

June 21, 1996  
CRD/JLK

GREG NICKELS  
INTRODUCED BY:  
PROPOSED NO: 96-554

MOTION NO. **9916**

A MOTION approving an Emergency/Urgent Needs Grant application for the King County Cultural Facilities Program, in accordance with Ordinance 10189.

WHEREAS, the King County arts commission is authorized by Ordinance 10189 to administer projects in the Cultural Facilities Program, and

WHEREAS, the King County arts commission received, reviewed and recommended approval of an application for emergency/urgent need funding from Washington Academy for the Performing Arts in Redmond (summarized in Attachment A), and

WHEREAS, the recommended funding adheres to guidelines and the financial policies approved by the Metropolitan King County council in Motion 8797;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Metropolitan King County Council:

The county executive is hereby authorized to allocate \$30,000 to Washington Academy for the Performing Arts from the Arts and Cultural Development Fund, as listed in the attached funding chart (Attachment B).

PASSED by a vote of 10 to 0 this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1996.

METROPOLITAN  
KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Chair

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Clerk of the Council

Attachments:

- A. Washington Academy for the Performing Arts Project Summary
- B. Funding Chart

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ATTACHMENT A

**King County Arts Commission**  
***CULTURAL FACILITIES PROGRAM***  
***EMERGENCY/URGENT NEEDS REQUEST***

**Washington Academy for the Performing Arts**

May 21, 1996

The King County Arts Commission's Hotel/Motel Committee met on Tuesday, May 14, 1996 to review an Emergency/Urgent Needs application submitted by Washington Academy for the Performing Arts (WAPA) in Redmond. The Committee recommends awarding \$30,000 to WAPA to support its move to a new performing arts studio and teaching facility.

**Washington Academy for the Performing Arts**  
7805 Leary Way  
Redmond, WA 98052  
Incorporated: 1990  
1996 Operating Budget: \$543,000

AWARD: \$30,000

**Organization:** Founded by former Pacific Northwest Ballet Principal Dancer Deborah Hadley, WAPA is a professional caliber education and training academy offering instruction in dance, music, and theatre to persons of all ages and abilities. It has grown in three years to 435 students currently enrolled in all classes, with an outstanding faculty of 34. Last August, WAPA presented "Giselle" and repertory offerings from its first Summer Performance Workshop and drew audiences of 1,340 to Eastlake High School theatre. "Into the Arts" programming, which provides specialized and integrated arts instruction for persons with special needs, is being offered at the CHILD school and Seattle Academy. Constant expansion of its programs, acting as visa sponsors for four Russian faculty members, offering work-study scholarships, and providing "Into the Arts" programs in off-site locations have been important steps to achieving its mission.

**Project:** WAPA current Leary Way facility served the organization well as a first facility. However, the space is limited; the historic building in which WAPA is located cannot be expanded, and due to its age, the 1908 building has inherent liabilities that cannot be overcome.

In searching for new space, WAPA learned how tight and expensive the Redmond real estate market is. However, one of the few suitable spaces that was coming available was an already outfitted commercial dance studio, the owners of which were looking to sell and retire. This project will enable WAPA to: 1) rent an already outfitted dance studio (and pay a "fixture fee" as part of the cost); 2) rent and expand into an adjacent warehouse space which is needed to accommodate WAPA's music, theatre and special needs classes; and 3) add 400 new students, who formerly took class at the commercial studio. WAPA is unlikely to find a space that so perfectly meets its needs.

**Nature of the Emergency:** WAPA's lease expires in January of 1997. The Board realized that the present facility could not meet WAPA's future space needs. The Space Search Committee began looking for new space, knowing that WAPA would not be re-newing the lease on the current space. The Space Committee learned about the availability of the commercial dance space shortly after the first of the year. Negotiations with the owners of the studios proceeded quietly at the owners request. WAPA was asked not to announce the transaction until after the negotiations were completed in March. As a result, WAPA could not

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apply for Cultural Facilities Program funding through the normal cycle, which had its application deadline in December. The new space will be WAPA's as of July 1st. For the new facility to meet its programming needs, WAPA must expand into an adjacent warehouse space to accommodate the music, theatre and special needs programs, which would not fit into the dance studios. It is to renovate the additional space that the Urgent Need request has been made. The total cost of the renovation is \$230,000. WAPA has asked for \$30,000. If WAPA cannot fully renovate the warehouse space as soon as possible, the costs of carrying the unused space will become a severe economic hardship.

**Recommendation:** The Urgent Need arises out of the timing of the project. The space WAPA has found is ideal to meet its needs. It cannot afford to miss the opportunity to secure this site, but it also cannot afford to wait until the next application cycle in December to find out if the Cultural Facilities Program will support the project. WAPA is a suburban arts organization that has grown tremendously in its brief history. The demand for its classes clearly indicates that WAPA is filling a void.

#### **ACTION**

The King County Arts Commission recommends an award of \$30,000 to Washington Academy for the Performing Arts to renovate a new and expanded performing arts teaching and rehearsal studio in Redmond.

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**ATTACHMENT B**

**King County Arts Commission  
Cultural Facilities Program**

**1996 HOTEL/MOTEL FUNDS**  
**EMERGENCY/URGENT NEEDS**

**Emergency/Urgent Needs Funds**

Balance at the close of 1995:	\$74,236
1996 Allocation:	\$66,264
Total Available for 1996 Emergencies/Urgent Needs:	<b>\$140,500</b>
Recommended On the Boards Award:	\$100,000
Balance after On the Boards allocation:	\$40,500
Washington Academy for the Performing Arts award:	<b>\$30,000</b>
Balance:	\$10,500