

**HAWAII STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
Grants and Program Standing Committee
HiSAM Multipurpose Room, First Floor
250 South Hotel Street, Honolulu, HI 96813
Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT: Joel Guy, Kauai Committee Chair
Barbara Saromines-Ganne, Ex-Officio
Eva Rose Washburn-Repollo, Oahu Commissioner

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

EXCUSED: Michael Moore, (Vice Chair)

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Sherman Warner, Hawaii Commissioner
Karen Tiller Polivka, Oahu Commissioner

HSFCA STAFF

PRESENT: Jonathan Johnson, Executive Director
James Gonser, Information Specialist
Vivien Lee, Arts Program Specialist
Charles Medeiros, Arts Program Specialist
Denise Miyahana, Arts Program Specialist
Henny Saraswati, Secretary
Scott Young, Visitor Services Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Patricia Ohara, Deputy Attorney General

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 a.m. by Committee Chair Guy.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Guy motioned to approve the agenda for the Grants and Program Committee, second Commissioner Polivka. The agenda was unanimously approved.

3. 2014-2015 Artists in the School (AITS) Task Force recommendations

Arts Program Specialist Vivien Lee summarized her report regarding the request to implement the recommendations of the 2014-2015 Artists in the Schools Task Force. She said that the panelists have always based their ranking on the merit of the written application, not on need or any other factors. She further explained that sometimes the highest ranked applications receive funding; the lowest ranked applications cannot always be funded and the needy schools are in this category.

Ms. Lee reported that the Task Force went through to make the recommendation to add “need” points to a school’s grant application score if it met low income, or rural, or special population criteria.

Ms. Lee reviewed the definitions of “Free and Reduced Lunch,” Title I,” “rural,” all of which are based on federal guidelines. She further explained that the Task Force report recommends giving 1 to 3 extra points to Title I schools. She noted that the federal definition of “rural” does not match our local sense of what is or is not rural. Nonetheless, it was recommended that 2 extra points are given for rural schools.

Commissioner Joel suggested using the state Planning Department to determine “rural” as relevant to Hawaii. Arts Program Specialist Denise Miyahana suggested using the state data book.

Ms. Lee said that the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) defines urban and rural areas in the state, by county. She said she will see whether that provides a more accurate picture of “rural.”

Commissioner Washburn-Repollo asked whether the extra points will make a difference to the underserved schools; she said we may need to give help to schools to raise the quality of their applications. She suggested that we look into making a separate competition for the neediest schools that either do not write quality applications, or that have no teaching artists in their area, or that for whatever reason, are not getting AITS grants. It may involve encouraging artists to work at selected schools. It could be something we can implement in a year or two. She noted that there was an agreement to pursue this idea as a committee.

Commissioner Warner pointed out the wide disparity in arts offerings at different schools. Ka’u High School, for example, has a band room and instruments, but no band teacher. Honoka’a High School has a big and successful band program that is an integral part of the community. He said that Waimea Middle School does not need AITS because it is right next to Kahilu Theatre which provides the students with many opportunities in the arts. Schools have different needs and priorities, he said.

Commissioner Joel encouraged SFCA to increase the number of teaching artists, particularly in underserved geographic areas; the dream is arts in every school. Executive Director Jonathan Johnson commented that we should be prepared to tell the Legislature what we could use increased funding for.

The committee agreed to recommend approval of the Staff Report to the full Board meeting. Commissioner Guy moved to approve the recommendations of the 2014-2015 Artists in the Schools (AITS) Task Force and Commissioner Warner seconded. The motions was carried unanimously.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Henny Saraswati

Secretary