



Arts & Culture FY 2026 Proposed Budget

City Council Budget Work Session
Presented by Krystal Jones, Director
September 2, 2025



Overview



- Department Overview
- FY 2026 Proposed Budget
- Performance Measures
- FY 2026 Overview

Department Overview

Enrich quality of life by leading and investing in San Antonio's arts and culture.



Grants
Management



Cultural Events
& Exhibits

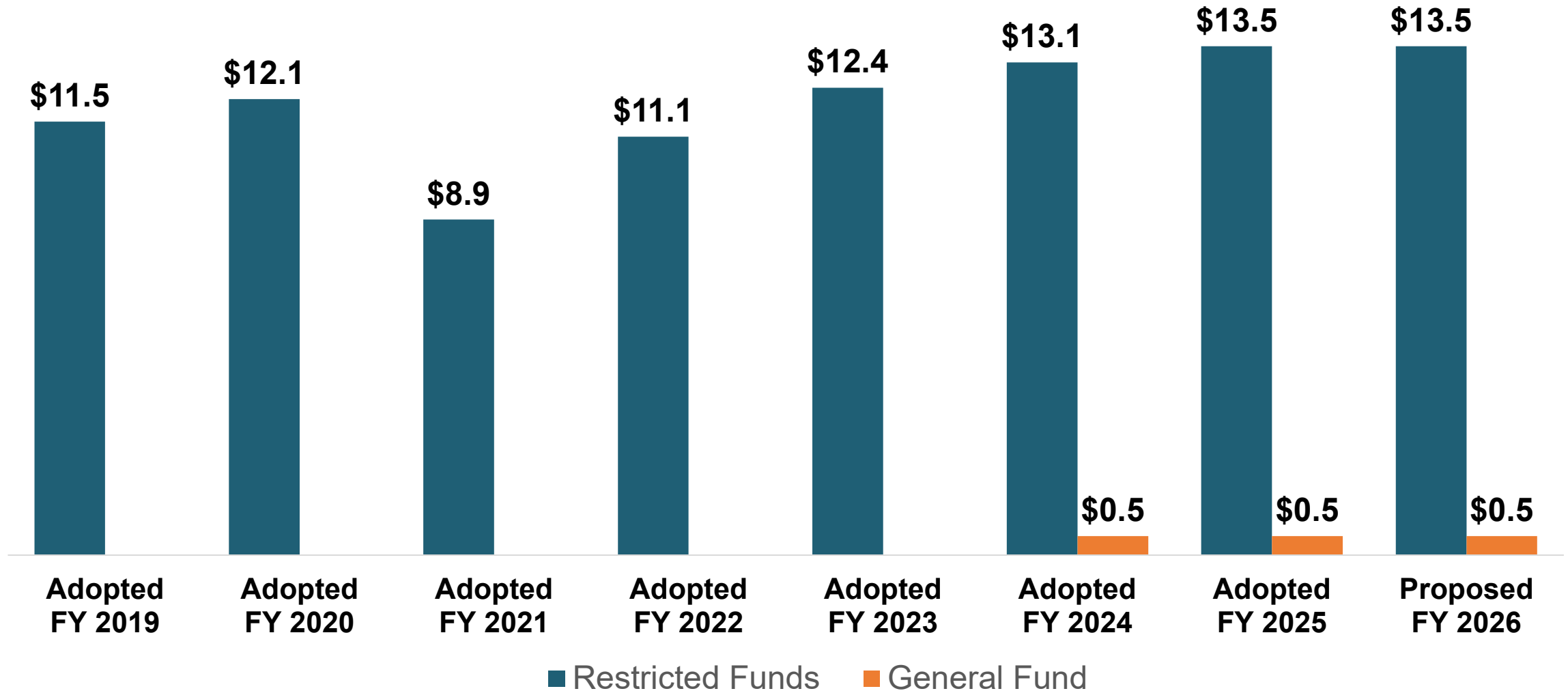


Public Art



Marketing, Film
& Music

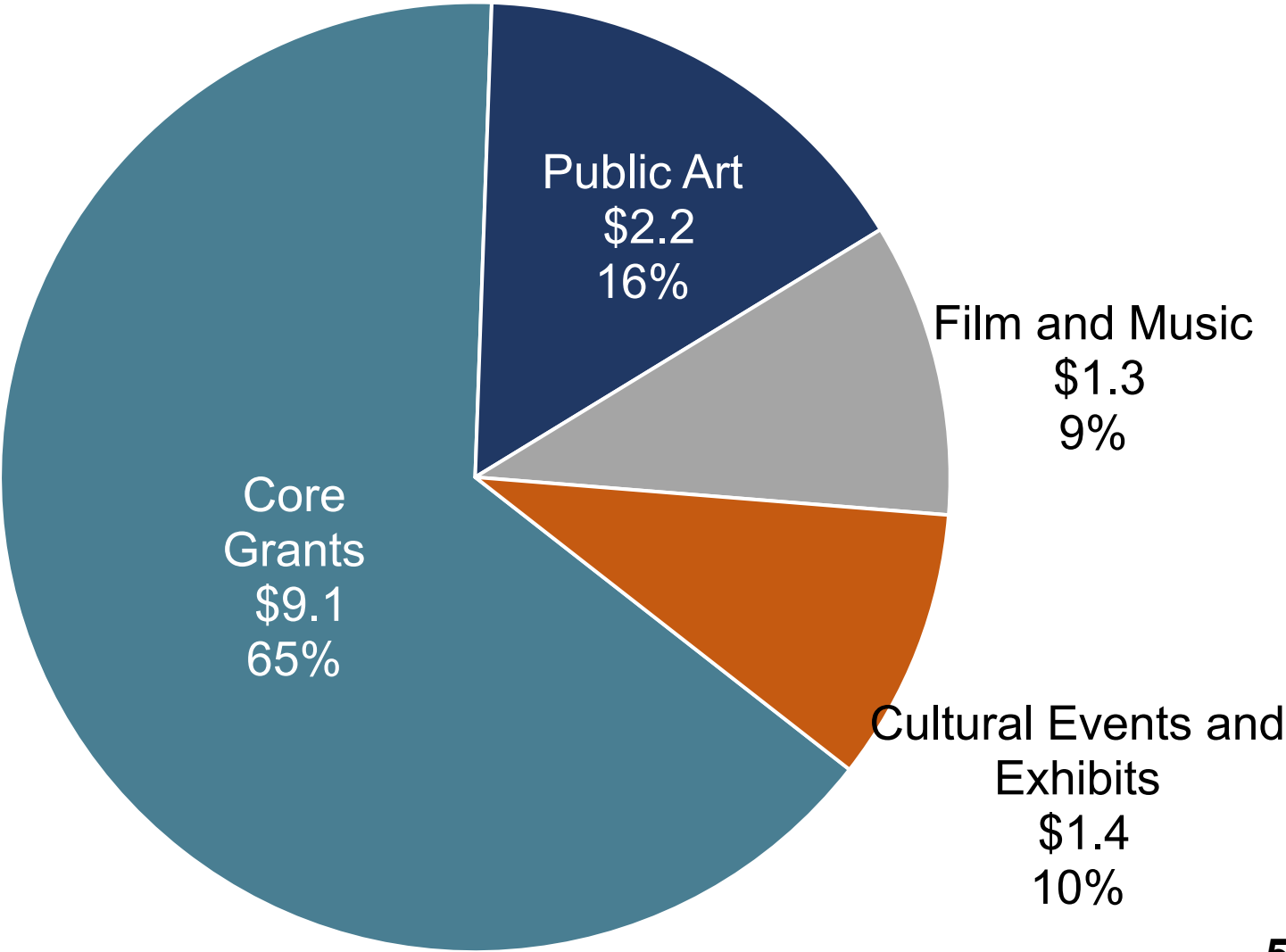
Arts and Culture Budget History (\$ in Millions)



FY 2026 Proposed Budget: \$14 Million

Fund (\$ in Millions)	FY 2026 Proposed
Restricted Fund	\$13.5
General Fund – Arts Maintenance	0.5
Total	\$14.0

Positions	
Arts & Culture	24
Total	24



FY 2026 Arts Funding: Year 2 of 3-Year Cycle

\$6.2M to 41 Operational Grantees

- San Antonio-based arts nonprofit
- 3 years arts programming
- Grants based on % total operating expenses
- Graduated scale

Remaining \$874K

- Present recommendations to City Council in the Fall

\$158K to 25 Events

- San Antonio nonprofit
- Producing an arts or cultural event in San Antonio
- Competitive process
- Max award 20% of total event budget



FY 2026 Arts Funding: Artist Grants

- San Antonio-based artists
- \$7,500 and \$15,000 grants to create new works
- Annual, competitive process
- Projects must be presented in the San Antonio community

“This was an incredibly healing experience for me, my family, and how I see my art. My project also connected me with professors and curators I hadn't met yet, which brought invites to shows and teaching spaces in San Antonio, West Texas, and the Rio Grande Valley.”

– Beto DeLeón, District 5 Artist; Project Premiered in District 3.



Pamela Martinez



Josh Glenn

FY 2026 Artist Development

Workshops / Conferences Focused On:

- Grant writing
- Artist statements
- Marketing
- Contracts
- Business development
- Entrepreneurship

Includes:

- Artists Thrive Annual Summit, March 2026
- Artist Inc Express, Summer 2026



ARTIST INC

EXPRESS

Public Art: Celebrating 30 Years in 2026

New Public Art

- 7 dedications planned
- 50 Projects in Progress (Now – 2028)
- 8 Art as Shade Projects

Public Art Maintenance

- **Target:** 22 projects
- Collection management system – Spring



Windows to Our Heritage (Before & After Images)



Ismani Sun & Andrea Jacobson, Peggy Dr.



“I was just so overwhelmed when I first saw it...I am so glad that we participated in the process of what that should be and what it should look like.”
– San Antonio resident Brenda Pacheco on in-progress Mission and Huff artwork by Ashley Perez (pictured)

Department Events

Target:

- 26 events
- 35,000 attendees
- 87 artists showcased

Includes:

- Public Art Dedications
- Exhibit Openings
- Artist Talks & Workshops
- Film Coffee Talks
- Panel Discussions

Cuentos y Arte
Mexican American Folktales of the Southwest
Curated by Rebecca Gomez

Madre-Land
South Texas Memory & the Art of Making Home
Curated by Bonnie Cisneros

Exhibitions on View through
February 22, 2026

CENTRO DE ARTES
SAN ANTONIO

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
ARTS & CULTURE

Highlight: Film & Music

FY 2025 Film Highlights:

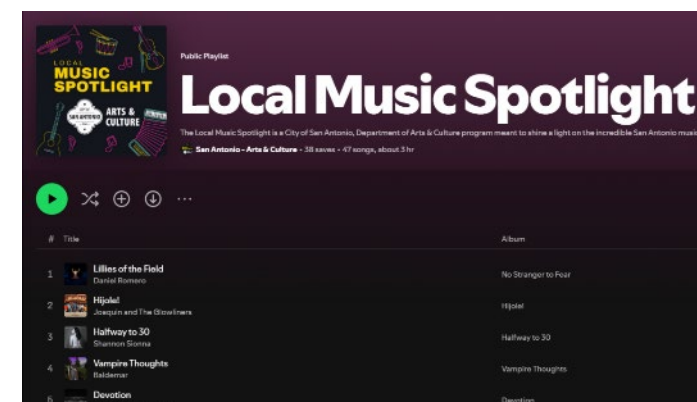
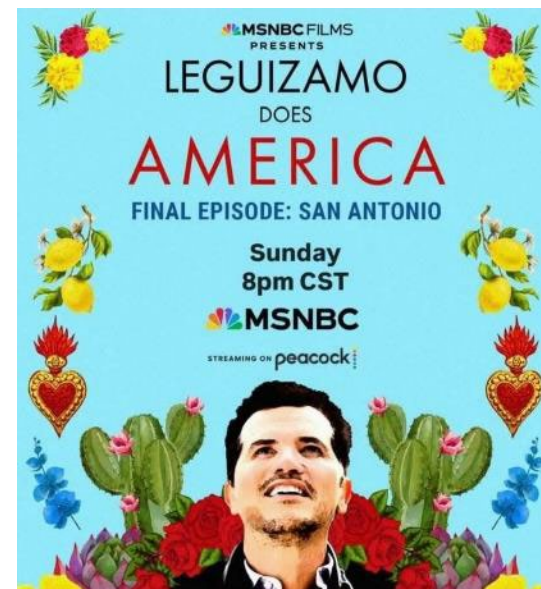
- 590 days of filming by productions to date
 - 13% increase over full FY 2024
- 3 San Antonio Film Incentive projects; 30+ inquiries
- 7th Year on *Movie Maker Magazine*'s "Top Places to Live and Work"

FY 2025 Music Highlights:

- Record number of Local Music Spotlight entries (24 new songs for Fall)
- June 21 Make Music Day: 23 locations, 45 performances, 40+ artists

FY 2026 Focus:

- Refresh San Antonio Film Incentive
- Explore Media Production Development Zone Program
- Promotion of music opportunities, including Make Music Day



FY 2026 Summary

- Support non-profit and artist programs
- 7 New Public Art Projects
- 22 Public Art Maintenance Projects
- 35,000 attendees at 26 department events
 - Featuring 87 artists
- Elevate San Antonio's cultural story:
 - Support artist development
 - Tell San Antonio's story
 - Cultivate and promote film projects



R+R+R City Lights



Jazz'SAlive



Joe Harjo



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