



COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS STAFF REPORT

ITEM NO. 5.3

DATE: April 28, 2026
TO: Chairperson and Members of the Commission for the Arts
FROM: Allen McFarland, Management Analyst II
SUBJECT: Approval of High School Junior & Senior Arts Awards.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the Commission for the Arts receive the High School Junior & Senior Arts Awards ad hoc committee's recommendation and approve the High School Junior & Senior Arts Awards for a total amount of \$11,400.

DECISION TYPE

Not Applicable

SUMMARY

The High School Junior & Senior Arts Awards are offered annually by the Commission for the Arts to support and encourage the continued arts education of Livermore students for their accomplishments in the arts. Up to sixteen awards are available to high school junior and senior students who reside in Livermore and attend a local school. Applicants must submit an application, official transcripts and a letter of recommendation for consideration.

In previous years, there were up to ten awards of \$600 available for high school seniors. Beginning this year, the Commission approved expanding and restructuring the program to include both juniors and senior. The revised program allocates \$13,600 annually in the following structure:

- Up to eight Junior Awards at \$500 each
- Up to eight Senior Awards at \$1,200 each

DISCUSSION

The High School Junior & Senior Arts Awards are designed to identify, recognize, and encourage Livermore's talented high school students for their achievements in visual, literary, media, and performing arts. Applicants were required to submit a completed application, official transcripts, and a letter of recommendation consistent with prior year eligibility requirements.

At the closing of the 2026 application window, 14 eligible applications had been received, and they were forwarded to the ad hoc committee for review and evaluation. The ad hoc committee conducted the review and developed the funding recommendations based on the program's established evaluation criteria. The recommendation reflects a diverse group of applicants across schools and artistic disciplines.

The ad hoc committee recommends 13 high school students be awarded. The list of recommended recipients is in Attachment 1.

ATTACHMENTS

[1. 2026 High School Junior & Senior Arts Recommended Awards List](#)

Prepared by: Leng Kutil
Management Analyst I