

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: 2/8/22

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Jeremy Lucas, Director of Administration & Planning, Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: Organizational Eligibility for Potential Recipients of CAMPAC Funding

File Type: Informational Report

REQUEST

Current practice for interpretation of organizational eligibility based on core guidelines.

POLICY

Wisconsin State Statute provides that the “board may appropriate money for cultural, artistic, educational and musical programs, projects and related activities, including financial assistance to nonprofit corporations devoted to furthering the cultivation and appreciation of the art of music or to the promotion of visual arts.” Milwaukee County created CAMPAC through resolution in 1986 and has subsequently approved annual budgetary appropriations. CAMPAC is advisory to the County Board through the endorsement of the Parks, Energy and Environment Committee.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	59.56(1)
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	
Specific Adopted Budget:	2020, 2021
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	1C002, 1A020
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

Through the enabling legislation CAMPAC is delegated the authority to “review all applications received under the cultural, artistic and musical programming and endowment and grant components of County arts funding and to make recommendations for awarding County funds to the County Board through the Committee on Parks, Recreation & Culture.” Changes have been made to the administration and programmatic components of arts funding throughout the years but one of the core criteria for eligibility has remained constant. Eligible organizations must “be organized for the primary purpose of the production, presentation, exhibition or performance of artistic works”. Verification of this eligibility criteria has most recently been achieved through the annual application for funding by requesting the organization mission statement. Staff will continue to prioritize those organization where arts are primary functions and not secondary additions to programming or events.

For example, an organization dedicated to water quality that also incorporates art into their clean-up events or filtration projects would not qualify. However, an organization which supports the creation and display of aquatic centered paintings and sculptures would qualify.

FISCAL EFFECT

The adopted 2022 budget remains unchanged and contains \$407,825 for grant awards.

PREPARED BY:

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