

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS, FY 2019

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Budget Justifications
Fiscal Year 2019

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COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

General Statement

The Commission of Fine Arts was established in 1910 (40 U.S.C. 9101) to fill the need for a permanent agency whose members would be qualified to make available to the Government expert opinion on questions of art and architecture. The Commission's mission is to safeguard and improve the appearance and symbolic significance of Washington, D.C., as the national capital city, for the benefit of the citizens of the United States, and foreign visitors. Specifically, the Commission provides knowledgeable advice, as design proposals are brought before it, on matters pertaining to architecture, landscape architecture, sculpture, painting, and the decorative arts to all branches and departments of the Federal and District of Columbia governments when such matters affect the National Capital. The Commission also must approve of the site and design of all commemorative works and memorials erected in the District of Columbia.

In addition, the Commission advises on the design of circulating and commemorative coinage and must approve the siting and design for national memorials, both in the United States and on foreign soil, in accordance with the Commemorative Works Act and the American Battle Monuments Act.

The Commission is composed of seven members appointed by the President. They serve without compensation, receiving only actual travel expenses relative to attending meetings. Since the Commission's inception, many distinguished architects, landscape architects, painters, sculptors, planners, and others in the field of fine arts have given freely of their time, experience, and professional skills in advising the President, the Congress, and government agencies, both local and national, on matters involving the fine arts.

Specific functions as mandated by law require the Commission to:

- Advise executive departments of the Federal Government on any matters of an aesthetic nature, especially those pertaining to architecture and landscape programs that affect the appearance of the national capital city.
- Advise on any matters of an aesthetic nature that may be put forward by committees of the Congress.
- Advise the President and members of the administration on aesthetic matters upon their request.
- Advise on the design of medals, seals, insignia, and circulating and commemorative coinage.
- Approve submissions by the American Battle Monuments Commission on matters pertaining to the location and design of memorials both foreign and domestic.
- Approve submissions under the Commemorative Works Act on matters pertaining to the location and design of memorials in and around the national capital city.

- Advise the Secretary of the Army on matters pertaining to the location and design of memorials and monuments in Arlington National Cemetery.
- Advise the District of Columbia Government on all public construction, as well as private construction and the display of advertising in certain areas of the city as designated by Congress under the Shipstead-Luce and Old Georgetown Acts.
- Advise the Department of State through Section 206 of the Foreign Missions Act on foreign chanceries in all areas under the jurisdiction of the Commission, including the International Center and the Foreign Missions Center.
- Advise the National Capital Planning Commission in the selection of lands suitable for the development of the park, parkway, and playground system of the national capital city.

The Commission has administered the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs program since 1988, which was created by the Congress to support local nonprofit cultural institutions whose primary purpose is the presentation, exhibition, or performance of the arts at a professional level of quality in the national capital city.

In addition to those functions mandated by law, the Commission of Fine Arts approves acquisitions as proposed by the Freer Gallery of Art for its permanent collection in accordance with a codicil to the will of Charles Lang Freer.

Program Summary by Budget Activity
(dollar amounts in thousands)

Appropriation	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 CR Base line*	FY 2019 Request	FY 2019 Change from FY 2018
Salaries and Expenses	2,762	2,762	2,771	+9
FTE	12	12	12	0
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs	2,000	2,000	0	0
FTE	--	--	--	--

* Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

Highlights of the FY 2019 Request

The Commission of Fine Arts requests a FY 2019 Salaries and Expenses appropriation of \$2,771,000 for the expenses of the Commission members and the salaries and related costs necessary to support a small staff and maintain an efficient level of operations. This appropriation request represents an increase of \$9,000 above the FY 2017 actual appropriation and above the FY 2018 annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions (CR baseline level).

This increase will help cover increasing costs of employee benefits, the annualization of the 2018 cost-of-living adjustment, support services provided by the Department of the Interior, and other goods and services (including charges for the production of financial reports for the annual audit).

For FY 2019, we estimate the Agency’s uncontrollable cost increases total \$16,000. These cost increases include: \$7,000 for personnel compensation and benefits due to the cost-of-living pay raises; \$9,000 in charges for the Department of the Interior services, including financial management, personnel services. These cost increases will be offset by reductions in expenditures for supplies and materials and in other categories of expenditure.

