

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION
Wednesday, November 15, 2023 | 4:00 PM
City Commission Chambers
AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Welcome new member Danyel Moe
3. Approve Agenda & Minutes.....Action Item
4. Summary of Quarter 2 May Work Session
5. The Arts Partnership – City Arts Partnership 2023 grants overview
6. Staff Report – Project Updates
7. Calendar meetings for 2024
8. Announcements
9. Adjourn – Next Meeting: February 21, 2024
10. Move to Meadowlark Room for work session
 - a. Discussion Work Session: Partnerships and 2024 project development

Arts and Culture Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel TV Fargo 56 and can be seen live by video stream on www.FargoND.gov/streaming. They are rebroadcast each Saturday at 4:00 p.m. Minutes are available on the City of Fargo Web site at www.FargoND.gov/artsandculture.

People with disabilities who plan to attend the meeting and need special accommodations should contact the Planning Office at 701.241.1474 or TDD at 701.241.8258. Please contact us at least 48 hours before the meeting to give our staff adequate time to make arrangements.

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION MINUTES

Regular Meeting:

May 17, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the Commission Chambers at City Hall at 4:00 p.m., May, 17, 2023.

The Arts and Culture Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Deb Williams, Tracy Jordre, Jon Offutt, Joe Williams, Monika Browne-Ecker, Ann Arbor Miller, Brad Bachmeier, Anna Johnson

Absent: Tracy Walvatne

Item 1: Welcome and Introductions

Chair Jordre called the meeting to order and welcomed Members to the meeting.

Item 2: Welcome New Member Anna Johnson

Chair Jordre welcomed new member Anna Johnson to the Board.

Item 3: Approve Agenda & Minutes

Member Brown-Ecker moved to approve the Order of Agenda. Second by Member Offutt. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Member Miller moved the Minutes of the February 15, 2023 Arts and Culture Commission meeting be approved. Second by Member Browne-Ecker. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 4: Public Art Project Highlights

a. Sean Coffman – Presentation of the 2022 Human Rights Film & Arts Festival

Sean Coffman presented on the 2022 Human Rights Film & Arts Festival.

Discussion was held regarding the presentation and when the next Human Rights Film & Arts Festival would be.

Member Johnson noted the next North Dakota Human Rights Film & Art Festival will be the first week of November. She also shared the Fargo-Moorhead LGBTQ Film Festival will be around September 15 to the 17 but is unsure of the exact dates.

Item 5: Summary of Quarter 1 February Work Session

Chair Jordre presented the Summary of the Quarter 1 February Work Session.

Item 6: Staff Report

Planning Coordinator Maegin Elshaug shared that the Believe in Us project is currently being installed at Madison elementary, there will be a community event May 18, 2023 from

5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Madison elementary. She also provided an update on other projects being installed in the community and the maintenance that needs to be done on others.

Planning and Development Director Nicole Crutchfield spoke on the budget process, the Downtown InFocus plan refresh, and the new outreach to be done with the Core Neighborhoods. She also announced that she has asked Chair Jordre to serve on the Growth Plan Advisory Committee.

Item 7: Announcements

Member J. Williams announced the Plains Art Museum had 40 vendors and over 700 people in attendance at the Indigenous Art Fair. He also noted the Plains Art Museum will host the Northern Plains Summer Art Institute which will have a public reception June 30 at 11:30 a.m.

Member Bachmeier shared that the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People panel discussion held at Minnesota State University Moorhead on May 5 was attended by 70 people, and noted they are looking into making this an annual event.

Member Miller stated there are classes and camps for youth, families, and adults at the Plains Art Museum that are still open. She highlighted the free family based program, Summer Quest, is open and to able to register online at plainsart.org.

Member D. Williams announced the utility boxes done with the Fargo Public Schools are being installed at different locations around Fargo.

Member Offutt shared Member Bachmeier was recently the speaker at the FMVA Visual Talk on May 11.

Member Browne-Ecker announced Theatre B was performing “Small Mouth Sounds”, and more information can be found at theatreb.org.

