

Arts-and-culture grants up 34 percent

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The Philadelphia Cultural Fund (PCF) awarded grants totaling more than \$2.49 million to the city's arts-and-culture organizations — a significant increase from last year and a result of the city's increased budget.

PCF will be awarding the money to 285 of the city's arts-and-culture institutions, including the [Arden Theatre Co.](#), the National Museum of American Jewish History and the Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus.

The total value of grants awarded this year is 34 percent higher than [last year's \\$1.3 million](#).

The organization has one more grant cycle, the Youth Arts Enrichment Program, which funds an entire program from beginning to end for up to \$50,000. It also has another \$25,000 set aside for its Technical Assistant Support.

The award ceremonies will be held on March 2 and 4 at City Hall's Conversation Hall at 11 a.m. The first session will be held for Council Districts two, four, five, seven, eight and nine. The second session will be for districts one, three, six and 10.

This year marks the second year the award ceremony has been split into two sessions due to the growth in the number of grant recipients, a "testimony to the vibrancy of Philadelphia's arts-and-culture community," [Julie Hawkins](#), board president of PCF, said in a release.

"So many organizations have a strong need, but they are also showing to be strong organizations with great missions," she said.

The Philly Youth Poetry Movement is the recipient of this year's Councilman David Cohen Award, which recognizes an organization's economic and social justice work. It was founded in 2006 and offers literacy arts education programs for youths ages 13 to 19.