No funding is requested for the FY 2019 National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program in FY 2019.

Appropriation Language Sheet

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Salaries and Expenses

For expenses of the Commission of Fine Arts under Chapter 91 of title 40, United States Code, \$ 2,771,000 [2,762,000]: *Provided*, That the Commission is authorized to charge fees to cover the full costs of its publications, and such fees shall be credited to this account as an offsetting collection, to remain available until expended without further appropriation. *Provided further*, That the Commission is authorized to accept gifts, including objects, papers, artwork, drawings and artifacts that pertain to the history and design of the Nation's Capital or the history and activities of the Commission of Fine Arts, for the purpose of artistic display, study or education.

Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
 Salaries and Expenses
Uncontrollable and Related Cost Changes
 (dollar amounts in thousands)

Additional cost in FY 2018 *:

		2018 2019
	<u>CR</u>	<u>Baseline</u> <u>Change</u>
Includes a 1.6 percent pay increase in FY 2018 and an anticipated 1.9 percent pay increase in FY 2019.....	\$1,393	/ +\$7

The amount displayed represents the additional costs of funding estimated pay increases for GS-series employees and the net increases of pay rate changes made in other pay series.

		2018 2019
	<u>CR</u>	<u>Baseline</u> <u>Change</u>
Administrative Support Services — Interior	\$168	/ +\$9

The change reflects the expected increases in the charges for the Department of the Interior services, including financial management, personnel services, legal, and other support agreements (includes charges for the production of financial reports for the annual audit).

TOTAL UNCONTROLLABLE COST INCREASES		+16
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* Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

Justification of Program and Performance

Activity: Salaries and Expenses

	<u>FY 2017 Actual</u>	<u>FY 2018 CR Baseline *</u>	<u>Uncontrollable Changes</u>	<u>Program Changes</u>	<u>FY 2019 Request</u>	<u>Change From FY 2018</u>
(\$000)	2,762	2,762	0	0	2,771	+9
FTE	12	12	0	0	12	0

* Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

Authorization: 40 U.S.C. 104.

Program change from FY 2017 Enacted Budget: The Commission of Fine Arts requests a FY 2019 Salaries and Expenses appropriation of \$2,771,000 for the expenses of the Commission members and the salaries and related costs necessary to support a small staff and maintain an efficient level of operations. This appropriation request represents an increase of \$9,000 above the FY 2017 actual appropriation and above the FY 2018 annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions (CR baseline level).

This increase will help cover increasing costs of employee benefits, the annualization of the 2018 cost-of-living adjustment, support services provided by the Department of the Interior, and other goods and services (including charges for the production of financial reports for the annual audit).

For FY 2019, we estimate the Agency’s uncontrollable cost increases total \$16,000. These cost increases include: \$7,000 for personnel compensation and benefits due to the cost-of-living pay raises; \$9,000 in charges for the Department of the Interior services, including financial management, personnel services. These cost increases will be offset by reductions in expenditures for supplies and materials and in other categories of expenditure.

The objectives of the Commission of Fine Arts staff are:

- To support the Commission which provides expert advice on architecture and art to the President, Congress, and various agencies of the Federal and District governments on proposed projects and existing conditions in the National Capital so as to safeguard and enhance the appearance and symbolic significance of Washington, D.C. This expertise is

provided by seven Presidentially appointed, well-qualified judges of the arts who are supported by the small professional staff that oversees its continued operation.

- To assist the Commission and provide a professional level of artistic advice through review and liaison with the District of Columbia and Federal governments; to provide the administrative services that are required to support the Commission and communicate the advice of the Commission; and to keep accurate records of the Commission's actions.
- To provide professional support to the Commission in the administration of its approval authority over the design and location of battle monuments and commemorative works as required by the specific statutes authorizing them.
- To produce research on buildings, historic precincts, and general plans of the city of Washington. To make historical and architectural information generally available to the public, to other government agencies, and to the Commission. To identify buildings and areas of lasting merit so as to avoid destruction or impairment of those resources as plans evolve for the city. The specially trained staff of architects and historians performing this documentation and planning work is also available to the Commission on a case-by-case basis to provide supporting material on proposed projects, sometimes on very short notice.