Item 8: Adjourn – Next Meeting: August 16, 2023

The time at adjournment was 4:37 p.m.

Item 9: Move to Meadowlark Room for work session

a. Discussion Work Session: Strategic Planning

MEMORANDUM

TO: Arts and Culture Commission
FROM: Nicole Crutchfield
DATE: November 10, 2023
RE: Summary of Quarter 2 May Work Session

During the May work session, the Arts and Culture Commission's discussion was focused on the 2024 budget updates and strategic goals for 2024 and beyond.

A strategic organization of the ACC work was discussed, to include staffing, projects, operations and governance over the course of the next five years. This is a draft strategic plan that will be used as a frame work moving forward. This strategic timeline was mapped against the recommendations of the Public Art Master Plan pages 48-51). Discussion occurred about revenue funding ideas.

We affirmed that having internal staff support and project navigation support for artists to do work in city hall or within city infrastructure is imperative in defining our goals. Being in a growth mindset since the arts program is still young and obtaining resources to help support more art included in the public realm is our focus. This in essence will help build a program that ultimately supports artists living and thriving in our community well. The City could be well positioned to lead that.

Discussion included a desire to also make sure we're not forgetting initiatives that include our unique culture.

We also discussed the mission statements within the Public Art Master Plan and the Go2030 plans to see if these needed updating. Consensus was that the language was a bit too passive and the artist themselves were not really seen or called out in these missions. It might be hard for an artist to see how they fit in. Also more language is needed as culture bearers and the importance of culture.

The meeting concluded with some brainstorming on future project ideas and updates.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Arts and Culture Commission

FROM: Maegin Elshaug, Planning Coordinator

DATE: August 2, 2023

RE: Staff Report

Arts and Culture Commission meeting update

The August 16, 2023 Arts and Culture Commission meeting will be canceled. We anticipate having both Quarter 3 Partnerships and Quarter 4 Project Review and Evaluation work sessions at the November 15, 2023 meeting. In the meantime, we will reach out with project updates and meeting information as we get closer.

Appointment of Danyel Moe to the ACC

Danyel Moe was recently appointed to the Arts and Culture Commission. Danyel has a background in both marketing and studio art, and is active in the arts community. We are very excited to have Danyel on the board and look forward to introducing her at the next meeting!

Public Art Project Updates

Painting of the water tower near Downtown is occurring now, which is the ground phase. Stenciling and the logo will begin shortly and be painted within the next week or so. Later this fall, the tower will be lifted and aerial painting will occur. We are working with our Communications team to capture video footage.

The bus wrap project is a collaborative project led by Abhijna Kavasseri of the Fargo Youth Initiative in conjunction with the Fargo Sustainability and Resiliency Committee. Currently, they are seeking art submittals from high school students. We will work with Abhijna on coordination with the Arts and Culture Commission and provide updates as we learn more.

Maintenance Update

We are continuing to work with the fabricator for the American Sign Language bike racks on Broadway on repair and repainting, however, it is taking longer than anticipated. We hope to have an update for you soon.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Arts and Culture Commission
FROM: Nicole Crutchfield
DATE: November 10, 2023
RE: Quarter 3 Staff Update

In May you may recall at our ACC meeting we focused on mapping our 5 year work goals and strategic initiatives. We had confirmed that the immediate next 18 months, the focus was on “growth, sustainability and integration of the Arts Commission work”. These 5 goals/projects were confirmed and our 2024 budget request was identified to bring forward in the 2024 budget process.

I wanted to follow up from the impromptu cancellation of the third quarter/August ACC meeting. In July I had a medical emergency that required I take some extended leave which is what caused the need to cancel the August 3rd quarter meeting. Unfortunately I’m not quite back full time. Ironically, the discussion we had at the May board workshop about sustainability and resilience became a more true statement of need.

