

2026 Cultural STAR Program Recommendations

Org Ward	Project Ward	IN or OUT of CD	Organization Name	Proposal Title	Project Type	Board Score	Grant Request	Board Recommendation IN CD	Board Recommendation Out CD	Mayor Recommendation IN CD	Mayor Recommendation OUT of CD
2	2	IN	Hot Summer Jazz Festival	2027 Twin Cities Jazz Festival	Special Project	19	\$50,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
1	1	OUT	Selby Ave JazzFest	2026 Selby Ave JazzFest	Special Project	18.8	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00
1	2	IN	ComMUSICation	Find Your Pride: ComMUSICation's workshops at the intersection of music and LGBTQ+ youth identities	Special Project	18.4	\$11,045.00	\$11,045.00		\$ 11,045.00	
2	2,5,6	OUT	Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies	St. Paul Music Pathways	Special Project	18	\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00
2	2,3	IN	Brownbody	Brownbody's 2027 World Premiere: Infinite Slow Drive / Obsidians in the Wild	Special Project	17.83	\$49,720.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
Outside City	2	IN	Scotty Reynolds, DBA Mixed Precipitation	Pickup Truck Opera on Harriet Island	Special Project	17.83	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00		\$ 7,500.00	
4	2	IN	TaikoArts Midwest	TaikoArts Midwest Annual Ordway Concert	Special Project	17.83	\$45,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
1	1	OUT	Frogtown Neighborhood Association	2026 Frogtown Arts Festival	Special Project	17.75	\$12,000.00		\$12,000.00		\$ 12,000.00
1	1	OUT	Penumbra Theatre Company, Inc.	Regional Premiere of Pearl Cleage's "Angry, Raucous, and Shamelessly Gorgeous"	Special Project	17.67	\$30,000.00		\$24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00
4	4	OUT	Creative Enterprise Zone	2026 Chroma Zone Murat Festival	Special Project	17.6	\$18,000.00		\$18,000.00		\$ 18,000.00
3	1, 2	IN	ArtStart	Many Voices, One City: Art & Performance Inspired by Nature & Cultures of Minnesota	Special Project	17.5	\$15,150.00	\$15,150.00		\$ 15,150.00	
5	2	IN	Film Score Fest	Film Score Fest 2026-27	Special Project	17.4	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00		\$ 25,000.00	
4	4	OUT	FilmNorth	FilmNorth Cinema Access Grant	Special Project	17.4	\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00
5	4	OUT	Theatre 55	Theatre 55 presents Young Frankenstein	Special Project	17.33	\$17,500.00		\$17,500.00		\$ 17,500.00
1	2	IN	Hmong Cultural Center of Minnesota	2027 Minnesota Qeej and Hmong Arts Festival	Special Project	17.17	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	
4	3,4	OUT	TU Dance	Performances of Yusha-Marie Sorzano's full-evening dance work, THREAT, on April 23 and 24, 2027 at the Saint Catherine University's The O'Shaughnessy in Saint Paul, MN.	Special Project	17.17	\$27,500.00		\$24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00
4	3, 4	OUT	African Economic Development Solutions	Cradle of Civilization: African Global Contributions	Special Project	17	\$50,000.00		\$24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00
4	4	OUT	Elpis Enterprises	Voices of Young People Experiencing Unstable Housing Through Photography and Videography	Special Project	17	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
4	1,2,4	IN	Planting People Growing Justice Leadership Institut	Rondo: History and Values Anthology	Special Project	17	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	
2	2	IN	Actors Theater of Minnesota	Noche de Risas, Latino Comedy Night	Special Project	16.83	\$12,500.00	\$11,250.00		\$ 11,250.00	
Outside City	2	IN	Rain Taxi Inc.	Twin Cities Book Festival	Special Project	16.83	\$25,000.00	\$22,500.00		\$ 22,500.00	
4	3,4	OUT	Six Points Theater	ONE SHOT	Special Project	16.83	\$12,300.00		\$9,840.00		\$ 9,840.00
1	1,2,4,6,7	IN	Ten Thousand Things	Free Performance Series in St. Paul, 2026 Cultural STAR Program	Special Project	16.8	\$30,000.00	\$27,000.00		\$ 27,000.00	
4	2,4	IN	Mizna	Publishing Mizna: SWANA Literature + Art	Special Project	16.67	\$35,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
4	2	IN	TruArtSpeaks	Be Heard MN Youth Poetry Slam Series	Special Project	16.67	\$50,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
2	2	IN	Twin Cities Public Television Inc.	Modern Media: Control Room Infrastructure	Capital Project	16.67	\$50,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	

Outside City	3	OUT	Katha Dance Theatre	The World Premiere of "Rang-E-Ishq - Colors of Love"	Special Project	16.5	\$15,000.00		\$12,000.00		\$ 12,000.00
3	5	OUT	Music Mission	Lakeside Guitar Festival 2026	Special Project	16.5	\$16,800.00		\$13,440.00		\$ 13,440.00
Outside City	1,2,3,4	IN	Ragamala Dance Company	Mythology Makes Us	Special Project	16.5	\$25,000.00	\$22,500.00		\$ 22,500.00	
5	2	IN	Rhythmically Speaking	Rhythmically Speaking presents CHILL: The Entire Charlie Brown Christmas Soundtrack, Played Live and Danced!	Special Project	16.5	\$10,000.00	\$9,000.00		\$ 9,000.00	
1	1,2	IN	Border CrosSing	Border CrosSing presents: Te amo. Te quiero. Te adoro.	Special Project	16.4	\$22,000.00	\$18,700.00		\$ 18,700.00	
5	4, 5	OUT	Como Community Council	Como Community Events 2026-2027	Special Project	16.33	\$12,000.00		\$9,600.00		\$ 9,600.00
Outside City	2	IN	Minnesota Opera	The Many Deaths of Laila Starr - Minnesota Opera	Special Project	16.33	\$50,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
2	7	IN	Center for Broadcast Journalism	7th Street LIVE Arts Festival	Special Project	16.17	\$48,500.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
2	2	IN	History Theatre, Inc	Cafe Au Lait by Vinecia Coleman	Special Project	16.17	\$40,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
2	2	IN	Ordway Center for the Performing Arts	Support for the Ordway's Flint Hills Family Festival	Special Project	16.17	\$35,000.00	\$29,750.00		\$ 29,750.00	
Outside City	2	IN	Grace Minnesota dba Don't You Feel It Too?	City Poetry & Civic Life Celebration	Special Project	16	\$10,000.00	\$8,500.00		\$ 8,500.00	
Outside City	2	IN	The Great Northern Winter Festival	Rooted	Special Project	16	\$37,500.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
1	2	IN	COMPAS	Emerging Young Artists Exhibit	Special Project	15.83	\$14,000.00	\$10,500.00		\$ 10,500.00	
2	2	IN	Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra	Back by Popular Demand! Abel Selaocoe in Saint Paul	Special Project	15.83	\$30,000.00	\$22,500.00		\$ 22,500.00	
1	1	OUT	Walker West Music Academy	Rondo Community Music Series	Special Project	15.83	\$25,000.00		\$12,500.00		\$ 12,500.00
1	2	IN	Sounds of Hope, Ltd.	A Mooring in Hope	Special Project	15.8	\$15,000.00	\$11,250.00		\$ 11,250.00	
2	2	IN	Arcata Press/Saint Paul Almanac	Saint Paul Almanac Anthology Vol 15	Special Project	15.67	\$30,250.00	\$22,687.50		\$ 22,687.50	
Outside City	2	IN	Cantus	Cantus and Imani Winds	Special Project	15.67	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00		\$ 7,500.00	
4	4	OUT	Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts	Uniquinox Summer 2027	Special Project	15.67	\$27,350.00		\$13,675.00		\$ 13,675.00
2	2	IN	Nautilus Music-Theater	Nautilus Music-Theater: ROUGH CUTS	Special Project	15.67	\$42,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
4	4	OUT	Ananya Dance Theatre	Solid Ground: Space Updates	Capital Project	15.5	\$27,904.00		\$14,835.80		\$ 14,835.80
4	2,4	IN	COLLIDE Theatrical Dance Company	Detention Diaries	Special Project	15.5	\$15,000.00	\$11,250.00		\$ 11,250.00	
6	2	IN	Face to Face Health & Counseling Service, Inc.	Arts at SafeZone	Special Project	15.5	\$48,719.29	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
2	2	IN	Red Bird Chapbooks	Red Bird Chapbooks Reading Series	Special Project	15.33	\$8,000.00	\$5,600.00		\$ 5,600.00	
2	2	IN	Rice Park Association	Summer Nights in Rice Concert Series 2027	Special Project	15.33	\$7,500.00	\$5,250.00		\$ 5,250.00	
1	2	IN	The Rondo Community Land Trust	Rondo to Downtown: RAAD Artist-Led Cultural Activations	Special Project	15.33	\$50,000.00	\$31,000.00		\$ 31,000.00	
Outside City	2	IN	VocalEssence	Urban Choir Festival	Special Project	15.33	\$23,000.00	\$16,100.00		\$ 16,100.00	
1	1	OUT	Victoria Theater Arts Center (DBA 825 Arts)	825 Arts Artist Membership Program	Special Project	15.25	\$13,000.00		\$6,500.00		\$ 6,500.00
Outside City	2	IN	Festival of Nations MN/ DBA International Festival	2nd Annual International Festival of Minnesota	Special Project	15.2	\$40,000.00	\$28,000.00		\$ 28,000.00	
2	2	IN	Ballet Co. Laboratory	Ballet Co. Laboratory's Ballet Tuesdays at the Landmark Center	Special Project	15.17	\$23,350.00	\$16,345.00		\$ 16,345.00	
Outside City	2	IN	Illusion Theater and School, Inc.	Illusion in St. Paul: Allison Vincent	Special Project	15.17	\$14,550.00	\$10,185.00		\$ 10,185.00	

2	2	IN	Minnesota Landmarks, Inc	Mosaic Festival: Dance and Music of World Cultures	Special Project	15.17	\$15,000.00	\$10,500.00		\$ 10,500.00	
4	2	IN	The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library	2027 Minnesota Book Awards	Special Project	15.17	\$12,500.00	\$8,750.00		\$ 8,750.00	
6	6	OUT	TriLingua Cinema	TriLingua Micro-Cinema Operations Support	Capacity Building	15.17	\$50,000.00		\$24,000.00		\$ 24,000.00
4	2	IN	113	Lowertown Concert Series	Special Project	15	\$10,000.00	\$7,000.00		\$ 7,000.00	
3	3	OUT	Circus of the Star	New Community Vision	Capacity Building	15	\$25,000.00		\$12,500.00		\$ 12,500.00
1	1,2,5	IN	In Progress	The Collective	Special Project	15	\$24,000.00	\$16,800.00		\$ 16,800.00	
2	2	IN	Saint Paul Art Collective	Creative Ecosystem Framework	Capacity Building	15	\$40,000.00	\$28,000.00		\$ 28,000.00	
1	1	OUT	Ethiopian Community in Minnesota	Ethiopian Mural Art Project	Special Project	14.83	\$25,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
Outside City	5	OUT	Japan America Society of Minnesota	Japanese Obon Festival	Special Project	14.83	\$10,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
2	2	IN	Minnesota Boychoir	Youth Song Share	Special Project	14.8	\$32,050.00	\$19,230.00		\$ 19,230.00	
1	2	IN	Reconnect Rondo	Rondo Arts & Culture Night at Winter Carnival	Special Project	14.67	\$50,000.00	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	
Outside City	2	IN	Sheletta Makes A Difference, Inc.	Live from the Cultural District	Special Project	14.67	\$50,000.00	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	
4	2	IN	Chinese American Association of Minnesota Chinese	Exploring Chinese Culture with Young Audiences	Special Project	14.5	\$30,000.00	\$18,000.00		\$ 18,000.00	
2	2	IN	Pan Asian Arts Alliance (PAAA)	Culture in Motion: Food, Fashion & Future	Special Project	14.5	\$25,000.00	\$15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	
2	2	IN	Park Square Theatre	World Premiere Original Musical: THE OSTENTATIOUS OUTLAWS OF NEEHAI VALLEY	Special Project	14.5	\$50,000.00	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	
1	1	OUT	Frogtown Tuned-In	The Sound of Saint Paul: Expanding Cultural Voices Through Community Media	Capacity Building	14.33	\$48,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
2	2	IN	Ramsey County Historical Society	Saint Paul Arts Collective (SPAC) 50th Anniversary Celebration!	Special Project	14.33	\$45,010.00	\$27,006.00		\$ 27,006.00	
1	1	OUT	Vang Council of MN, Inc.	Hmong Cultural and Arts Academy	Special Project	14.33	\$50,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
1	1,2,5	IN	Saint Paul Civic Symphony	SPCS at Landmark 2026-2027	Special Project	14.17	\$29,300.00	\$17,580.00		\$ 17,580.00	
1	1	OUT	ARTS-Us	Black eSTEAM	Special Project	14	\$30,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
1	5	OUT	District 6 Planning Council	Marydale Festival Taste of the North End	Special Project	14	\$10,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
2	2	IN	Saint Paul Festival and Heritage Foundation	Carnival of Cultures	Special Project	14	\$50,000.00	\$30,000.00		\$ 30,000.00	
4	4	OUT	St. Paul Neighborhood Network	SPNN Film Screening: Celebrating local filmmakers	Special Project	14	\$22,880.00		\$0.00		\$ -
5	2	IN	Twin Cities Jazz Society	Jazz from "J to Z" Concert Series	Special Project	14	\$5,400.00	\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	
6	6,4	OUT	Midwest Special Services, Inc.	Mosaic Workshops with Lori Greene	Special Project	13.83	\$9,920.00		\$0.00		\$ -
2	2	IN	Minnesota Museum of American Art	Arts and Cultural Programming and Engagement at the Minnesota Museum of American Art	Special Project	13.17	\$45,000.00	\$22,500.00		\$ 22,500.00	
2	2	IN	Twin Cities In Motion	Art in Motion -" Twin Cities In Motion's "26.2: A Marathon Poster Show"	Special Project	13.17	\$27,550.00	\$13,775.00		\$ 13,775.00	
2	2	IN	Minnesota Children's Museum	Storytelling through Play	Special Project	13	\$40,000.00	\$20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00	
2	2	IN	Science Museum of Minnesota	Beyond the Lab Coat: The Science of Fashion	Special Project	13	\$47,575.00	\$23,787.50		\$ 23,787.50	
4	4	OUT	Youth Performance Company	Teaching Artist Training for Teens	Special Project	12.67	\$8,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
7	7	OUT	Indigenous Roots	Threads of the Ancestors: A Gathering of Peoples	Special Project	12.33	\$46,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
2	2	IN	The Saint Paul Festival Association	Lowertown Sounds	Special Project	12.33	\$40,000.00	\$0.00		\$ -	

1	1,2,4	IN	One Voice Mixed Chorus	"Harmonies of the Sphere" at the Ordway Concert Hall	Special Project	11.83	\$25,000.00	\$0.00		\$ -	
2	2	IN	European Christmas Market	2026 Saint Paul European Christmas Market	Special Project	11.67	\$50,000.00	\$0.00		\$ -	
4	3,4	OUT	St. Paul Ballet	St. Paul Youth Ballet	Special Project	11.33	\$15,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
2	2	IN	Asian Media Access	Place-based Immersive Story Dome	Capital Project	11.17	\$80,000.00	\$0.00		\$ -	
2	2	IN	Ken Takata LLC	Musical Settings for Shakespeare	Special Project	11	\$13,000.00	\$0.00		\$ -	
2	2	IN	With Love	Cultural media studio	Capital Project	11	\$12,500.00	\$0.00		\$ -	
Outside City	1,4	OUT	Our Streets	Open Streets St. Paul University Avenue	Special Project	10.8	\$70,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
1	1	OUT	Osiris Organization	Arts & Cultural Infrastructure Development Project	Capacity Building	10	\$40,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
2	2	IN	St Paul Parks Conservancy	Friends of Pedro Park Programming Fund	Special Project	10	\$8,000.00	\$0.00		\$ -	
2	2	OUT	West Side Boosters Youth Athletic Club, Inc.	Organizational Infrastructure	Capacity Building	8.5	\$45,000.00		\$0.00		\$ -
							\$2,811,323.29	\$1,190,991.00	\$298,390.80	\$1,190,991.00	\$298,390.80
Mayor & City Council Pre-Approved											
2	Citywide		City of Saint Paul - Library Dept.	Saint Paul Public Library Collections Materials	Org Dev	13.60	\$315,000.00			\$315,000.00	

*****Mayor's Recommended Funding- Grand Total**

***Mayor's Recommended Funding Grand Total **includes** projects pre-approved by Mayor & City Council

*****Total Eligible Applications (99)**

IN CD	Out of CD
65	34

***Total Eligible Applications **does not include** projects pre-approved by Mayor & City Council

Total Recommended

Total Declined

Board Recommendations		Mayor's Recommendations	
IN CD	Out of CD	IN CD	Out of CD
58	20	59	20
7	14	7	14

***Board Recommendations **do not include** projects pre-approved by Mayor & City Council