ARTS COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RAP TAX ARTS GRANT AWARDS

TO: Ivins City Council

FROM: Ivins City Arts Commission

DATE: January 9, 2025

The Ivins City Arts Commission met for a regularly scheduled meeting on January 8, 2025, to review two RAP Tax applications. The two applications came from Ivins City nonprofit entities, Tuacahn Center for the Arts and Kayenta Arts Foundation. Our recommendations and rationale are presented below.

BACKGROUND:

Utah Code Title 59, Chapter 12, Section 701 states the purpose of RAP Tax funds as:

…to permit the counties of the state of Utah to enhance public financial support of Utah's publicly owned or operated recreational and zoological facilities, and botanical, cultural and zoological organizations owned or operated by institutions or private nonprofit organizations.

Washington County residents chose to establish a RAP Tax with allocation to the County and cities within the County. Under Resolution 2015-03R, Ivins City reserves "the first $5000 of RAP Tax revenue" for future RAP Tax purposes; divides the remainder equally between parks, recreation, and arts; provides for distribution of RAP Tax funds by agreement ($10,000 Tuacahn, $7,500 Kayenta and $7,500 Ivins City Arts Corridor); and requires a competitive process. Funds available for the arts under this competitive process are those the City Council has not obligated by agreement from the arts third of RAP funds.

For this award period, $45,011.40 is available.

City Ordinance NO. 2015-20, charges the Arts Commission with recommending to the City Council the allocation of RAP Tax arts funds.

PROCESS:

The Arts RAP Tax Application was available on the Ivins City Arts Commission and City of Ivins websites by October 15,2024. Notice was made in the City Newsletter and the Arts Commission's social media sites. A digital application is online on the Ivins City Arts Commission website.

The Arts Commissioners had an opportunity to review each application and project budget prior to our January 8 2025, public meeting.

The Arts Commission met for the regularly scheduled meeting on January 8, 2025, to review two RAP Tax grant applications which were received before 12/31/2024. Six of the seven commissioners were in attendance. One commission member recused herself from the discussion due to stated conflict as an employee of Tuachan Center for the Arts. All applicants were invited to attend the meeting and answer any questions from the Commission.

PROPOSED FUNDING RATIONALE:

The Ivins City Arts Commission evaluated each application based on the following criteria:

1. Does the applicant meet all the eligibility requirements as outlined in the Ivins City RAP ordinances?

2. Did the applicant answer all the questions on the application?

3. Was the budget clear? Were there any questions posed by the presented budget?

4. Did the applicant complete a RAP evaluation form for previously granted RAP funding?

Kayenta Arts Foundation (KAF): KAF requested $20,000 to support two Spring, 2025, festivals; The Native Arts Market (May) and Kayenta's Street Painting Festival (April). The Executive Director, Miranda Wright, was available to provide feedback regarding the impact these two festivals have in terms of local and regional attendance. The Native Arts Market will revitalize the former Festival of the Americas. Miranda explained that attendance was down in 2024 due to a change in contractors. The Native Arts Market will be modeled after the Santa Fe Indian Market, which KAF believes will increase tourism and local appreciation of native traditions as well as contemporary culture. This event is free to the public.

The Street Painting Festival focuses on serving children and families in Ivins City and the surrounding area. Local student groups are invited to join professional artists to create chalk masterpieces on pavement. This event is free to the public.

The addition of the 5K Color Run to broaden the reach of the chalk festival proved to be successful and will be continued in 2025.

The Arts Commission discussed KAF's request to support these two community festivals. We found that the applicant met the eligibility requirements, the application and budget were clearly presented, and the RAP evaluation form was completed. We especially appreciated the diverse reach of both festivals and the fact that they are both free and open to the public.

We recommend funding of $17,000 of the $20,000 request.

Tuacahn Center for the Arts (Tuacahn): Tuacahn requested $20,000 to help underwrite additional restroom facilities to meet the expectation of a growing audience due to the expanded seating capacity in 2024. According to the presented budget they have received support from the Washington County, Washington City, private foundations and In-kind contributions. The total of confirmed funds received to date, including in-kind contributions is $75,000

The Arts Commission discussed the Tuacahn Center for the Arts request. We found that the applicant met the eligibility requirements, the application and budget were clearly presented, and the RAP evaluation form from last year's grant was completed. We agree that Tuacahn Center for the Arts is an important community arts resource which has a broad reach beyond Ivins City, Washington County, and the State of Utah.

We recommend granting $17,000 of the $20,000 requested.

Ivins City Arts Commission on behalf of Ivins City: Both Tuacahn Center for the Arts and Kayenta Arts Foundation represent important cultural resources to Ivins City and Washington County. The Arts Commission strongly supports both arts organizations.

In addition, the Arts Commission is cognizant of the role Ivins City plays in the presentation of community-wide public arts programs. In 2024, the Ivins City Art-on-Loan program placed locally created

art in public spaces. There are currently six artworks displayed in Ivins, three in Ivins City Hall, one in the Ivins City and Santa Clara Police Department, and two sculptures, one on Old Highway 91 and the other on the Ivins City Arts Corridor at 400 West and Center Street. All of the six pieces of art are for sale and are installed for one year.

In recognition of the results of the city-wide survey, the City Council has stated that all future Ivins City art program costs are to be funded through RAP funding reserved for the arts rather than coming out of the general fund.

The Ivins Arts Commission is requesting that funds to be held in reserve for future projects on the Ivins City Arts Corridor to include: utility box coverings (It's a Wrap), crosswalk art for safe crosswalks, murals, art in the roundabouts, flag pole banners, and a community map of art in Ivins. Funds to be set in reserve for the Ivins Arts Commission after awarding the Kayenta Arts Foundation and Tuacahn Center for the Arts amount to $11,011.40.

AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

Kayenta Arts Foundation:	$17,000
Tuacahn Center for the Arts:	$17,000
City of Ivins	$11,011.40
Total Recommendation:	**$45,011.40**

Daphne Schroth, Chair
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