In lieu of meeting in August and to prep for the forthcoming meeting in November, we wanted to pass along a few updates:

- 1) Staff would like to use remaining consultant contract for communication items to be created for data and story- telling. At the November working session staff will provide an update to this project. So far the staff has uncovered a few barriers and we seek more input from the board.
- 2) The City’s 2024 budget was approved in October this year. As you see referenced in the May ACC meeting, the Planning Department budget requested staff and funds to help provide more consistent full time support for ACC activities. While neither the staff person request nor the set aside for an additional \$100,000 for public art projects were approved, we did get an increase for \$10,000 for maintenance support.
- 3) Existing Projects:
 - a. The 2022-2023 Call for Public Art project installations are nearing the end completion. Two of the 8 projects remain open: Neighborhood Church and Skyway Mosaic.
 - b. The Roger Maris and Believe In Us! projects were completed in the last few months.
 - c. Based on City initiated projects three new projects have come to our attention that we’d like to introduce to you at the November meeting: Bus wrap (Sustainability Committee), NDSU flag banner (project) and Fargo Dome expansion. These projects seek input from the ACC. More info to come.
- 4) Work plan for next 3 -6 months:
 - a. Tactical plan for operational integration (master plan rework)
 - b. Lessons learned from 2022 call
 - c. Operations and maintenance (Hayes, Brookner, Knight)

Part 1: Partnerships: Constellation chart and review of role

As part of the exercise of the PAMP a constellation chart of all of the partners working in the arts community was created. Staff believes this constellation chart needs evaluation and updates based on how our community functions today. This chart is drafted from a point of view where the City of Fargo is at the center. Staff suggests that this chart should be mapped to more accurately represent a different role of the City and to map the community more holistically.

Activity:

What is the City's role and the ACC's role in representing and partnering with arts organizations?

- A. Sponsorship
- B. Collaborator
- C. Leader
- D. Supporter/Navigator
- E. Promoter
- F. Owner

What is the role of City tax dollars?

- A. Originator
- B. Contributor
- C. Instigator/seed money
- D. Sponsor
- E. Gap filler

Meeting goal: At the work session we will spend some time mapping an alternative to the PAMP's version of the constellation chart. Think about your role in the community and what audience or perspective is centered in the chart. Are any organizations or perspectives missing from the chart? Think about the role that is unique to the City of Fargo, are there opportunities to leverage our role?

Part 2: 2024 Work Plan

- Operations and Maintenance
- PAMP update
- Utility box project
- Bus wrap project
- Data work – story telling with deliverable by summer

Possible projects:

- Naming policy
- Fargo Dome
- Land Development Code
- Neighborhood Coalition

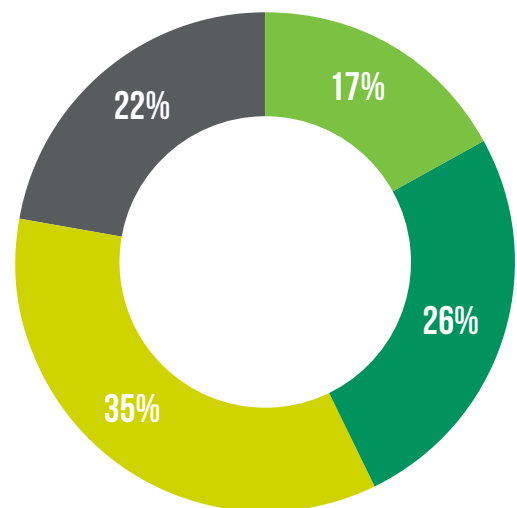
2023 City Arts Partnership Grants

Supporting arts organizations in Fargo, Moorhead and West Fargo

\$92,000 to 23 groups

By Arts Discipline:

- Music
- Arts
- Theater
- Multiple



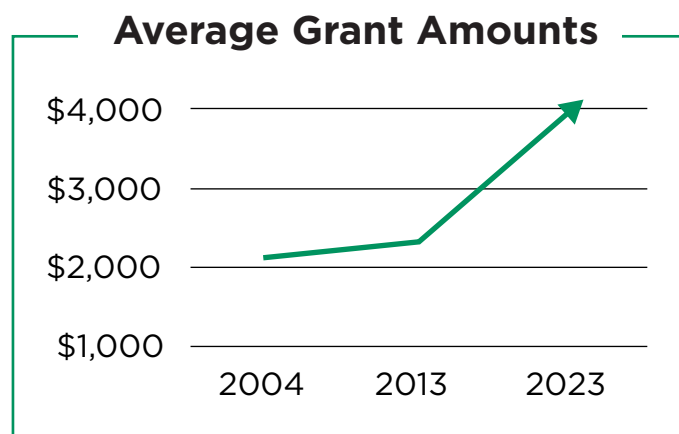
22% of grantees provide **youth-specific programming**

Another **26%** incorporate programs for youth

Below, L-R: Stage West, Kicks Band of FM, FM Opera Company



Average grant amounts have **nearly doubled** in the past 20 years, from \$2,143 in 2004 to **\$4,000 in 2023**.



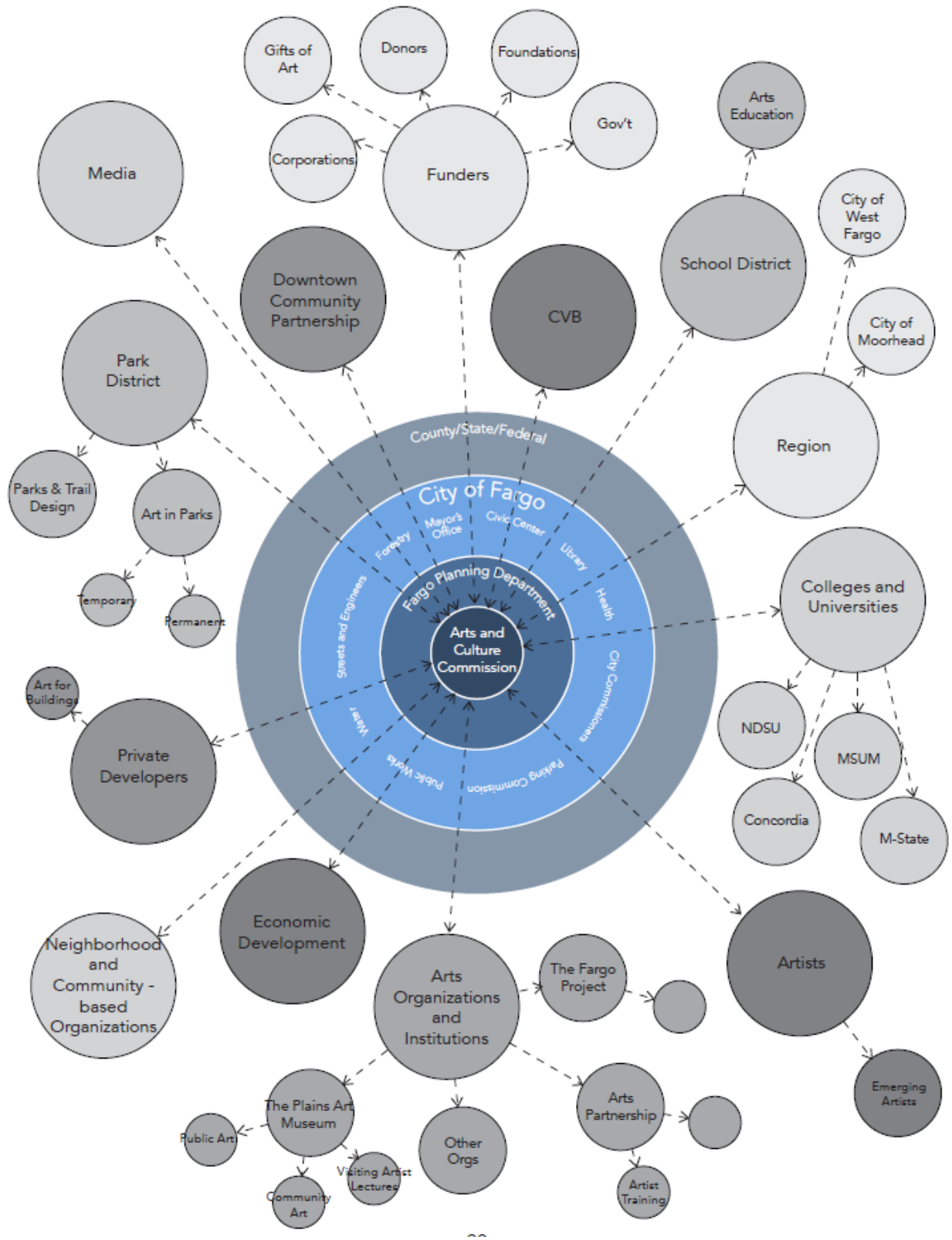
The highest grant amount has more than doubled, from **\$4,000 in 2004 to \$9,250 in 2023**

