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City of Coeur d'Alene Arts Commission Announces Inaugural Art Spotlight CDA Recipients

The City of Coeur d'Alene Arts Commission is pleased to announce the first recipients of its new *Art Spotlight CDA* program grants, created to support the performing arts in our community.

Art Spotlight CDA invited local performing arts organizations to apply for funding to support theatre, dance, music, and opera productions, as well as related programming. The inaugural grant cycle will run from November 2025 through October 2026, with an option for a second year of support through October 2027.

The program provides a total of \$15,000 in funding, with selected organizations receiving \$5,000 or \$7,500 in the first year. A second-year grant may be awarded for the same project, subject to the approval of the Selection Committee, Arts Commission, and City Council.

Recipients of the inaugural *Art Spotlight CDA* program were announced at the October 7, 2025, City Council meeting:

- **Lake City Playhouse** plans to launch an Education Program with two core components: a middle school afterschool program, and a teen board that develops leadership skills, as well as the creation of a student-led production where storytelling and imagination take center stage.
- **The Music Conservatory of Coeur d'Alene** will establish a Youth Music Scholarship Fund to assist low-income families, ensuring equitable access to high-quality music education for all students.
- **CDA Summer Theatre** will enhance its Musical Theatre Training Institute through a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club, offering youth programming, seasonal camps, and pop-up workshops. The grant will also allow them to purchase portable equipment such as a digital piano, sound system, and stage lighting.

Each organization will receive \$5,000 to support their upcoming initiatives.

“As an Arts Commissioner, I’m thrilled to see the very first Art Spotlight CDA grants going to such inspiring projects,” said Mary Lee Ryba, Coeur d’Alene Arts Commissioner. “Each of these initiatives expands opportunities for youth---whether it’s learning theatre skills, accessing music education, or experiencing hands-on training in musical theatre. These investments will not only enrich young lives but also strengthen the cultural fabric of our entire community.”

Through the Art Spotlight CDA program, the City of Coeur d’Alene reaffirms its commitment to nurturing the performing arts and fostering vibrant cultural experiences for residents and visitors alike.

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