

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

FY 2024

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Budget Justification Fiscal Year 2024

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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 create 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 within 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 with expertise in the arts and related disciplines who are appointed by the President. They serve without compensation, receiving only actual travel expenses related 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.
- 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 Director of the United States Mint on the design of medals 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.

- Advise the Secretary of the Army on matters pertaining to the location and design of memorials and monuments in Arlington National Cemetery.
- Advise the Secretary of the Army and the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry on the design of United States military service medals, seals, and insignia.
- Advise the District of Columbia Government on all public construction, as well as private construction and the display of signs 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 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Enacted	FY 2024 Request	FY 2024 Change from FY 2023
Salaries and Expenses	3,328	3,661	4,284	+623
FTE	12	14	15	0
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs	5,000	5,000	5,000	0
FTE	--	--	--	--

Highlights of the FY 2024 Request

The Commission of Fine Arts requests a FY 2024 Salaries and Expenses appropriation of \$4,284,000 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 a \$623,000 increase above the FY 2023 enacted budget and is intended to implement the priorities outlined in the President’s Management Agenda.

The request reflects a 4.6 percent cost-of-living pay increase for civilian employees in FY 2023 and a 5.2 percent cost-of-living pay increase in FY 2024.

For FY 2024, we estimate the Agency’s uncontrollable cost increases total \$266,000 above the FY 2023 enacted budget. These costs include: an aggregate increase of approximately \$115,000 for personnel compensation and benefits due to salary adjustments, grade increases, and the FY 2023 and FY 2024 cost-of-living pay raises; a \$38,000 increase in charges for the Department of the Interior services, including financial management, personnel services, and other support agreements (including charges for the production of financial reports for the annual audit); a \$3,000 increase in security charges to the DHS; and a \$110,000 increase in costs associated with communications and utilities, which is necessary for CFA to modernize its information technology system including upgrading its server room, ethernet and electrical cabling, and VPN service, and the installation of wireless communication systems and services, etc.

In addition to the funding request above, the Commission of Fine Arts requests, an additional \$127,000 to improve and update its computer equipment to improve the communications and daily working functions of the staff, and \$230,000 to fund an additional position (Senior Administration/Policy Advisor, GS-343 series). This position would oversee financial management operations; develop and implement policies, practices, and management systems; oversee administrative support operations; recommend and/or authorize the full range of personnel actions; participate in planning to meet the agency’s short and long-term human resource needs; report on the agency’s performance according to executive branch requirements; and monitor broad trends, developments, and events relevant to CFA’s mission.

This funding request also carries over from the Commission’s FY 2023 enacted budget, the inclusion

of its previous request for two additional Full-Time Employee (FTE) positions to its professional staff: an Information Technology (IT) Specialist (GS 2210 series) and a design professional for project reviews (GS 0808, 0807, or 1001 series) at approximately \$164,000 per position.

This budget submission also includes the request for the authority to use up to one-tenth of one percent of the funds provided for Salaries and Expenses for official reception and representation expenses associated with hosting meetings with international visitors, affiliated professionals, and volunteer supporters engaged in the design, planning, development, preservation and/or study of the history of the National Capital city.

For FY 2024, \$5,000,000 is requested for the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program, which is the same as appropriated in FY 2023.

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, \$4,284,000 [3,661,000]: *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: *Provided further*, That up to one-tenth of one percent of the funds provided under this heading may be used for official reception and representations expenses:

(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023)

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

Additional costs in FY 2024*:

		<u>2023</u> <u>2024</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>
Includes a 4.6% cost-of-living increase in FY 2023 and a 5.2% increase in FY 2024	\$2,520	/ +\$115

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

		<u>2023</u> <u>2024</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>
Security Payments to DHS.....	\$39	/ +\$3

The adjustment is for estimated changes in the costs payable to the Department of Homeland Security resulting from changes in rates for office space and basic building security.

		<u>2023</u> <u>2024</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>
Administrative Support Services—Interior	\$217	/ +\$38

The change reflects the expected increase 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)

		<u>2023</u> <u>2024</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>
Purchase of Communications and Utilities, and Supplies and Materials.	\$120	/ +\$110

The change reflects expected increases in the costs of workstation changes and IT installation in FY 2024.

