
TO: Chair and members
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

DATE: 2020 Jan 28

FROM: DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES

FILE: 02410-20

SUBJECT: FESTIVALS BURNABY GRANT PROGRAM - SMALL SCALE EVENT

PURPOSE: Grant Approval Request

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the Festivals Burnaby Grant request from the Vancouver Cantonese Opera for The Bamboo Theatre: A Cantonese Opera Festival on 2020 May 30 be received.

REPORT

Festivals and Special Events: Small Scale Event

Grant File # 20-S-002: Vancouver Cantonese Opera

Application Received: 2019 October 1

Project Budget: \$31,200.00

Project Request: \$6,000.00

Previous Support: 2016 Small Scale Festivals Burnaby Grant \$3,500.00
2015 Small Scale Festivals Burnaby Grant \$3,500.00
2014 Small Scale Festivals Burnaby Grant \$5,000.00

1.0 INTRODUCTION

An application request for \$6,000.00 has been received from the Vancouver Cantonese Opera for The Bamboo Theatre: A Cantonese Opera Festival on 2020 May 30 at the Michael J. Fox Theatre. The Bamboo Theatre takes inspiration from the historic festivals held in China, where travelling opera troupes roamed the countryside. The villagers would build a temporary open-air bamboo stage at a crossroads or grassy field, attracting audiences from near and far. The opera's uplifting tales sparked conversations and strengthened community bonds around shared values of compassion, friendship and justice.

Cantonese opera is a unique combination of performing arts including singing, dancing, acting, miming and acrobatic movements.

The mission of the Vancouver Cantonese Opera is to present the unique traditional art of Cantonese opera to both Chinese and non-Chinese audiences. As an organization they strive for artistic excellence; host educational seminars and workshops; offer accessible, affordable and entertaining performances; and provide employment opportunities to Cantonese opera artists, musicians and technicians. Vancouver Cantonese Opera produced their first Cantonese opera in 2000 and since then has produced over 23 Cantonese Opera long plays and other Cantonese based performances throughout Metro Vancouver.

2.0 POLICY SECTION

Goal

- A Connected Community
 - Social connection – Enhance social connections throughout Burnaby
 - Partnership – Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments
- An Inclusive Community
 - Celebrate diversity – Create more opportunities for the community to celebrate diversity
 - Serve a diverse community – Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community
 - Create a sense of community – Provide opportunities that encourage and welcome all community members and create a sense of belonging

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

The application has been completed in full and the applicant has shown evidence that they have the capacity to carry out the event. Festivals Burnaby funds would be allocated toward eligible project expenses related to programming, marketing and administration. It is recommended that Festivals Burnaby Grant request from the Vancouver Cantonese Opera for The Bamboo Theatre: A Cantonese Opera Festival on 2020 May 30 be received.



Dave Ellenwood
DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES