



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

November 13, 2025
Agenda Item No. 5

TO: CITY ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: Library Services Department
Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director
(949) 717-3801, mhartson@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

TITLE: City Arts Commission Statement of FY 2025-26 Funding Opportunities for the Newport Beach Arts Foundation

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend the City Arts Commission approve a funding opportunity proposed by City Arts Commission leadership for submission to the Newport Beach Arts Foundation.

DISCUSSION:

ARTICLE IX of the Newport Beach Arts Foundation's Articles of Incorporation, "Disposition of Funds", stipulates that the Foundation Board of Directors shall request annually from the City of Newport Beach Arts Commission a statement of funding priorities. In lieu of this request, staff has prepared the following funding opportunity for the City Arts Commission to approve for the consideration of the Newport Beach Arts Foundation.

The City Arts Commission respectfully requests \$50,250 from the Newport Beach Arts Foundation for the following:

- Funding the Pacific Symphony concert in August of 2026 as part of the planned inaugural Art Week celebration. The quoted cost of the concert performance is \$45,000. The Pacific Symphony returned to the Summer Concerts on the Green lineup this summer for the first time since 2017 and saw record breaking attendance and rave reviews from attendees. The City Arts Commission would be delighted to have the Pacific Symphony return to kick off Art Week.
- The additional \$5,250 would bring the payment for the bands for the remaining two Concerts on the Green and the Concert at Marina Park from the currently funded \$3,250 per band to \$5,000 per band. The funding for the bands has remained flat for nearly a decade and the increase to \$5,000 would allow the City Arts Commission to have a greater pool of musical acts to choose from and bring new and exciting bands to the City.

If the City Arts Commission approves this funding opportunity, staff recommend this list should be submitted to the Newport Beach Arts Foundation at their scheduled December 2025 meeting.

NOTICING:

This agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Arts Commission considers the item).