TOTAL UNCONTROLLABLE COST INCREASES.....	+\$266
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Justification of Program and Performance

Activity: Salaries and Expenses

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Enacted	Uncontrollable Changes	Program Changes	FY 2024 Request	Change From FY 2023
(\$000)	3,328	3,661	+266	+357	4,284	+623
FTE	14	14	0	0	15	+0

Authorization: 40 U.S.C. 104.

The Commission of Fine Arts requests a FY 2024 Salaries and Expenses appropriation of \$4,284,000 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 a \$623,000 increase above the FY 2023 enacted budget and is intended to implement the priorities outlined in the President’s Management Agenda.

Uncontrollable change from FY 2023 Budget Request: For FY 2024, we estimate the Agency’s uncontrollable cost increases total \$266,000 above the FY 2023 enacted budget. These costs include: an aggregate increase of approximately \$115,000 for personnel compensation and benefits due to salary adjustments, grade increases, and the FY 2023 and FY 2024 cost-of-living pay raises; a \$38,000 increase in charges for the Department of the Interior services, including financial management, personnel services, and other support agreements (including charges for the production of financial reports for the annual audit); a \$3,000 increase in security charges to the DHS; and a \$110,000 increase in costs associated with communications and utilities, which is necessary for CFA to modernize its information technology system including upgrading its server room, ethernet and electrical cabling, and VPN service, as well as the installation of secure wireless communication systems and services, etc.

Program change from FY 2023 Budget Request: In addition to the funding request above, the Commission of Fine Arts requests \$127,000 to improve and update its computer equipment to improve the communications and daily working functions of the staff, and \$230,000 to fund an additional position (Senior Administration/Policy Advisor, GS-343 series). This position would oversee financial management operations; develop and implement policies, practices, and management systems; oversee administrative support operations; recommend and/or authorize the full range of personnel actions; participate in planning to meet the agency’s short and long-term human resource needs; report on the agency’s performance per executive branch requirements; and monitor broad trends, developments, and events relevant to CFA’s mission.

- Senior Administration/Policy Advisor (GS-343 series)
Establishing this new position will provide CFA much-needed management capacity to assure that ongoing management objectives—and those in the President’s Management Agenda—are accomplished. The retirement of the agency’s Assistant Secretary at the end of 2021, concurrent with an update of the agency’s Strategic and Human Capital plans,

instigated a process of reevaluating the staff and its allocation to accomplish the agency mission; this analysis included the capacity of the CFA senior leadership in both subject matter and administrative competencies. In the short term, the agency hired in January 2022 a part-time reemployed annuitant to serve as Senior Administration/Policy Advisor to manage the increasingly complex range of administrative responsibilities—including budgeting, human resources management, policy and agency performance reporting, and other high-level topics.

This new senior-level position, at the GS-15 level at roughly \$230,000 including benefits, is critical to provide CFA with continuing management overview to assure that established management objectives are accomplished. The incumbent of this position serves as a key advisor to the Chairman on various projects related to CFA's policies, programs, and operations. The Senior Administration/Policy Advisor position would oversee financial management operations, develop and implement policies, practices, and management systems, oversee administrative support operations to include IT modernization, recommend and/or authorize the full range of personnel actions, participate in planning to meet the agency's short and long-term human resource needs, and monitor broad trends, developments, and events relevant to CFA's mission.

Justification: This series includes positions that primarily serve as analysts and advisors to management on the evaluation of the effectiveness of government programs and operations or the productivity and efficiency of the management of Federal agencies, or both. Positions in this series require knowledge of: the substantive nature of agency programs and activities; agency missions, policies, and objectives; management principles and processes; the analytical and evaluative methods and techniques for assessing program development or execution; and improving organizational effectiveness and efficiency. The work requires skill in the application of fact-finding and investigative techniques, oral and written communications, and development of presentations and reports. The position requires oversight and management of and reporting on the following topics:

