



Office of the County Executive
Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

May 5, 2023

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No.	<u>230174</u>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County	
Committee Assignment	
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To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Authorize Contracts with Vendors for 2023 Community Festival Support and Revise the Definition of Mid-Sized Arts Organizations in the 2023 Monroe County Budget

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body authorize contracts with the agencies listed in Attachment A in a total amount not to exceed \$140,000 for 2023 Community Festivals for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 and amend the definition of Mid-Sized Arts Support to include cultural organizations with annual budgets between \$50,000 and \$4,000,000.

This is the first year Monroe County has offered Community Festival Support, as outlined in the 2023 Monroe County Budget. In total, twenty-four (24) festivals will be funded at an amount not to exceed \$296,300, of which three (3) festivals were selected to receive support exceeding \$20,000.

The festivals were selected through a competitive application process. Festivals were required to apply for funding under one or more of the following four (4) categories pursuant to County Law § 224: (1) Events or festivals related to armistice, memorial, or other recognized national patriotic observance; (2) Events or festivals that commemorate historical events of county-wide interest and concern; (3) Events or festivals that provide for the maintenance and operation of a professional symphony or philharmonic orchestra, musical festival, or vocal, dance, drama, or performing arts troupe, group, or activity of any kind or nature; and/or (4) Events or festivals that publicize the advantages of the county. Additional requirements were also established related to event date, location, size, and cost.

Additionally, the definition of Mid-Sized Arts Support will be expanded to include cultural organizations with annual budgets between \$50,000 and \$4,000,000. The current definition only supports organizations with budgets of \$100,000 to \$1,500,000. Expanding this definition will create opportunities that are more equitable and expand eligibility for arts and cultural funding. Applications for mid-sized arts support is expected to launch in summer of 2023.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute contracts, and any amendments thereto, with each approved agency as listed in Attachment A for community festival support in a total amount not to exceed \$140,000 for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.
2. Amend the 2023 Monroe County Budget to expand the definition of Mid-Sized Arts Support from contributions for arts and cultural organizations with annual budgets between \$100,000 and \$1.5 million to contributions for arts and cultural organizations with annual budgets between \$50,000 and \$4 million.

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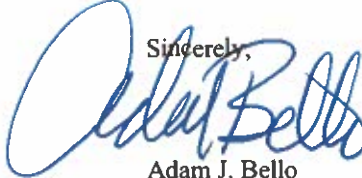
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This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(21) ("minor temporary uses of land having negligible or no permanent impact on the environment") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Funding for these contracts is included in the 2023 operating budget of the Monroe County Cultural and Educational Services, general fund 9001, funds center 8902010000, Authorized Agencies. No additional net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

Each of these agencies has been reviewed for not-for-profit or corporate status and the records in the Office of the Monroe County Treasury have indicated that none of these agencies owe any delinquent Monroe County property taxes.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,


Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

AJB:db

Attachment A:

Community Festival Support – Organizations and Festivals to receive MORE THAN \$20,000

Rochester Fringe Festival	2023 Rochester Fringe Festival	\$30,000
Rochester International Jazz Festival, LLC	Rochester International Jazz Festival	\$75,000
19th Ward Community Association	2023 Rochester Juneteenth Festival	\$35,000
		\$140,000