

# Senator Cesar Blanco

Texas Senate District: 29



## Arts and Cultural Grants

Listed by Texas Senate District

Fiscal Year 2026

### Ballroom Marfa

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$6,000**

*To support 'The Mothership is on her way home,' a cross-border solo exhibition by Jeffrey Meris that explores healing, displacement, and borders through sculpture, architectural models, and drawings.*

**Arts Respond Natural Resources & Agriculture** **\$7,000**

*To support a Spanish-language production of Federico Garcia Lorca's 'La Casa de Bernarda Alba,' directed by Richard Maxwell and performed by New York City Players in rural Presidio County.*

### Binational Independent Film Festival

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$2,375**

*To support the Binational Independent Film Festival, showcasing filmmakers from the United States and Mexico, offering local at-risk youth opportunities to learn about the film industry, and attracting visitors to El Paso.*

### Chinati Foundation/La Fundacion Chinati

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$17,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$7,000**

*To support the annual Chinati Weekend, which features exhibitions and a variety of activities to attract local, national, and international visitors to Marfa.*

**Arts Respond Public Safety & Criminal Justice** **\$4,000**

*To support the Summer Shake-Up, a free summer arts education workshop for at-risk and economically-disadvantaged youth in Marfa Independent School District.*

### City of El Paso/Museums & Cultural Affairs Dept

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$15,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Cultural District Project - High Quality Arts Programming** **\$27,000**

*To support Chalk the Block, Dia De Los Muertos, and the Market at Winterfest, three major fall festivals that will boost tourism in the El Paso Downtown Cultural District and beyond.*

**Creative Kids**

**Arts Respond Public Safety & Criminal Justice** **\$5,000**

*To support the Transformative Art Program, a collaboration with El Paso Juvenile Probation providing justice-involved youth with weekly guided art-making sessions as a rehabilitative and expressive tool.*

**Designated Funding-Texas Women for the Arts** **\$20,000**

*To support arts education activities in Texas through this public-private partnership. These funds are pass-through grants designated by the Texas Women for the Arts, a philanthropic arm of the Texas Cultural Trust.*

**Eden Performing Arts**

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$4,000**

*To support Nuestra Historia: Threads of Time, a multidisciplinary reenactment of San Elizario's history in partnership with Los Portales Museum and San Elizario Genealogical and Historical Society, attracting visitors to the local celebration.*

**El Paso Museum of Art/City of El Paso**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$10,500**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**El Paso Opera**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$12,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$5,500**

*To support Opera en la Comunidad, a free, city-wide tour of the Spanish-language zarzuela 'Bohemios' in community centers, cultural institutions, and outdoor public venues in El Paso, activating cultural tourism throughout the city.*

**El Paso Pro-Musica**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$10,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Health & Human Services** **\$5,000**

*To support the Outreach and Community Engagement program, which provides free musical performances to students and to patients at area hospitals and senior centers.*

**El Paso Symphony Orchestra**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$16,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Education** **\$9,500**

*To support the Young People's Concerts, educational orchestra performances for fifth grade students in El Paso and the surrounding region.*

**Arts Respond Public Safety & Criminal Justice** **\$5,000**

*To support the Tocando Music Project, a during and after-school program serving at-risk children in El Paso elementary and middle schools.*

**Commission Initiative - America 250** **\$1,776**

*To support activities in this Texas Congressional district that commemorate and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.*

**Cultural District Project - High Quality Arts Programming** **\$37,960**

*To support the Christmas Fantasia concerts, a musical kickoff to the holiday season that will coincide with holiday activities in the El Paso Downtown Cultural District, and draw tourists.*

**Judd Foundation**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$17,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$4,500**

*To support live performances, tours, and related community celebrations commemorating the reopening of Donald Judd's restored Architecture Office, a landmark building in downtown Marfa.*

**Arts Respond Natural Resources & Agriculture** **\$4,000**

*To support a celebration of the reopening of Donald Judd's Ranch Office building in Marfa, comprised of a free open house and guest lectures discussing the history of the Chihuahuan landscape and its influence on Judd's art.*

**Kids Excel El Paso**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$15,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Education** **\$4,000**

*To support Kids Excel El Paso's Event-of-the-Year that provides El Paso-area 4th graders with a quality arts education experience and performance opportunity.*

**Designated Funding-Texas Women for the Arts** **\$15,000**

*To support arts education activities in Texas through this public-private partnership. These funds are pass-through grants designated by the Texas Women for the Arts, a philanthropic arm of the Texas Cultural Trust.*

**Lone Star Cowboy Poetry Gathering**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$11,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$6,500**

*To support gatherings of nationally-renowned cowboy performers and poets, consisting of cowboy-related activities, a rodeo, and a poetry competition, bringing new groups and visitors to Alpine and Bastrop.*

**Marfa Live Arts (formerly Marfa Theatre)**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$16,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Education** **\$8,000**

*To support playwriting preparatory courses for seventh and eighth graders in Marfa.*

**Arts Respond Health & Human Services** **\$4,000**

*To support Mindfulness Theater, a summer camp workshop focused on teaching rural youth at Marfa Independent School District schools mindfulness and healthy coping strategies using theater, song, and movement techniques.*

**Designated Funding-Texas Women for the Arts** **\$7,000**

*To support arts education activities in Texas through this public-private partnership. These funds are pass-through grants designated by the Texas Women for the Arts, a philanthropic arm of the Texas Cultural Trust.*

#### **Marfa Public Radio**

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$3,000**

*To support the launch of 'The Last Resort,' a historical podcast and related programming exploring the Davis Mountains Resort in Jeff Davis County and the 1997 Republic of Texas standoff that made it briefly famous.*

**Arts Respond Natural Resources & Agriculture** **\$4,000**

*To support Nature Notes, a weekly short-format program that uses storytelling, interviews, sound effects, music, and field recordings to celebrate West Texas' unique environment.*

#### **Marfa Studio of Arts**

**Arts Respond Education** **\$2,000**

*To support the Studio in the Elementary School arts program, a school residency program providing preK-6th grade students with visual art instruction.*

**Arts Respond Public Safety & Criminal Justice** **\$2,000**

*To support Summer Shake Up, a free summer art camp for economically disadvantaged and at-risk youth in Marfa.*

#### **Mexican American Cultural Center/City of El Paso**

**Arts Respond Economic Development** **\$4,000**

*To support 'A Journey into the Chihuahuan Desert Underworld,' an immersive experience featuring 3-D laser cut flora and fauna, papier-mache alebrijes, and light installations, to attract tourists during annual Dia de Los Muertos celebrations.*

**Arts Respond Performance Support** **\$3,915**

*Artistic fee subsidy for The Bike Zoo to perform at Mexican American Cultural Center in El Paso, 11/01/25 - 11/01/25.*

#### **Pecos County/Fort Stockton Public Library**

**Arts Respond Performance Support** **\$247**

*Artistic fee subsidy for Magic in the Library to perform at Fort Stockton Public Library in Fort Stockton, 06/04/26 - 06/04/26.*

#### **Tom Lea Institute**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$12,000**

*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

**Arts Respond Public Safety & Criminal Justice** **\$4,000**  
*To support the Aviation Artmaker Camp, a free education program for at-risk El Paso youth that uses observation of historic aircraft and guided artmaking inspired by Tom Lea's art to help youth better understand history.*

**UTEP/Art Galleries**

**Arts Create - Operational Support** **\$18,000**  
*To advance the creative economy of Texas by investing in the operations of this arts organization.*

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**Number of Awards:** 43 **Award Total:** \$392,773