- Strategic planning, policies, and performance management initiatives
- Human capital management
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Ethics and OGE reporting
- Financial management, including oversight of annual audit, contracting, and interagency service agreements
- Budget preparation, reporting, and management of annual appropriations
- Records management and data storage
- Oversight of IT systems, modernization, and security
- Operational functions such as property and facilities services, including oversight of rental, security, and communications agreements
- Management of timekeeping, transit, and agency-required travel
- Oversight of National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs grant program

New Positions Already Requested. This funding request also carries over from the Commission's FY 2023 enacted budget the inclusion of its previous request for two additional Full-Time Employee (FTE) positions to its professional staff: an Information Technology (IT) Specialist (GS 2210 series) and a design professional for project reviews (GS 0808, 0807, or 1001 series) at approximately \$164,000 per position.

- Information Technology (IT) Specialist (GS 2210 series)

Properly built and maintained IT systems are critical to the staff and mission of the CFA and presently there is a significant gap in knowledgeable and professional IT support. In light of the necessary shift to telework and on-line meetings to maintain operations, increasing numbers of cases processed by the Commission's professional staff, as well as the increasing complexity of IT tools needed to provide and support remote working, on-line virtual meetings, and access to digital files and electronic records, competent and comprehensive IT support is crucial to the agency's continued uninterrupted operations and success.

This position makes possible the strategic transition to safe and secure digital submissions and the maintenance of electronic records, which in turn will assist with meeting the requirements of the Managing Government Records Directive (OMB/NARA M-12-18) and the objectives in other directives for electronic security (e.g., FISMA, HSPD-12), online publishing of information, and public communications. Additionally, an IT Specialist will update and manage the Commission's general support systems and network infrastructure to improve electronic communications, remote working arrangements, the management of Government records, and strengthen security requirements.

Establishing this new position, at roughly \$164,000 including benefits, will provide an increased level of support needed to continue critical agency programs and meet the requirements for telework, security, and records management.

Justification: OPM's guidance for positions in the 2210 series (<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/classifying-general-schedule-positions/standards/2200/GS2200A.pdf>) makes a distinction (page 5) between IT Workers and IT Users and cautions against relying upon advanced IT Users for IT support. Increasing reliance upon information technology systems for day-to-day work, paired with increasing security standards for even the most basic of systems, necessitates the addition of dedicated and knowledgeable support. The new IT Worker position requested addresses current needs of the Commission's professional staff to meet the requirements for the secure electronic processing of projects submitted to the Commission for review and for the essential and ultimate archiving of the records produced by the reviews. There are several important reasons for this request for an additional professional FTE position, based on: increasing caseload; reliance on telework; absence of a sufficient IT knowledge base; new Federal requirements for digital record processing and electronic record archiving; and the need to improve secure electronic access to the Commission's case records which will help meet the objectives in current government directives for the online publishing of information and public communications. An IT Specialist will plan, design, and implement a comprehensive agency IT program in accordance with federal statutes and standards, including, but not limited to:

- Presidential Executive Order 14028, "Improving the Nation's Cybersecurity"

- OMB Memoranda M-21-30, Protecting Critical Software Through Enhance Security Measures
- OMB Memoranda M-21-31, Improving the Federal Government’s Investigative and Remediation Capabilities Related to Cybersecurity Incidents
- Presidential Executive Order on Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure, May 11, 2017
- Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (PL 114-113, Division N)
- Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (PL 113-283)
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive-12, August 27, 2004
- OMB Circular A-130, Appendix III, Security of Federal Automated Information Resources
- OMB Memoranda M-19-17 and M-00-15, Digitization of Forms and Government Services
- OMB Memoranda M-19-21, Transition of Electronic Records
- Privacy Act of 1974 (PL 93-579) 5 U.S.C. 552a
- Freedom of Information Act 5 U.S.C. 552 and amendments
- Federal Records Act 44 U.S.C. 31
- E-Government Act of 2002 (PL 107-347), especially Title III, the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 (FISMA – 44 USC 3541)
- United States Government Configuration Baseline (USGCB)
- Managing Government Records Directive (OMB/NARA M-12-18)
- 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act (P.L. 115-336)
- Creating Advanced Streamlined Electronic Services for Constituents Act (PL 116-50)
- Improving Customer Experience, Circular A-11, Section 280
- Transitioning to a Federal Recipient Unique Entity Identifier
- Other applicable OMB and DHS mandates, especially Binding Operational Directives (BODs)

