



# City Council Communication

**AGENDA DATE:** May 18, 2026

**LEGISTAR ITEM #:** 26-028

**PRESENTER:** Stefanie Trujillo  
Office

**DEPARTMENT:** City Manager's

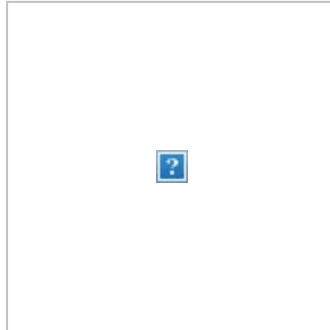
<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Business	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noticed Council Business
<input type="checkbox"/> Informational Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Consensus-Building Presentation

## BACKGROUND/REQUEST

Hālau Kalama is requesting financial support from Commerce City to help produce a community-centered AANHPI Heritage Month event that celebrates culture, diversity, and inclusion. This event is designed to bring together residents through cultural performances, food, small businesses, and youth-focused engagement.

Co-Sponsor: Craig Kim

**From:** [OpenForms](#)  
**To:** [Peters, Annette - CM](#)  
**Subject:** Open Forms submission for a Council Sponsorship Request.  
**Date:** Saturday, May 2, 2026 11:31:07 PM



## Open Forms submission for a Council Sponsorship Request.

Someone has filled out a request for a Council sponsored event.  
Information below.

1. Type of Sponsorship Requested	
Application date	May 1, 2026
Please indicate types of in-kind sponsorship sought	Park reservation certificate Community Room reservation certificate
Please indicate amount of cash requested	\$5000
Please indicate amount of cash requested for school or school-related group	
2. Organization/Group Details	
Registered Name of Organization:	Hālau Kalama
Doing Business As:	501c3 Non-Profit Organization

Contact Name:	Ellen Akiona
Contact Title/Position:	Hālau Kalama Leader
Mailing Address:	1732 S Chambers Rd
City:	Aurora
State:	CO
Zip:	80017
Email:	ellenakiona@hotmail.com
Organization or Event Website:	www.denverleiday.org
Business phone:	n/a
Mobile number:	303-520-6393
<b>3. Not-For-Profit Status</b>	
Upload documentation here	<a href="#">certificate of good standing 2026.pdf</a>
Not-for-profit	Yes
Registered in Colorado	Yes
Registered Not-For Profit for Tax Purposes	Yes
Tax Exempt No.:	45-3170062
Mission/Purpose of the Organization (attach additional documentation if needed):	Hālau Kalama is dedicated to the preservation and perpetuation of Native Pacific Islands' culture and heritage through music, dance, language, and education.  Members of Hālau Kalama collaborate and strive to entertain as well as enlighten all communities who wish to experience the "ALOHA SPIRIT"
<b>4. Program/Event Details</b>	
Name of Program/Event:	Nesian Fest
	A special event recognizing and

Type of Program/Event:	celebrating AANHPI Heritage Month, filled with Pacific island music, food, and dance.
Event or Program Mission/Purpose (attach additional documentation if needed):	Hālau Kalama is requesting financial support from Commerce City to help produce a community-centered AANHPI Heritage Month event that celebrates culture, diversity, and inclusion. This event is designed to bring together residents through cultural performances, food, small businesses, and youth-focused engagement.
Is this a fundraising event?	Yes
If yes, who will receive the proceeds?	Requested funds will be used to cover essential event costs, including permits, insurance, sanitation, equipment rentals, and community outreach. Funding will also support accessibility by keeping vendor fees affordable and ensuring the event remains free or low-cost to attend. This event also serves as a fundraising event for Halau Kalama, so the proceeds will go to help offset tuition and studio overhead costs.
Fundraising recipient's 501(c)3 Number	17053160330012
Event Address:	6850 Fairfax Dr, Commerce City, CO 80022
Event Date(s):	May 23, 2026
Event Time(s):	2-8 pm
Expected Number of Participants:	700
Please attach a schedule detailing major portions of the	<a href="#">Nesian Fest Lineup (2).pdf</a>

event, if applicable	
Event Open to the Public?	Yes
Has this event been previously held?	No
Number of previous occurrences:	n/a
5. Benefits Proposal	
Check all of the proposed benefits, goods and/or services the City would receive if approved.	Booth/table at event Verbal recognition at event Recognition in social media City logo on marketing materials Other (please list below or attach)
List other	<p>a. Community Impact &amp; Identity Building: The event promotes cultural awareness and unity while positioning Commerce City as a diverse and welcoming community.</p> <p>b. Residents Benefited: An estimated 300–500 attendees, with targeted outreach to Commerce City families, youth, and local organizations.</p> <p>c. Economic Benefit: Supports local vendors and small businesses by providing income opportunities, exposure, and increased community foot traffic.</p>

