



97856

DATE: August 13, 2019

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Maribel Martinez, Manager, Office of LGBTQ Affairs

SUBJECT: 2019 Out at the Fair

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Ratify County sponsorship of Santa Clara County Fairgrounds Management Corporation in the amount of \$2,000 from the Office of the County Executive, Office of the LGBTQ Affairs' Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget, to support 2019 Out at the Fair Family Entertainment Stage. (Office of the County Executive)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no adverse impact to the General Fund. There are sufficient funds budgeted in the Office of the County Executive's Office of LGBTQ Affairs' Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Adopted Budget to cover the total sponsorship amount of \$2,000.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Out At The Fair is intended to create LGBTQ spaces within existing Fair locations. There are currently seven counties throughout the state of California that participate with Out At The Fair. Through this venture, fairs can showcase more local talent by having stages dedicated to LGBTQ talent. The non-profit resources area of the Fair provides participants with access to resources in the community.

Out At The Fair in Santa Clara County launched in 2018 with a very successful first night with performances from national recording artist Chely Wright and local band favorite LoCura. The event also included a display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt and audience participation activities hosted by local drag performers.

For 2019, Out At The Fair on August 2, 2019 will also include performers that appeal to younger audiences including the Grammy-nominated ABC rockers. Sponsorship from the County of Santa Clara will support the inclusion for youth and family-friendly activities and performances.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action will have a positive impact on LGBTQ children providing creative and educational resources that are gender-affirming and age-appropriate.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action neutral impact on seniors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

BACKGROUND

GLSEN, a national education organization dedicated to improving school climate and champion LGBTQ issues in K-12 education, noted that LGBTQ student experiences might also be shaped by the inclusion of LGBTQ-related information in the curriculum. Learning about LGBTQ historical events and positive role models may enhance LGBTQ students' engagement in their schools and provide valuable information about the LGBTQ community. Students in the 2017 School Climate survey were asked whether they had been exposed to representations of LGBTQ people, history, or events in lessons at school. The majority of respondents (64.8%) reported that their classes did not include these topics. Of the students who indicated that LGBTQ topics had been discussed in one or more of their classes, the majority said that they were covered in a positive way (19.9% of the full sample), and slightly fewer said that they were covered in a negative manner (18.6% of the full sample). Among the students who had been taught positive things about LGBTQ-related topics in class, History/Social Studies and English were the classes most often mentioned as being inclusive of these topics. The survey also asked students about potential curricular inclusion outside of direct classroom instruction, such as in-class readings. Just under a fifth (19.5%) of LGBTQ students reported that LGBTQ-related topics were included in textbooks or other assigned readings.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve the recommendation would prevent the delivery and support of LGBTQ programming for the 2019 Out At The Fair. As such, the County will not be able to contribute toward artistic performances and educational curriculum related to LGBTQ issues.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Expedited, priority processing is requested in order for The Fairgrounds Management Corporation to receive funds prior to event dates. Clerk of the Board will notify Maribel Martínez at maribel.martinez@ceo.sccgov.org.