▪ Design professional for project reviews (GS 0808, 0807, or 1001 series)

The Commission continues to request an additional full-time employee position for its professional staff with design expertise in the fields of either architecture (GS 0808 series), landscape architecture (GS 0807 series), or historic preservation (GS 1001 series) to meet the requirements for processing the projects submitted to the Commission for review. Establishing the new position at roughly \$164,000 including benefits, will provide the increased level of support and expertise needed to continue critical agency programs and missions, and to facilitate reviews of the numerous project proposals that are submitted.

Justification: There are several important reasons for this request for one additional professional FTE position, including increasing caseload and complexity, standards for agency communication, and a need for a broader range of specialized professional expertise represented within the staff.

Most significantly, the Commission is requesting an additional full-time employee position with professional design expertise for its professional staff to meet the requirements for processing the projects submitted to the Commission for review. In recent years, an increasing number of submissions, including those for public infrastructure, are larger and more complicated and contain components of historic preservation, landscape architecture, and environmental design. This new position will help address this lack of technical capability and improve proficiency in the review of these more complicated design projects

and will help address the overall increase in the cases submitted to the Commission for review (See submission statistics paragraph below).

The Commission's professional staff has been challenged by this long-term trend of an increasing review case load, complexity of the submissions, and lack of expertise in landscape, environmental, and architectural design, historic preservation, and the design of public infrastructure. The current staff is working at capacity and beyond. Each submission requires many hours of staff time as the cases are received, processed, analyzed, and presented, in addition to the numerous consultations with applicants, the required coordination with the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office, and the management of the architectural review board agendas and meetings. The total number of cases submitted annually to the Commission of Fine Arts for review, including new public infrastructure projects, are projected to continue to increase at similar or higher rates, as described below in the coming years or when the restrictive conditions and constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic diminish.

Finally, this budget submission also includes the request for the authority to use up to one-tenth of one percent of the funds provided for Salaries and Expenses for official reception and representation expenses associated with hosting meetings with international visitors, affiliated professionals, and volunteer supporters engaged in the design, planning, development, preservation and/or study of the history of the Nation's Capital city.

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, design, planning, and historic preservation. 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, Anacostia 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 creates a long-term record of its actions as well as wider topics related to its jurisdictions and the design of the National Capital through its publication program, which includes the production of books and other printed or digital publications. It also conducts liaison, research, and public information activities to further support the enhancement and preservation of the city.
- 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. In accordance with its statutory obligations, the Commission has completed 100 percent of its reviews for all proposals submitted within 45 days of receipt.

Operations:

In mid-March 2020, the Commission began operating under Covid-19 pandemic guidelines and restrictions. The Commission canceled its public meeting in March 2020 due to the limitations regarding large in-person meetings. Starting in April 2020, the Commission conducted its day-to-day operations and public meetings remotely for the remainder of the fiscal year 2020 and throughout fiscal years 2021 and 2022 and continues to do so until conditions permit a safe return to work and the resumption of public meetings. Following guidance issued in OMB Memorandum M-21-25, CFA developed and implemented its Reopening Plan. At the same time, the agency updated the telework policy. Currently, CFA employees are required to physically return to the office two days per pay period. This requirement is in effect until Covid cases decline and further direction is provided by OMB/OPM.

The total number of cases submitted annually to the Commission has increased substantially over the past fifteen years, although this caseload has been affected recently by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on many segments of the economy, the building industry, and the government sector. Setting aside the anomalous numbers from FY 2020 to FY 2022, the three-year averages for total number of cases have steadily increased since the mid-2000s, and in 2019 represented an increase of 32 percent over the three-year period ending in 2007, before the recession beginning that year. FY 2020, which was affected only in part by the pandemic, saw only a slight decrease in the number of submissions reviewed from FY 2019—a reduction of 18 cases, or less than 2.5 percent. In fact, the number of cases reviewed the first five months of FY 2020 continued the trend in increased cases year-over-year, with an annual increase for that period of 1.4 percent. FY 2021 and FY 2022 have been more affected by the continuing economic effects of the pandemic, with an average decrease of 7.3% in total submissions received each year.