2023 Grantees

Angels of the Muse.....	\$250	Master Chorale	\$2,000
Fargo Theatre.....	\$5,500	Memorial Union Gallery	\$750
FM Area Youth Symphonies.....	\$3,250	Plains Art Museum.....	\$9,250
FM Choral Artists	\$3,000	Prairie Public Broadcasting.....	\$1,500
FM Opera Company	\$5,500	Rourke Art Museum	\$3,250
FM Symphony.....	\$8,500	Spirit Room	\$3,750
FM Visual Artists.....	\$3,250	Stage West	\$4,000
FM Youth Choir	\$2,000	The Human Family.....	\$4,500
Gooseberry Park Players.....	\$3,750	Theatre B.....	\$5,500
Historical & Cultural Society of Clay Co	\$5,500	Theatre NDSU.....	\$1,200
Kicks Band of FM	\$4,800	Trollwood Performing Art School.....	\$8,500
Learning Bank	\$2,500		

Below, L-R: FM Youth Choir; Rourke Art Museum, Trollwood Performing Art School





Public Art Master Plan Diagram: Constellation of community stakeholders and potential partners (pg 23)

MISSION OF THE PROGRAM

The mission of Fargo’s Public Art Program is to implement the Public Art Master Plan, insuring the City’s ongoing commitment to encouraging and supporting the growth of diverse, high-quality and meaningful public art throughout the City of Fargo.

To fulfill this mission, and **create an all-inclusive public art program that can serve all forms of public art through an accessible and dependable process**, it is critical to thoughtfully approach a set of next steps:

- Outline the public art process
- Identify priority opportunities
- Develop annual program goals, project budgets, and timelines
- Establish a practical and ethical selection methodology
- Determine appropriate maintenance and conservation procedures
- Provide adequate communications, documentation, and evaluation
- Secure adequate funding mechanisms to support program staff, project implementation and related activities, such as communications, education and community engagement

