

Cultural Arts Funding Review Process

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

Pandemic Relief for Creatives

\$15.4M from CARES, SAVES, and EDD

- Austin Live Music Venue Preservation Fund (\$5M)
- Austin Creative Worker Relief Grant (\$3.5M)
- Austin Non-Profit Relief Grant (\$3M)
- Austin Music Disaster Relief Fund (\$1.5M)
- Austin Small Business Relief Grant (\$1.4M)
- Austin Creative Space Disaster Relief Program (\$1M)

\$14.0M from ARPA:

- Austin Arts & Culture Non-Profit Relief Grant (\$3.0M)
- Arts Industry Relief (\$6.0M)
- Music Industry Relief (\$4.0M)
- Austin Civilian Conservation Corps (\$1M)

Cultural Arts Fund Summary

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2020-21	2021-22
	Actual	Actual	Estimated	Amended	Proposed
Beginning Balance	3,215,422	2,960,636	(649,639)	(1,081,241)	(3,489,408)
Revenue					
Interest	70,152	42,770	2,000	30,000	5,000
Other Revenue	0	9,514	0	0	0
Total Revenue	70,152	52,284	2,000	30,000	5,000
Transfers In					
Other Funds	12,639,480	9,003,228	4,296,896	7,790,403	6,660,189
Budget Stabilization Reserve	0	0	0	0	4,800,000
Total Transfers In	12,639,480	9,003,228	4,296,896	7,790,403	11,460,189
Total Available Funds	12,709,631	9,055,512	4,298,896	7,820,403	11,465,189
Program Requirements					
Cultural Arts and Contracts	13,001,908	12,676,572	7,138,665	7,234,262	3,683,038
Total Program Requirements	13,001,908	12,676,572	7,138,665	7,234,262	3,683,038
Total Requirements	13,001,908	12,676,572	7,138,665	7,234,262	3,683,038
Excess (Deficiency) of Total Available Funds Over Total Requirements	(292,277)	(3,621,060)	(2,839,769)	586,141	7,782,151
Adjustment to GAAP	37,491	10,785	0	0	0
Ending Balance	2,960,636	(649,639)	(3,489,408)	(495,100)	4,292,743

City of Austin Equity Statement

- Strategic Direction 2023
- Racial equity is the condition when race no longer predicts a person's quality of life outcomes in our community.
- The City recognizes that race is the primary determinant of social equity and therefore we begin the journey toward social equity with this definition.
- The City of Austin recognizes historical and structural disparities and a need for alleviation of these wrongs by taking a disruptive stance to **critically transform its institutions** and create a culture of equity.

Operationalized Racial Equity (Examples)

Commitment to the belief that culture is an expansive, complex, **multi-dimensional system** in which full access to artmaking by people of color is critical to complete human realization.

Support of an evolutionary growth model that starts with a **redistribution** of public funds to cultural organizations led by people of color to remedy historic inequities and systemic racism.

An organization's **racial equity-led mission statement** is shaped by voices of color and guides strategic planning, goals, and policies and practices, while **people of color** are **represented** as Board, staff, contracted or hired artists AND hold decision-making power.

Intentionality to build the next generation of **culture bearers** in communities of color where long-held art forms or stories are threatened by extinction, where there are no institutions to carry on the work, or where resources are being diverted away from culture.

