts Infrastructure Grant - anticipated</td>
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TOTAL 2009 PROGRAM BUDGET $33,050
Section 4. Statement of Problem/Need to Be Addressed By Program

A. Provide a brief statement of the problem or need your agency proposes to address with the requested funding and/or the impact of not funding this program. The statement should include characteristics of the client population that will be served by this program. If possible, include statistical data to document this need.

The Lawrence Arts Commission sponsors three well-established annual programs to benefit, enrich and beautify the city of Lawrence and to enhance the quality of life for its diverse population and visitors. These are the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibit, the Phoenix Awards, and the Community Arts Grant Program. In addition, the Arts Commission presents occasional workshops on grant writing and other topics. It also is redesigning and expanding its website to better serve those who seek information about its own and other programs in Lawrence. That project, overseen by the website development committee of the Lawrence Arts Commission, is being designed by University of Kansas associate design professor Andrea H. Wertzberger. We anticipate the new site to be functioning in June 2008. The web address will continue to be: www.lawrenceartscommission.org.

B. How was the need for this program determined?

Since its establishment in 1973, the Lawrence Arts Commission has been a leader in the artistic life of the city. The sponsored programs speak directly to this involvement. The Community Arts Grants nurture and develop new educational and creative programs; the Phoenix Awards honor members of the community who have been generous with their talents and time; and the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition presents innovative and bold new sculptures in the welcoming and vibrant historic downtown.

C. Why should this problem/need be addressed by the City?

In Resolution No. 5966, establishing the Lawrence Arts Commission, and in other resolutions establishing policies for Percent for Arts, Donated Art, Mural/Sign review and similar projects, the City has established its interest in creating and promoting excellent opportunities for the creation, exhibition and permanent enjoyment of many kinds of art. Continued funding of these and other programs instituted by the Lawrence Arts Commission will nurture and enhance the creative community and the quality of life in the City of Lawrence.

Section 4. Description of Program Services

A. Provide a brief description of the service you will provide and explain how it will respond to the need you identified in Section 3. The description should include how many clients will be served, and should describe as specifically as possible the interaction that will take place between the provider and the user of the service.

The Arts Commission’s core programs each reach well more than 100,000 people annually, through experience of the sponsored artistic programs or through media coverage of those programs. Although it is difficult to quantify how many people specifically see the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition, for instance, it is known from Chamber of Commerce data that about 30,000 people attend the annual Sidewalk Sale each July alone. The sculptures exhibited along Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire streets would be seen by most of these people, as well as school classes, tour groups and parents visiting students at KU and of course people strolling to the Farmers Market or their favorite coffee shop on a weekend morning.
The contributions that recipients of the Phoenix Awards make touch the lives of thousands of people: Educators at the junior-high, high-school and college level; authors; musicians; radio-show producers; bookstore owners; program administrators; actors; visual artists and volunteers have been among recent honorees.

The Community Arts Grant program has made distributions ranging from $350 in its early years to $1,000 in recent years to over 130 groups and individuals in Lawrence to create new artistic programs to be made by and enjoyed by our community.

More specifically:

—Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition: Now in its 21st year, this juried exhibit has reputation as a venue for some of the region’s most innovative sculptors. Indeed, as mentioned above, it has been included in the current edition of the “New York Times” best-selling travel guide “1,000 Places to See Before You Die.”

The sculptures are mounted for several months along Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire streets and traditionally at the Lawrence Public Library, the Lawrence Arts Center and near the Douglas County Courthouse.

In 2008, 35 sculptures by artists from six states were submitted for consideration. On June 7, the 2008 exhibit will open with a tour of the eight pieces led by the juror, artist Bill Buchen of New York City; a reception follows at the Lawrence Arts Center. The funding supports the contracts between each artist and the city, including honoraria; an honorarium for the juror; and the printing and dispersal of a brochure requesting submissions and a brochure for a self-guided walking tour.