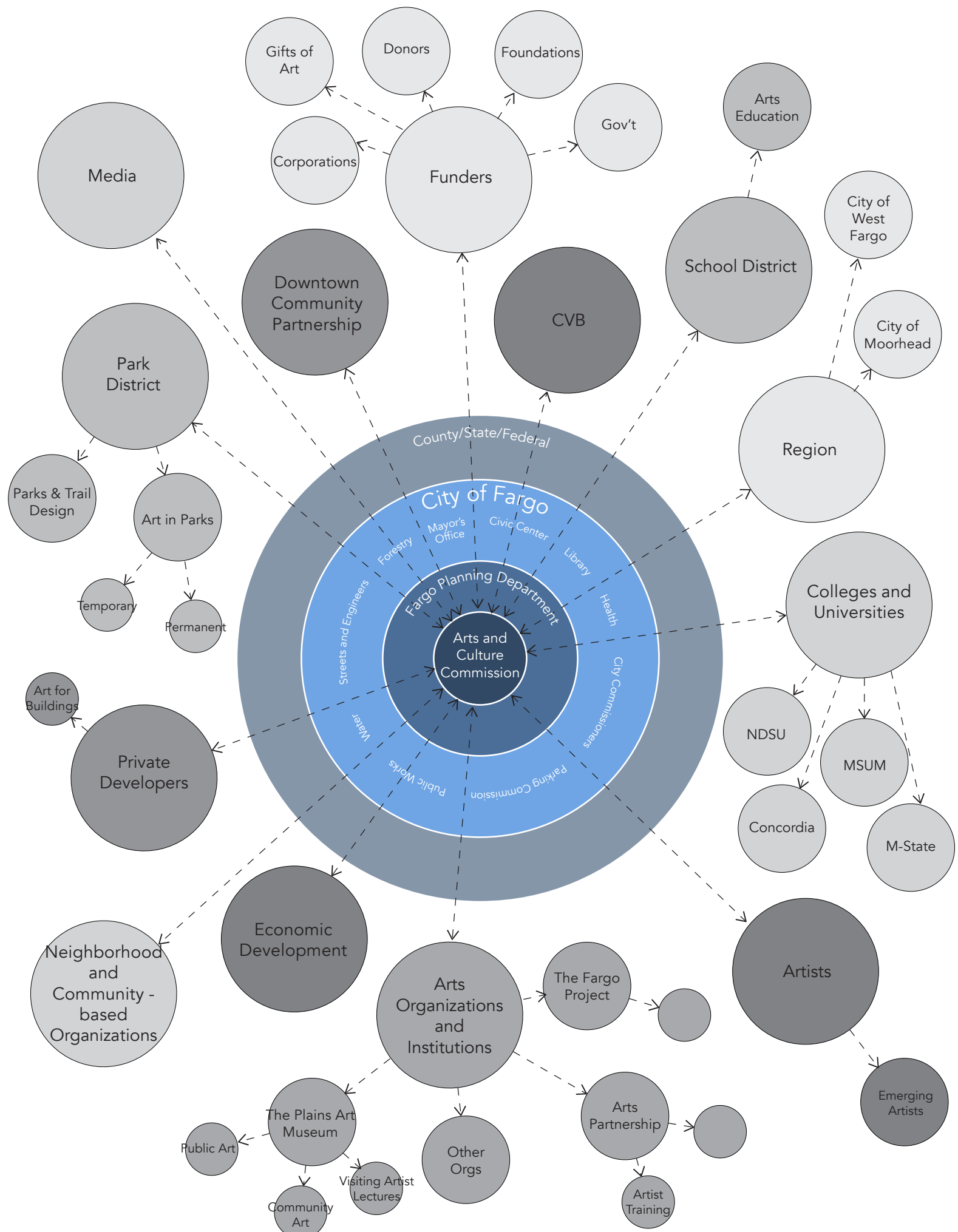
PROGRAM GOALS

Based on the information collected by the Forecast consulting team during the planning process and preliminary goal setting done by the Public Art Taskforce prior to this planning process, a set of ten goals are recommended for Fargo’s Public Art Program. It is critical that these goals are activated through the lens of the following guiding principles:

