



Date of Council Meeting: March 25, 2014

**TOWN OF LEESBURG  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

- Subject:** Virginia Commission for the Arts' FY 2015 Local Government Challenge Grant
- Staff Contact:** Betsy Fields, Research & Communications Manager
- Recommendation:** Recommend the Council approve the Public Art Commission's recommendations for distributing Local Government Challenge Grant funding to local arts organizations.

**Issue:** How should the Town distribute the \$5,000 Local Government Challenge Grant and the \$5,000 of Town matching funds?

**Fiscal Analysis:** The Town allocates \$5,000 of matching funds each year for the VCA Local Government Challenge Grant. This proposal would not change that allocation.

**Background:** Each year, the Virginia Commission for the Arts offers grants of up to \$5,000 to local governments to support local arts activities. The grants must be matched with local funds and the moneys used to make subgrants to independent arts organizations for arts activities within the jurisdiction. In January, the Town Council approved a new competitive process for the distribution of this funding.

The Leesburg Commission on Public Art invited local arts organizations to submit requests for funding. At their March 5, 2014 meeting, the Commission reviewed the requests received and prepared the attached recommendation for the distribution of the \$5,000 Local Government Challenge Grant and \$5,000 of Town matching funds.

Deadline for the grant application is April 1, 2014. The Town must include in the grant application a list of the subgrants that will be made.

**Attachments:** Draft resolution

PRESENTED March 25, 2014

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING STAFF TO APPLY FOR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHALLENGE GRANT THROUGH THE VIRGINIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE GRANT FUNDING AND TOWN MATCHING FUNDS TO CERTAIN INDEPENDENT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS, the Town Council is committed to supporting performing and visual arts activities within the Town of Leesburg and the independent arts organizations that sponsor these activities; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Commission for the Arts' Local Government Challenge Grant program will provide up to \$5,000 in matching funds to local governments in support of local arts activities; and

WHEREAS, the Town Manager's proposed FY 2015 Budget includes \$5,000 of matching funds for the Local Government Challenge Grant, making a total of \$10,000 available for distribution; and

WHEREAS, the Leesburg Commission on Public Art solicited requests for funding from local arts organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Commission reviewed the requests received and recommends providing funding in the following amounts to these five organizations: \$4,000 to Bluemont, \$2,000 to the Loudoun Lyric Opera, \$2,000 to VSAarts of Loudoun County, \$1,000 to the Loudoun Chorale, and \$1,000 to ArtSquare;

THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia that the Town Council authorizes Town staff to:

1. Submit an application for a Local Government Challenge Grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts in the amount of \$5,000, and, with Town matching funds of \$5,000, distribute to the organizations as recommended above by the Leesburg Commission on Public Art; and

A RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING STAFF TO APPLY FOR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHALLENGE GRANT THROUGH THE VIRGINIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE GRANT FUNDING AND TOWN MATCHING FUNDS TO CERTAIN INDEPENDENT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

2. In the event the Virginia Commission for the Arts does not award the Town a Local Government Challenge Grant, or awards a grant amount of less than \$5,000, to distribute Town funds in the amount of \$5,000, plus any grant funds received, to the organizations listed above, proportionately.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

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Kristen C. Umstattd, Mayor  
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Council