In the last full fiscal year before the Covid-19 pandemic, FY 2019, the Commission reviewed 734 cases. In FY 2020, the Commission reviewed 716 cases; it reviewed 655 cases in FY 2021, and 615 cases in FY 2022—a decrease of about 6 percent for the year. In terms of the CFA’s three basic jurisdictional areas, the recent changes in caseload are the following:

- Typically, nearly half of the total number of cases are submitted under the Federal Old Georgetown Act, a total of 302 cases in FY 2019 and 289 cases in FY 2022, a decrease of only 4.3 percent. The average monthly caseload submitted under the Old Georgetown Act had grown from 25 individual cases to more than 30 per month just prior to the pandemic, with some months exceeding 50 cases.
- For the period between FY 2015 and FY 2019, the caseload generated by the Shipstead-Luce Act for the design review of properties in specific areas of Federal interest, increased more than 53.2 percent, from 171 cases in FY 2015 to 262 in FY 2019. While the average caseload during the three fiscal years affected by the pandemic—FY 2020 to 2022—was 201, or 10 percent lower than the previous three-year period; it was also 16.4 percent higher than the three-year period ending in FY 2016.
- In FY 2019, 170 cases of the total 734, or 23 percent, were submitted as Federal or District of Columbia government projects, an increase of 3 percent from the year before. In FY 2020, the Commission received 214 government submissions, a substantial increase of 26 percent over the number of submissions in FY 2019; in FY 2022, the Commission received 144 government submissions, a decrease of 15 percent from FY 2019. Taken together, the average number of these submissions for the three fiscal years affected by the pandemic is down by only 3.2 percent from the previous three-year period—i.e., the recent drop in caseloads related to Covid-19 is offset by a spike in government submissions in FY 2020, and the long-term trend is relatively steady. Of the government submissions reviewed in FY 2019, almost 4 percent were submissions to review designs related to overseas military cemeteries, coins, and medals—and not related to building proposals in Washington, D.C.; in FY 2022, this number of this type of cases was 13 cases, or about 9 percent of the total government submissions.
- Overall, the annual number of cases submitted to and reviewed by the Commission of Fine Arts increased by an average annual rate of approximately 3 percent over the period from FY 2009 to FY 2019. The total number of cases submitted, including new public infrastructure projects, are projected to continue to increase at similar or higher rates in the coming years or when the restrictive conditions and constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic diminish.

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)

Identification code 95-2600-0-1-451	2022	2023	2024
	Actual	Enacted	Request
Obligations by program activity:			
10.00	3	3.7	4.3
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
22.00	3	3.7	4.3
23.95	-3	-3.7	-4.3
New budget authority (gross), detail:			
40.00	3	3.7	4.3
Change in unpaid obligations:			
73.10	3	3.7	4.3
73.20	-3	-3.7	-4.3
Outlays (gross), detail:			
86.90	3	3.7	4.3
Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00	3	3.7	4.3
90.00	3	3.7	4.3

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Object Classification (in thousands of dollars)

Identification code 95-2600-0-1-451		2022	2023	2024
		Actual	Enacted	Request
Personnel compensation:				
11.1	Full-time permanent	1,558	1,843	2,096
11.5	Other personnel compensation	40	42	48
11.9	Total personnel compensation.....	1,598	1,885	2,144
12.0	Personnel benefits: Civilian.....	576	677	770
12.1	Workers Compensation Payments ¹	40	5	5
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	40	50	50
22.0	Transportation of things.	5	5	5
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	358	357	360
23.1	Security charges to DHS	38	39	42
23.3	Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges	92	120	230
24.0	Printing and reproduction	25	25	20
25.0	Purchases of goods and services	455	482	523
26.0	Supplies and materials.....	8	8	8
31.0	Equipment	5	8	127
99.9	Total obligations.....	3,328	3,661	4,284

¹ NOTE: Estimates for Worker Compensation Payments provided by the U.S. Department of Labor.

**COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Personnel Summary

Identification code 95-2600-0-1-451	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 Request
Total compensable work-years:			
Full-time equivalent employment	12	14	15
Full-time equivalent overtime and holiday hours	0	0	0
TOTAL:	12	14	15

Appropriation Language Sheet

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs

*For necessary expenses as authorized by Public Law 99-190 (20 U.S.C. 956a), \$5,000,000:
Provided, That the item relating to "National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs" in the
Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1986, as enacted into law
by section 101(d) of Public Law 99-190 (20 U.S.C. 956a), shall be applied in fiscal year 2024 in
the second paragraph by inserting ", calendar year 2020 excluded" before the first period:
Provided further, That in determining an eligible organization's annual income for calendar
years 2021, 2022, and 2023, funds or grants received by the eligible organization from any
supplemental appropriations Act related to coronavirus or any other law providing
appropriations for the purpose of preventing, preparing for, or responding to coronavirus shall
be counted as part of the eligible organization's annual income.*

(Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2023)

Justification of Program and Performance
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs

Activity: Grants

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Enacted	Uncontrollable Changes	Program Changes	FY 2024 Request
(\$000)	5,000	5,000	0	0	5,000
FTE	--	--	--	--	--

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 may receive a grant greater than \$650,000.

For FY 2024, \$5,000,000 is requested for the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs Program, which is the same as appropriated in FY 2023. The appropriations language continues to include language that excludes calendar year 2020 from the formula calculations to mitigate pandemic impacts on grant recipients.

Activities: In FY 2022, this program helped support 24 nationally renowned organizations based and operating in the National Capital, providing funding for operating expenses, staff, exhibits, and performances.

In FY 2022, \$5,000,000 in grants was awarded to the following 24 organizations:

FY 2022 NCACA Grant Recipients	GRANT	Grant as % of Op. Income*	Grant as % of Total Grants
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	475,605.96	0.78%	0.51%
Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens	446,866.00	0.80%	0.80%
Folger Shakespeare Library	244,096.61	1.35%	1.33%
Arena Stage:	231,540.68	1.46%	1.90%
National Symphony Orchestra:	227,386.50	1.51%	1.42%
Ford's Theatre Society	213,065.15	1.72%	2.23%
Washington Ballet:	210,698.96	1.76%	2.17%
Phillips Collection:	209,606.43	1.78%	1.52%
Shakespeare Theatre:	208,979.87	1.15%	2.17%
National Museum of Women in the Arts:	202,937.82	1.93%	2.12%
Washington National Opera:	201,121.66	1.97%	1.93%
Studio Theatre:	197,451.69	2.07%	2.14%
National Building Museum	177,356.96	3.05%	3.44%
Washington Performing Arts Society:	176,938.05	3.08%	3.26%
Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company:	169,405.17	3.89%	3.76%
Step Afrika!:	160,892.68	5.79%	5.36%
Choral Arts Society	159,942.98	6.14%	5.92%
Atlas Performing Arts Center:	159,208.13	6.45%	6.07%
DC Jazz Festival:	157,946.20	7.07%	6.97%
Gala Hispanic Theatre	157,704.30	7.20%	6.89%
Washington Chorus (The):	153,246.86	11.20%	10.00%
Cathedral Choral Society	152,893.46	11.73%	11.16%
Federal City Performing Arts Association:	152,720.14	12.02%	13.68%
Washington Bach Consort:	152,387.73	12.60%	11.70%
TOTAL GRANTS:	\$5,000,000.00		

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

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES
National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs

Program and Financing (in millions of dollars)

Identification code 95-2602-0-1-503	2022	2023	2024
	Actual	Enacted	Request
Obligations by program activity:			
10.00	5	5	5
Budgetary resources available for obligation:			
22.00	5	5	5
23.95	-5	-5	-5
New budget authority (gross), detail:			
40.00	5	5	5
Change in unpaid obligations:			
73.10	5	5	5
73.20	-5	-5	-5
Outlays (gross), detail:			
86.90	5	5	5
Net budget authority and outlays:			
89.00	5	5	5
90.00	5	5	5