—Phoenix Awards: The 12th annual awards were presented Nov. 4, 2007, at the Lawrence Arts Center to 8 members of the Lawrence community who have made significant contributions to the music, performing, literary and visual arts; as educators or volunteers; or whose contributions were deemed of exceptional merit. Nominees are selected by the Arts Commission from submissions by the public, supported by letters, summaries of work and other materials. A local artist is commissioned to create original artwork to be presented to each honoree as well as a piece to be exhibited at City Hall. The 2007 award was created by Catherine Hale Robins; the 2008 awards will be made by Kristin Morland.

—Grants: For 13 years, the Lawrence Arts Commission has distributed grants to be used to mount plays, concerts, educational programs, exhibits or other art events. In 2008, the Arts Commission made grants to 8 organizations who in formal applications described their programs and outlined how the grant and other monies would be used. The awardees were the Lawrence Public Schools, Art Tougeau, Lawrence Street Performer’s Group, Lawrence Community Theatre, Lawrence Community Shelter, and Women of Color Quilters Network. The grant checks will be presented at a City Commission meeting in May.

—Website: A well-designed, easily navigated and informative website will make information about the programs of the Arts Commission available to citizens of Lawrence, artists in all fields, administrators, media and educators. Disseminating positive and useful information about our programs strengthens the reputation Lawrence has as an active supporter of the arts.

—Workshops: Offering workshops to educate artists and educators, among others, on how to write grants and other issues strengthens their work and thus enhances their contributions to Lawrence.

B. Describe any efforts your agency has made to explore the community to determine if there are any other agencies providing similar types of services. What efforts have you made to coordinate services?
The Lawrence Arts Commission has been making strategic plans for the next 24 to 36 months. Among the topics we are most interested in is building stronger and more effective bonds with existing arts organizations, civic groups and the academic community so that we are better able to tap their creative energies and unite interests and skills. For example, River City Reading Festival, Fresh Produce Art Collective, and EMU Theatre have all recently made presentations at our meetings. These actions will have a positive influence on community good will that should create opportunities for better, more imaginative and more unified activities.

Section 5. Program Objectives

Please provide three specific program objectives for 2009. Objectives should demonstrate the purpose of the program and measure the amount of service delivered or the effectiveness of the services delivered. A time frame and numerical goal should also be included. Examples include, “75% of clients receiving job training will retain their job one year after being hired,” “increased fundraising efforts will result in a 15% increase in donations in 2009,” “credit counseling services will be provided to 600 clients in 2009,” “new digital arts program will serve 275 students in 2009” etc. Applicants will be expected to report their progress toward meeting these objectives in their six month and annual reports to the City.

Program Objectives

1. For its 22nd year, in 2009, the Outdoor Downtown Sculpture Exhibition should expand its scope by adding new permanent exhibition pads, enhance the program’s effectiveness with updated procedures/call for entry to better respond to the types of work that is being submitted and produced, and publicize the ODSE’s inclusion in the travel guide “1,000 Places to See Before You Die”.

2. For the 14th year of the Phoenix Awards, the honorarium to the artist selected to create the 9 awards should be increased, as should funding for the reception for the honorees. In recent years the honorarium has been $1,700 to $1,800, which covers the artist’s cost for creating, mounting or framing 9 works of original art. Increasing the honorarium to $2,700 would better reflect the value and visibility of these awards and be commensurate with current artist fees. The Arts Commission also provides a catered reception for the honorees, their families, the City administration, invited guests and members of the public after the ceremony at the Arts Center. A well-prepared and presented canapé buffet with non-alcoholic beverages is another indication of the worth of the honor being bestowed.

3. In 2008 the Arts Commission presented fully funded grants to 7 applicants at $6,733.70. All the applications received were worthy; the funded projects represent an admirable range and diversity of projects and organizations in Lawrence. Increasing the funding at 5%, will allow us to make more funds available for these valued programs.
Please return completed application electronically to ctoomay@ci.lawrence.ks.us by 5:00 pm on Friday, May 2, 2008.

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