Program Activities:

- The Commission of Fine Arts, an independent agency, reviews proposals affecting the appearance of Washington, D.C., and advises the President, the Congress, and the agencies of the Federal and District of Columbia governments on architectural designs and other matters of art. It also conducts liaison, research, and publication activities to further support the enhancement and preservation of the city. The Commission's approval on design and location of monuments and memorials is required as specified under the Commemorative Works Act and the American Battle Monuments Act.
- The Commission provides advice on the development of Washington through study, inspection, research, and expert consultation. The Commission maintains continual involvement in ongoing projects such as the International Center, the Foreign Missions Center, the Federal Triangle, the Saint Elizabeths campus for the headquarters of the Department of Homeland Security, Southwest Waterfront, and other special areas of the city, and publishes studies on the historical development of Washington. Some of the material assembled is published so as to be permanently available to government agencies as well as the general public.
- The Commission provides advice on design, planning, and historic preservation to the Federal and District of Columbia governments as well as to committees of Congress, which may have questions on matters specific to Washington or relating to their members' respective home states.

- The Commission, in its advisory and approval capacities, does not originate design projects; it is the recipient of project proposals. As the recipient, the Commission's activities are subject to the needs of other agencies, Federal and local, as well as those of private entities. Government construction projects materialize in response to the individual sponsors' needs and their schedules cannot be anticipated by the Commission. The initiation of private construction projects is even less predictable. The Commission must therefore be flexible by necessity. It remains effective and efficient despite having no control over the number of proposals brought before it nor the relative size and importance of each item submitted. The Commission reviews 100 percent of all proposals submitted for review within 45 days of receipt.

- The total number of all cases submitted to the Commission for review in FY 2017 was 778. Compared to the 543 cases submitted in FY 2009, this represented an increase in the last eight years of more than *43 percent*. The number of Shipstead-Luce Act cases submitted was 197 in FY 2017, an increase of approximately *13 percent* above the submissions reviewed in FY 2016, and *86 percent* above the 106 submissions reviewed in FY 2009; and for the Old Georgetown Act, the 385 submissions reviewed in FY 2017 represent an increase of more than *11.3 percent* above those reviewed in FY 2016, and more than *34 percent* above the 287 submissions received in FY 2009. Overall, the total number of cases submitted and reviewed has increased by approximately *5 percent* per year for the last eight years.

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)

Identification code 95-2600-0-1-451	2017 Actual	2018 CR Baseline*	2019 Request
Obligations by program activity:			
10.00 Total obligations.....	3	3	3
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	3	3	3
23.95 New obligations.....	-3	-3	-3
New budget authority (gross), detail:			
40.00 Appropriation	3	3	3
Change in unpaid obligations:			
73.10 New obligations.....	3	3	3
73.20 Total outlays (gross).....	-3	-3	-3
Outlays (gross), detail:			
86.90 Outlays from new current authority...	3	3	3
Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00 Budget authority	3	3	3
90.00 Outlays (net)	3	3	3

* Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Object Classification (in thousands of dollars)

Identification code 95-2600-0-1-451	2017	2018	2019
	Actual	CR Baseline*	Request
Personnel compensation:			
11.1 Full-time permanent	1,414	1,373	1,380
11.3 Full-time temporary	0	0	0
11.5 Other personnel compensation	25	20	20
11.9 Total personnel compensation	1,439	1,393	1,400
12.0 Personnel benefits: Civilian.....	455	458	484
12.1 Workers Compensation Payments.....	62	62	62
21.0 Travel and transportation of persons	55	63	60
22.0 Transportation of things.	6	7	6
23.1 Rental payments to GSA	183	183	182
23.1 Security charges to DHS	31	31	30
23.3 Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	65	65	66
24.0 Printing and reproduction	26	28	25
25.0 Purchases of goods and services.....	413	440	433
26.0 Supplies and materials.....	17	20	16
31.0 Equipment	10	12	7
99.9 Total obligations.....	2,762	2,762	2,771

* Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Personnel Summary

Identification code 95-2600-0-1-451	2017 Actual	2018 CR Baseline	2019 Request
Total compensable work-years:			
Full-time equivalent employment.....	12	12	12
Full-time equivalent overtime and holiday hours	0	0	0
TOTAL:	12	12	12

Appropriation Language Sheet

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs

No funding is requested for this grant program currently administered by the Commission of Fine Arts.

Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

Justification of Program and Performance

Activity: Grants

	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 CR Baseline*	Uncontrollable Changes	Program Changes	FY 2019 Request
(\$000)	2,000	2,000	0	-2,000	0
FTE	--	--	--	--	--

* Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.

Authorization: 99 Stat. 1261; 20 U.S.C. 956a

Objectives: The FY 1988 Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act transferred administrative responsibility for the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs program from the National Endowment for the Humanities to the Commission of Fine Arts. This program provides formula based grants for general operating support to District of Columbia non-profit arts and other cultural organizations. Eligible organizations must have an annual income, exclusive of Federal or pass-through Federal funds, in excess of \$1 million for each of the three years prior to their application for the grant. Grant awards are based on a formula in which 70 percent of the total funds appropriated for the fiscal year are distributed equally among all eligible organizations submitting applications, and the remaining 30 percent of the funds are distributed based on the amount of the organization's total annual income, exclusive of Federal funds, in proportion to the combined total of the annual income, exclusive of Federal funds, of all eligible organizations submitting applications. No organization will receive a grant larger than \$650,000.

No funding is requested for the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Grant Program that is administered by the Commission of Fine Arts.

Activities: In FY 2017, this program helped support 22 nationally renowned organizations in the National Capital, providing funding for operating expenses, staff, exhibits, and performances.

In FY 2017, \$2,000,000 in grants was awarded to the following 22 organizations.

FY 2017 NCACA Grant Recipients	GRANT	Grant as % of Operating Income*
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts:	\$301,712.54	0.22%
Washington National Opera:	\$112,119.32	0.40%
Arena Stage:	\$103,967.81	0.45%
National Symphony Orchestra:	\$99,946.79	0.48%
Shakespeare Theatre:	\$98,027.42	0.50%
Folger Shakespeare Library:	\$97,976.24	0.50%
National Museum of Women in the Arts:	\$93,588.17	0.55%
Phillips Collection:	\$90,427.79	0.59%
Washington Ballet:	\$83,698.75	0.73%
Ford's Theatre:	\$83,267.83	0.74%
National Building Museum:	\$77,101.58	1.00%
Washington Performing Arts Society:	\$77,063.71	1.00%
Studio Theatre:	\$73,978.54	1.25%
Woolly Mammoth Theatre Co.:	\$70,406.34	1.82%
Choral Arts Society:	\$69,027.65	2.24%
Atlas Performing Arts Center	\$68,166.45	2.63%
Washington Chorus (The)	\$67,547.12	3.02%
Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens:	\$67,411.92	3.12%
Dance Place (DC Wheel Productions)	\$66,747.16	3.75%
Gala Hispanic Theatre:	\$66,124.42	4.65%
Cathedral Choral Society	\$65,852.09	5.20%
Step Afrika!	\$65,840.33	5.22%
TOTAL GRANTS:	\$2,000,000.00	

* Operating income exclusive of other Federal or pass-through Federal funds.

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)

Identification code 95-2602-0-1-503	2017 Actual	2018 CR Baseline*	2019 Request
Obligations by program activity:			
10.00 Total obligations.....	2	2	0
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
22.00 New budget authority (gross)	2	2	0
23.95 New obligations.....	-2	-2	-0
New budget authority (gross), detail:			
40.00 Appropriation	2	2	0
Change in unpaid obligations:			
73.10 New obligations.....	2	2	0
73.20 Total outlays (gross).....	-2	-2	-0
Outlays (gross), detail:			
86.90 Outlays from new current authority...	2	2	0
Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00 Budget authority	2	2	0
90.00 Outlays (net)	2	2	0

* Note.—A full-year 2018 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the budget was prepared; therefore, the account is operating under a continuing resolution (P.L. 115-56, as amended by P.L. 115-96 and P.L. 115-120). The amounts included for 2018 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolutions.