

Jesse Arreguín
Councilmember, District 4

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 16, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Jesse Arreguín

Subject: BrasArte's Brazil Day Festival: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget

Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$250 per Councilmember, including up to \$250 from Councilmember Arreguin, to the BrasArte with funds relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Councilmember Jesse Arreguín, and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

No General Fund impact; funds are available from Councilmember Arreguín's Council Office Budget discretionary accounts.

BACKGROUND:

Brasarte is the Bay Area's largest organization dedicated to preserving and promoting traditional culture and artistic expression from Bahia, Brazil, offering dance classes and community-based multi-disciplinary events for all ages that involve many aspects of the essence of Brazilian culture. Together, with Capoeira Arts Foundation (CAF), they are housed at Casa de Cultura (a Brazilian cultural center) in Berkeley.

In its tenth year, BrasArte's Brazilian Day Festival pays homage to two major celebrations in Brazil – Brazil's Independence Day and a re-creation of a Lavagem – a cleansing ceremony using song and dance that dates back to slavery when women washed the steps of the church for the festive mass on Sundays in Salvador. On September 1st, the festivities unfold in Berkeley as a street party and feature a musical procession, capoeira, dance demonstrations, live music, Brazilian and international food, craft stands, and a samba circle. The event brings together Brazilians living all over the San Francisco Bay Area and Americans of all ethnicities to celebrate the long-practiced traditions of Afro-Brazilians in Brazil.

CONTACT PERSON:

Jesse Arreguin, Councilmember, District 4 981-7140

Attachments:

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Councilmember Jesse Arreguin has surplus funds in his office expenditure account (budget code 010-0242-410); and

WHEREAS, a California non-profit tax exempt corporation, BrasArte, seeks funds in the amount of \$250 to provide the following public services: to organize the 10th Annual Brazil Day Festival; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would fulfill the following municipal public purposes: bringing together community members to celebrate Brazilian art and culture, including capoeira, live music, cuisine, and more.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget up to \$250 per office shall be granted to BrasArte to help organize the 10th Annual Brazil Day Festival.