



DATE: April 20, 2011

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Library Department

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL TO ACCEPT \$2,500 IN GRANT FUNDS FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES AWARDED TO THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE FOR THE LOUISA MAY ALCOTT LIBRARY OUTREACH PROGRAM AND APPROVAL TO APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS TO THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT**

SYNOPSIS

Staff recommends that the City Council approve acceptance of \$2,500 in grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded to the City of Oceanside for the Louisa May Alcott Library Outreach Program and appropriate the funds to the Library Department.

BACKGROUND

On December 6, 2010, Oceanside Public Library was selected to receive \$2,500 in grant funds to participate in the Louisa May Alcott Library Outreach Program. The program is an initiative from the National Endowment for the Humanities designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. It brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

Out of the many grant applications received nationwide, Oceanside Public Library was one of only 30 organizations selected to participate in this program.

ANALYSIS

The Louisa May Alcott Library Outreach Program grant will provide funding for a series of free public events designed to celebrate the life and work of one of the country's most prolific and intriguing authors. A variety of activities have been developed to capture the interest of all ages through art and costume exhibits, reading performances and a major film screening, and book discussions. All programming is scheduled to take place in October 2011.

The Library solicited community partners to widen the scope of the project and to engage a broader audience. Current partners are the League of Women Voters, MiraCosta Community College, the American Association of University Women, Oceanside Historical

Society, Oceanside Senior Centers, and Barnes and Noble Booksellers. The library will receive 100 copies of the book Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women by Harriet Reisen to give away to partner organizations and participants.

FISCAL IMPACT

Matching funds have been provided by the Friends of the Oceanside Public Library in the amount of \$2,500 in support of this project. The funds will be deposited in account number 350010101.4393.100169. No additional funding is required.

The Louisa May Alcott grant in the amount of \$2,500 will be deposited to revenue account 922121000274.4382 and appropriated to 922121000274.

COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORTS

At its meeting on January 24, 2011, the Library Board of Trustees approved the acceptance of the grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

The referenced documents have been reviewed by the City Attorney and approved as to form.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council approve acceptance of \$2,500 in grant funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities to the City of Oceanside for the Louisa May Alcott Library Outreach Program and appropriate the funds to the Library Department.

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