

City of Lawrence
Outside Agency
Bi-annual Report
2016

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org. Reports on activities from January 2016 to June 2016 are due on July 15th 2016. Cumulative reports on activities from January 2016 through December 2016 are due on February 15th 2017.

Agency Name: Lawrence Arts Center, Inc.

Reporting Period (please check one): ☐ January - June (deadline July 15) ☒ January – December (deadline February 15)

1. Give a brief narrative of the activities that were funded with City funds over the reporting period checked above.

The City's contribution of \$30,000 in scholarship funds supported 250 of the more than 1,000 low-income children and adults who required financial aid to participate in visual and performing arts education at the Lawrence Arts Center during 2016. The City's funding constituted just 21% of the Arts Center's \$142,000 financial aid expenditures in FY 2016, all of which were spent on arts education tuition for students and families who could not otherwise afford to attend classes at the Arts Center. The rest of the Arts Center's financial aid funding was raised through sponsorships, donations, and fundraising events.

2. Provide specific detail (and supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate progress made toward your goals/objectives.

We continue to see a significant increase in requests for financial aid, especially in our preschool where 1 in 5 students enrolled receive financial aid and in our kindergarten where 1 in 4 students receive financial aid. All scholarships that were awarded to students in low to very low socioeconomic categories were awarded a maximum of 90% scholarship support. The Arts Center has maintained its commitment to outreach and scholarship support to all of the following organizations: Douglas County CASA, the Resident Services Offices at the Lawrence–Douglas County Housing Authority, Juvenile Detention Center, USD 497, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Head Start, Little Nations, Family Promise, and Cottonwood, Inc. We also are pleased to have provided after-school educational outreach to more than 200 children per week through our partnership with the Boys and Girls Club. We are able to meet the financial aid needs of Lawrence families because of the support of the City of Lawrence.

3. How have you impacted the citizens of Lawrence?

All citizens of Lawrence, regardless of ability to pay, are able to enjoy the exhibitions, performances, and educational opportunities provided by the Lawrence Arts Center because of our financial aid fund.

4. What barriers, if any, have you encountered?

We continue to have need that outpaces our resources. We continue to seek grants, private donations, and corporate funding to support our scholarship programs so that all the citizens of Lawrence can access the programming we have available. We continue to request increased funding from the City of Lawrence.

5. Review the line-item budget you provided in your application. How much of your allocation has been spent?

100%