	This funding will directly support a meaningful, inclusive event that strengthens community connection and local economic activity.
Attach list of other	<a href="#">Nesian Fest Lineup (2).pdf</a>
6. Event Promotion/Marketing	
Please list how the program/event will be promoted, including both digital and/or print methods and attach copies of available materials. Materials from previous occurrences of the event may be used if similar to marketing planned for current event.	The event is being promoted using social media platforms including Facebook, instagram, and Tiktok. Printed flyers are also being passed around the community.
7. Insurance	
Does the organization/group possess General Liability Insurance? A copy of the certificate must be supplied with this application.	Yes
Upload certificate copy	<a href="#">Cert25_170469_2_11_2026 (1).pdf</a>
8. Event Budget and Funding (required only for cash requests)	
How is the event being funded? Please list all types, including sponsorships, vendor fees, ticketing, etc.	The event is being funded through sponsorships, vendor fees, and donations.
	Budget Breakdown:  Park Reservation \$765 (\$300 in deposits)

<p>Please list all event fees that will be charged below, including registration, entry, spectator, vendor sign-up, parking, etc.</p>	<p>ACHD Coordinator Permit \$165</p> <p>Special Event Permit \$125</p> <p>Event Insurance \$55</p> <p>Portable toilets (4x) \$796</p> <p>DJ &amp; Sound system \$770</p> <p>Police officers - \$2100-\$2500</p> <p>performers ~\$3000</p> <p>Generator Rental ~\$250-\$400</p> <p>Facility Rental for performer practice \$400</p>
<p>Please list all Sponsors and Sponsor Contributions.</p>	
<p>9. Event Booths (required only for cash requests)</p>	
<p>Vendor/Sponsor Booths at the Event</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Number of booths</p>	<p>10-15</p>
<p>Will they be selling products and/or services?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please list the types of products and/or services that will be sold.</p>	<p>Clothing, fresh flower lei, Island products, realtor services, food, and more</p>
<p>10. Exception Criteria (required only for cash requests)</p>	
	<p>Hālau Kalama is requesting financial support from Commerce City to help</p>

Provide statement here.

produce a community-centered AANHPI Heritage Month event that celebrates culture, diversity, and inclusion. This event is designed to bring together residents through cultural performances, food, small businesses, and youth-focused engagement.

Requested funds will be used to cover essential event costs, including permits, insurance, sanitation, equipment rentals, and community outreach. Funding will also support accessibility by keeping vendor fees affordable and ensuring the event remains free or low-cost to attend. This request meets the City's criteria as follows:

a. Community Impact & Identity Building:

The event promotes cultural awareness and unity while positioning Commerce City as a diverse and welcoming community.

b. Residents Benefited:

An estimated 300–500 attendees, with targeted outreach to Commerce City families, youth, and local organizations.

c. Economic Benefit:

Supports local vendors and small businesses by providing income opportunities, exposure, and increased community foot traffic.

This funding will directly support a meaningful, inclusive event that strengthens community connection and local economic activity.

Please indicate below which attachments are being provided with the application.	501(c)3 Copy or Letter of Determination of Exempt Status Event Schedule Marketing Materials Certificate of Insurance Event Budget Detail Exception Criteria
Attach documents here	<a href="#">Letter of determination pdf.pdf</a> <a href="#">Nesian Fest flyer.pdf</a> <a href="#">Cert25_170469_2_11_2026 (2).pdf</a> <a href="#">Nesian Fest Lineup (4).pdf</a>
Signature	
Printed name	Ellen Akiona
Title	Leader member of Halau Kalama
	<a href="#">Link to signature</a>
Date	5/2/2026