

ITEM #: 15
 DATE: 06-23-26
 DEPT: ADMIN

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: FALL 2026 COMMISSION ON THE ARTS (COTA)
 SPECIAL PROJECT GRANT CONTRACT**

BACKGROUND:

On June 1, 2026, the Commission on the Arts (COTA) finalized its recommendations for Fall 2026 Special Project Grants. Four grant requests were received totaling \$3,400. COTA has \$6,752 in funding available for Fall 2026 Special Project grants. The request and COTA's recommendation are described in the table below:

ORGANIZATION	REQUEST	PROJECT	RECOMMENDATION
ACTORS	\$1,000	Evil Dead the Musical	\$800
Rolling Hills Chamber Music	\$1,000	Classical Music Festival	\$600
Story Theater Company	\$1,000	The Legend of Sleepy Hollow	\$1,000
KHOI Community Radio	\$1,000	Narly's Night of Music	\$1,000
TOTAL	\$4,000		\$3,400

Copies of the contracts were sent to the awarded organization for approval and have been returned. The contracts are now presented for the City Council's approval.

The remaining funding will be reserved for the Spring 2027 Special Project Grants, which will be evaluated prior to the end of the calendar year.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Fall 2026 COTA Special Project Grant contracts as recommended.
2. Refer the contract to COTA for further information.
3. Do not approve the contract.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Special project grants help advance participation in and awareness of the arts in the Ames community, which is a key goal of the Commission on the Arts. COTA has reviewed the request and has recommended the approval of the contract now presented to the City Council. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as noted above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Actor's - Evil Dead the Musical.pdf

Rolling Hills Chamber Music - Classical Music Festival.pdf

Story Theater Company - The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.pdf

Vagrant Fear Productions - Narly's Night of Music.pdf