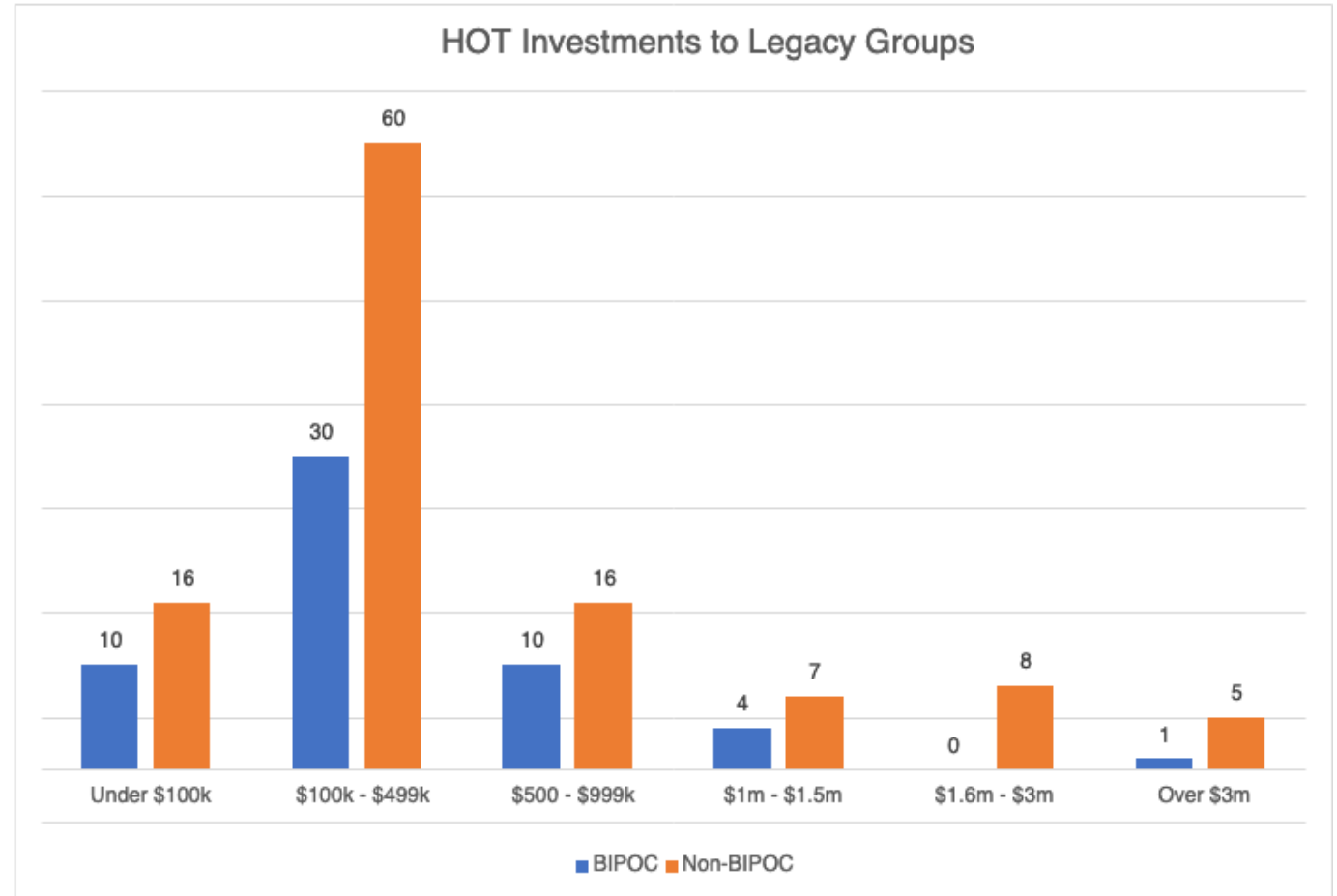
Recognizing and embracing differences in ability, language, identity, and gender as **meaningful intersections** with racial equity.

Historic Funding Disparities 1981 - 2021

Legacy = 10+ years of funding

- **112 non-BIPOC Legacy Groups***
 - \$74 million
 - 67% of total funding
- **55 BIPOC Legacy Groups***
 - \$23.4 million
 - 33% of total funding

