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DANIEL TARICA
GENERAL MANAGER

August 11, 2025

The Honorable Mayor Karen Bass
City of Los Angeles
Room 303, City Hall

The Honorable Members of the City Council
C/O City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall

RE: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ACCEPT A \$50,000 GRANT FROM THE TEIGER FOUNDATION FOR AN EXHIBITION AT THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY

BACKGROUND

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) applied for, and received a notice of grant award from, the Teiger Foundation for a forthcoming survey of artist Nao Bustamante's work at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG). This is the first Teiger Foundation grant received by DCA.

The Teiger Foundation is committed to experimentation and creativity in visual arts programming; it supports this work through grantmaking for US-based, curator-led initiatives in contemporary visual art. The \$50,000 Curatorial Research Grant from the Teiger Foundation will support the preliminary phases of curatorial work for the Nao Bustamante exhibit, including archival research and exhibition design.

In accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code 14.6(A) and 14.8(c), DCA requests authority to retroactively submit this grant application in accordance with the recommendations above, and authorization to subsequently accept grant funds, and expend them in accordance with the recommendations below.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs respectfully requests that the City Council, subject to approval by the Mayor:

1. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs or designee to submit all necessary paperwork of the Curatorial Research Grant application to the Teiger Foundation;
2. AUTHORIZE the Department of Cultural Affairs to accept a grant award on behalf of the City from the Teiger Foundation in the amount of \$50,000;
3. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs or designee to negotiate and execute the Grant Authorization Letter on behalf of the City and submit the required expenditure report relative to the program aspects of the grant;



4. AUTHORIZE the Department of Cultural Affairs to receive and expend the Teiger Foundation grant funds for activities for all eligible purposes;
5. AUTHORIZE the Controller to:
 - A) ESTABLISH a new appropriation account within Fund 337, Cultural Affairs Grants, to be labeled "Teiger Foundation LAMAG";
 - B) APPROPRIATE \$50,000 received from the Teiger Foundation into the newly established account within Fund 337; and
6. AUTHORIZE the General Manager of the Department of Cultural Affairs or designee to prepare any Controller's instructions needed to implement actions approved by the Council and Mayor on matters presented in, or deriving from, the transmittal, and/or to make necessary technical adjustments, and further, request that the Controller implement these instructions.

SUMMARY

The Teiger Foundation recently awarded DCA a \$50,000 grant to support the first major survey of artist Nao Bustamante's work, which will be exhibited at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG) in early 2028.

The Teiger Foundation was founded in 2008 to honor the vision of art collector and museum patron David Teiger. The Foundation champions curators' work in pursuing creative and intellectual projects despite institutional resistance to work considered difficult or controversial. LAMAG seeks to make this work accessible to the public through a free exhibition to residents and visitors in 2028.

The Teiger Foundation's Curatorial Research Grant will support LAMAG's curatorial staff in conducting research trips to New York University's Hemisphere Institute to review Bustamante's video archive, as well as conducting additional scholarly research. Funds will also be used towards Bustamante's artist fee. Additionally, the grant will support the hiring of a part-time archivist to digitize and organize Bustamante's archive in advance of the exhibition.

Nao Bustamante is an internationally recognized artist with more than three decades creating multi-disciplinary art that challenges conceptions of performance art, feminism, Latinidad, and queerness. Bustamante is an alum of the San Francisco Art Institute (SFAI), and in 2020, she was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from her alma mater, SFAI. She also attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. Currently, she holds the position of Professor of Art at the USC Roski School of Art and Design.

The Teiger Foundation Curatorial Research Grant does not have a set grant period. LAMAG anticipates using these funds in 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no impact to the General Fund.

Daniel Tarica

Daniel Tarica
General Manager
Department of Cultural Affairs