



## **Bainbridge Island**

### **Arts • Science • Heritage**

***A publicly funded program established to expand cultural access to arts, heritage and science organizations in counties and cities across Washington State.***

#### **How does it work?**

- State House Bill 2263 allows any county in Washington State to create a Cultural Access Program.
- Should a County decline, a city within that county may create such a program implemented within city boundaries.
- Kitsap County has declined to establish a program. The opportunity now lies with The City of Bainbridge Island.

#### **Why does Cultural Access matter?**

- Creates a consistent and sustainable source of funding for non-profits and schools at the local level.
- Art, science, and heritage organizations strengthen our economy; enrich our lives; support education goals; and significantly contribute to Bainbridge Island's sense of place and identity.
- Supports the guiding principles and goals of our City's official Comprehensive Plan.

#### **Who benefits?**

- Public school students will have more cultural experiences both in and outside of the classroom (Funds cover transportation costs for field trips, as well as some in-school programming).
- Citizens of Bainbridge Island will gain increased access to cultural, scientific, and heritage experiences with expanded programming choices, and reduced or free admission prices.
- Island-based arts, science, and heritage nonprofit organizations through a competitive grant process.

#### **Who is Eligible?**

- Arts, science, and heritage organizations which are registered 501(c)(3) nonprofits.
- State-designated nonprofit organizations and/or those accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.
- Community preservation and development authority formed before January 1, 2011.

#### **Who will manage it?**

The City of Bainbridge Island can manage the money itself, or can exercise either of these other two options to manage the money and associated grants:

- The city can pass the money through a local community foundation or arts commission (e.g. Arts & Humanities Bainbridge).
- The city can elect to have the money managed by the Washington State Arts Commission.

#### **How is it funded?**

- Requires a majority vote by the City Council to appear on the ballot.
- Voter approved tax, either a 0.1% increase in sales tax, or a similarly sized property tax increase.
- When approved, the tax expires after 7 years unless reauthorized by a vote of the people.
- Funds will not replace or diminish usual funding to cultural organizations.

#### **What will it cost?**

- A penny for every ten dollars spent. This averages less than \$18 per year, per citizen.
- Start-up or administrative costs to City will be reimbursed through the program.

**Next Step:** Bainbridge Island City Council Consideration for Ballot for Vote on November 7, 2017.