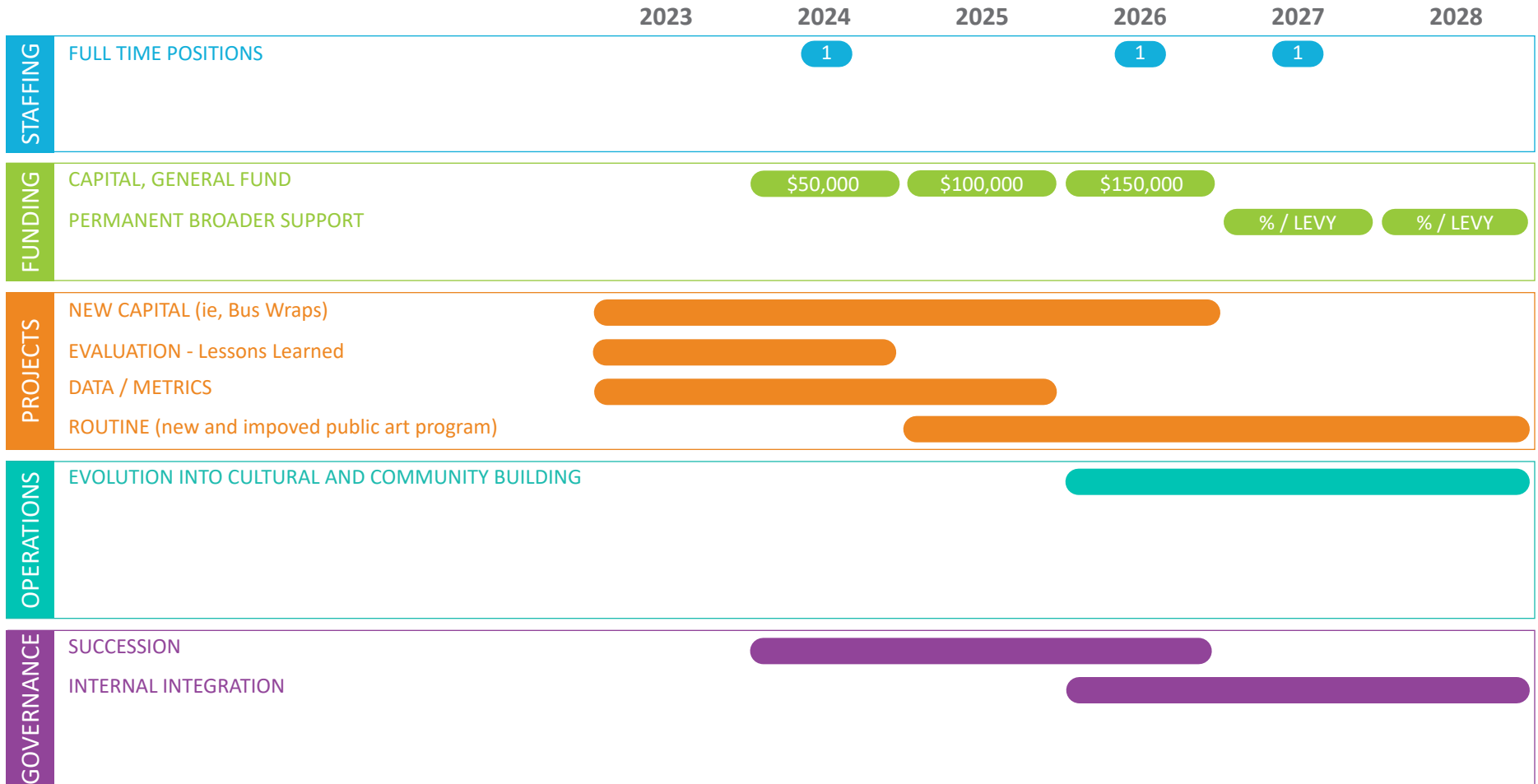
- **Citywide and Regional Mindfulness**
- **Equity, Fairness and Transparency**
- **Cultural Diversity: people of color, new immigrants and indigenous peoples**
- **Education and Lifelong Learning**

- 1. Continue developing current projects**, including art for City Hall, commissioning art for public spaces, and funding independently developed projects by individual artists and teams.
- 2. Build the capacity of the Arts and Culture Commission and the effectiveness of the Public Art Program**, strengthening the Commission’s ability to govern the program, engage with Fargo community members, and serve as ambassadors for public art.
- 3. Provide adequate care and maintenance for City-owned public art**, including documentation and collections management.

Diagram:
Constellation
of community
stakeholders
and potential
partners



STRATEGIC TIMELINE



MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL DEPARTMENTS

FROM: ALBERT GIBSON, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

DATE: NOVEMBER 10, 2023

SUBJECT: 2024 ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

Listed below are the Arts and Culture Commission meeting dates for the calendar year 2024.

2024 Meeting Schedule

Arts and Culture Commission Meetings

February 21

May 15

August 21

November 20

Arts and Culture Commission meetings will be held the
3rd Wednesday Quarterly at 4:00 p.m. in the
Commission Chambers at City Hall.