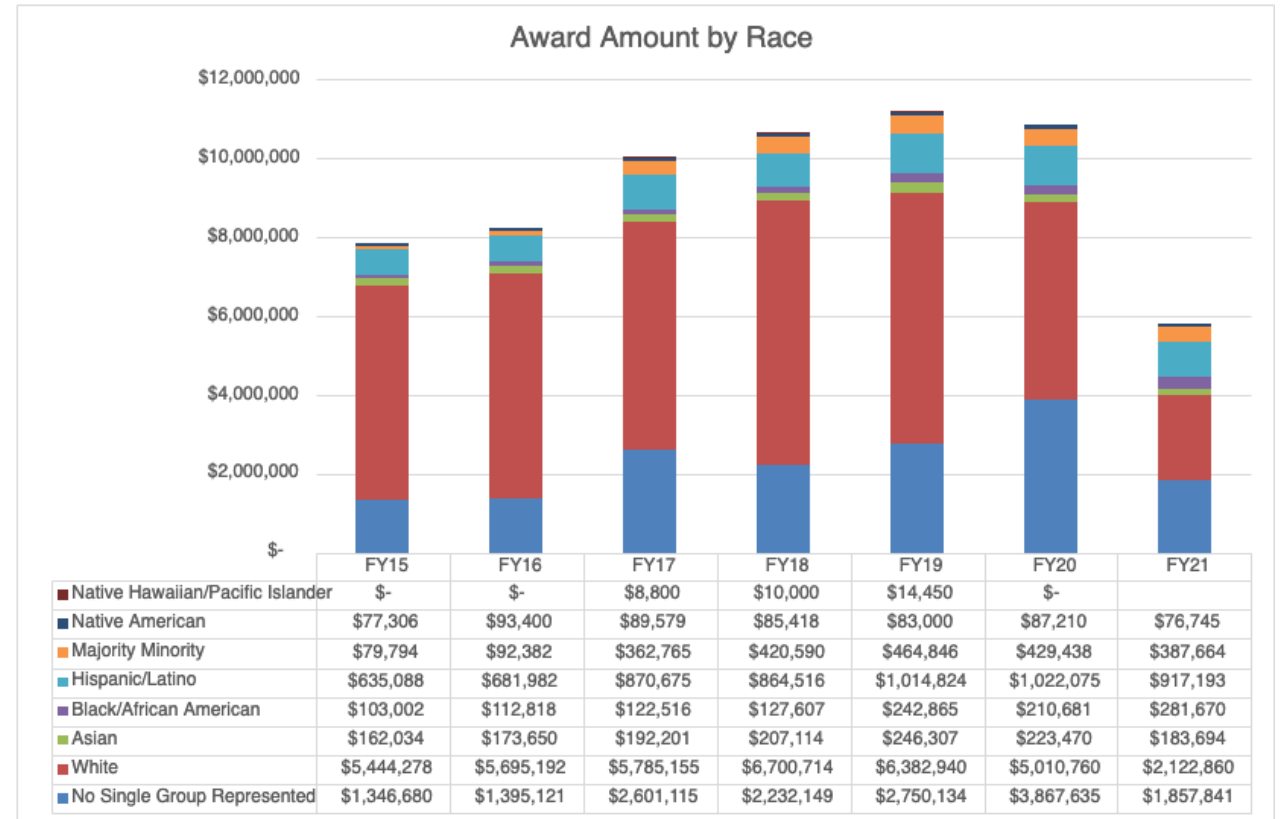
*Non-Profits & Sponsored Projects



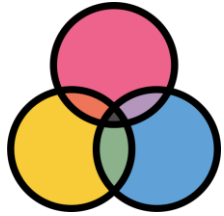
Systemic Inequities 2015 - 2021

Cultural Funding Investment

- \$37 million: White (57%)
- \$16 million: No Single Group (25%)
- \$6 million: Hispanic/LatinX (9%)
- \$2.2 million: Multi-Racial (3%)
- \$1.4 million: Asian (2%)
- \$1.2 million: Black (2%)
- \$590,000: Native American (1%)
- \$33,000: Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (0.1%)



Vision and Goals for Cultural Ecosystem



Diversity

- Mainstream institutions become more diverse and reflective of their communities.



Prosperity

- Large-budget organizations intentionally shift a higher level of financial benefit and compensation to more artists of color.



Inclusion

- Funders provide more resources to organizations rooted in communities of color.



Self-Determination

- People of color have ownership over shaping cultural life in their communities.

To address historic inequities and systemic bias, City investment in historically marginalized groups will be a priority.

FY22 Proposed Programs: Overview

Thrive: Cultural Growth

- Organizations must have a five-year operating history in Austin MSA
- Funding for general operating support, project support, and institutional improvements
- Prioritizing small/medium sized organizations of color

Elevate: Supporting the Journey

- Open to cultural organizations of various sizes and types
- Supports organizations to continue and expand their racial equity-led efforts

Nexus: Creative Collaboration

- Individuals or organizations
- Eligible organizations must have a budget under \$250,000
- Funding for community-focused artistic collaborations
- Prioritizes artists of color

Funding Scenarios and Implications

Changes in the Cultural Funding necessary to correct the historical and structural disparities that have led to inequitable funding awards for decades.

Delaying this process would

1. Perpetuate inequities that currently exist,
2. Maintain a closed-door to new applicants, and
3. Deny the opportunity for the City of Austin to make progress towards fostering a more inclusive cultural community.

Additionally, Cultural Contractors could experience up to 91% cut in funds if staff maintains the current inequitable framework.

Funding Scenarios and Implications

	FY 21 Baseline	FY 22 Resiliency	FY 22 Equality
Organizational Support	\$1,694,762	\$632,328	\$898,221
Project Support I	\$2,029,383	\$1,043,312	\$1,075,571
Project Support II	\$1,088,821	\$723,583	\$639,913
Project Support III	\$954,644	\$686,428	\$594,484
Culturally Specific Marketing Supplement	\$0	\$0	\$0
Cultural Heritage Festivals	\$410,865	\$356,114	\$221,163
Community Initiatives (CI) /Nexus	\$200,000	\$58,235	\$70,648
Adjustments	\$85,288	\$0	\$0
TEMPO	\$100,000	\$0	\$0
Faces of Austin	\$8,000	\$0	\$0
Total Funding Levels	\$6,571,763	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000

Resiliency Scenario

- 70% cut for gen contractors
- 50% cut for LGBTQIA and Disability community contractors
- 22% cut for contractors of color
- 0% cut for black contractors

Equality Scenario

- 47% cut for all cultural contractors

America's Tomorrow:
Equity is the Superior Growth Model

SUMMARY



by Sarah Treuhaft, Angela Glover Blackwell, and Manuel Pastor

Equity as a Superior Growth Model
