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Any correspondence received after 2:00 p.m. on MONDAY on any item on the agenda will be provided to the Commission electronically and available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office. A copy of the correspondence will be available for public inspection in a binder at the back of the Council Chamber or Commission Meeting room.

**TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2024  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M. IN THE WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
AT CITY HALL, 3031 TORRANCE BL**

**THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM LISTED  
ON THE AGENDA**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL:** Commission members Cabrera, Carrasco, Hsiao, Klinenberg, Ohara, Polcari, Chair Kraemer

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

**3. REPORT OF THE CITY CLERK ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, September 12, 2024 /s/ Rebecca Poirier

**4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

**5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** (Limited to a 15-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comments on items on the Consent Calendar or not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 1 minute per speaker**. If presenting handout material to Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

*Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.*

**6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Recommendation of Cultural Services Manager that the Cultural Arts Commission approve the Cultural Arts Commission minutes of August 19, 2024.

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION  
UPDATES**

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Manager that the Cultural Arts Commission receive and file updates on Cultural Services Division activities.

**7B. CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Manager that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss and approve the Subcommittee's recommendations for the Excellence in Arts award recipients.

**8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**9A.** Adjournment of the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting to Monday, October 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Conference Room.



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2024, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Cabrera, Carrasco, Hsiao, Klinenberg, Ohara, Polcari and Chair Kraemer.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Community Services Director John La Rock.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Ohara.

**3. REPORT OF THE CITY CLERK ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

Community Services Director La Rock reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, August 15, 2024.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS:**

None.

**5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Klinenberg moved to reopen Oral Communications for a member of the public to speak. Commissioner Polcari seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Carrasco absent).

A member of the public spoke.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JULY 15, 2024**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Klinenberg moved to approve the July 15, 2024, minutes. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 6-0 approval (Commissioner Carrasco absent).

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES**

Community Services Director La Rock presented Item 7A:

- The Excellence in Arts Committee met successfully on August 12, 2024.
- The utility box solicitation of artists is ongoing. Staff will generate a PowerPoint presentation featuring artists who have submitted work for the Commission to review in the near future.
- Torrance Summer Nights continues with the most recent concert featuring the salsa band, Sangre Nueva.
- The Family Karaoke Glow Party was a successful event with a special appearance made by Steven Flowers who sang *Under the Sea* from *The Little Mermaid*.
- The Torrance Theatre Company held their closing performance of *The Little Mermaid* at the Armstrong Theatre. The show was a huge success selling out shows on numerous occasions.
- The Torrance Theatre Company wrapped up their summer camp with over (30) kids enrolled in the final week.
- The Torrance Art Museum's *Greenhouse: Houseplants in Contemporary Art*, curated by Sue-Na Gay, has received positive feedback and will remain open until September 14, 2024.
- TRYST and NOMAD exhibitions are in preparation for their display August 23-25, 2024, at the Del Amo Crossing.

Commissioner Carrasco arrived at 7:09 p.m.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cabrera moved to file and accept Item 7A. Commissioner Klinenberg seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

**7B. CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – APPROVE THE 2023-2024 CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT**

Community Services Director La Rock presented Item 7B:

Commissioner Klinenberg inquired on the Commission's idea of gathering money to put into grants for the community. Community Services Director La Rock replied that the funding was not a part of the adoptive budget by the City Council, but the next opportunity to include the grants for the community would be during the mid-year budget report to City Council.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Polcari moved to approve the 2023-2024 Cultural Arts Commission Annual Report. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

**7C. CULTURAL SERVICES DIRECTOR – REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PUBLIC ART MURAL POLICY**

Community Services Director La Rock presented Item 7C:

Community Services Director La Rock stated that the report is a fast-tracked Item as there is (1) potentially large co-produced mural between the City and a business property owner. With the Commission's recommendation of the report, it will be submitted to the City Attorney's Office for final review and presented to City Council.

Members of the Commission requested corrections and clarifications and provided feedback. Community Services Director La Rock acknowledged all, providing responses.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Polcari moved to recommend the Public Art Mural Policy with amendments for City Council's review. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

**8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Chair Kraemer inquired on sound equipment changes in the Armstrong Theatre. Mr. Jordan Rumery, Senior Business Manager for the City of Torrance, stated that there have been several upgrades at the theatre with the recent replacement of the soundboard and replacement of the speakers.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** At 7:57 p.m., Commissioner Hsiao moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, September 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klinenberg; a roll call vote reflected 7-0 approval.

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For Commission Meeting  
September 16, 2024

**TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**  
**FROM: MONICA HARTE, CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER**  
**SUBJECT: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES**

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Manager that the Cultural Arts Commission receive and file updates on the Cultural Services Division. The following is information regarding Cultural Services Division programs and facilities for September 2024:

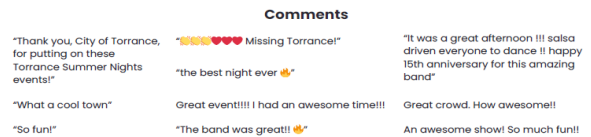
- The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Excellence in Arts Sub-committee met on September 9, 2024, to finalize recommendations for the Commissioners to consider for the October 27, 2024 event.



- Petty Theft performed the final Torrance Summer Nights Concert for more than 1,000 people. The band played for two hours, and the evening's surveys showed that 95% of the audience loved the entire TSN Festival, 4% had no comment, and 1% saw only the Petty Theft concert.



- Torrance Summer Nights social media engagement soared with numerous likes and comments for the bands.



- The Torrance Theatre Company's summer musical attracted a 47% increase in new audience members. Surveys showed that more than 90% would recommend TTC. Season tickets are selling fast and the hilarious comedy ESCANABA IN DA MOONLIGHT, written by Jeff Daniels and directed by Cary Jordahl, opens October 5, 2024.



- Torrance Art Museum's successful TRYST/NOMAD exhibition at the Del Amo Crossing increased attendance from the previous year, with approximately 4,500 attendees. The number of galleries participating also increased from 58 to 83 and the Instagram engagement increased 308%, reaching 9,241 accounts.



- In response to patron survey requests, Cultural Services Classes has expanded class offerings to include Jewelry classes, Tap for youth and adults, Improv for youth and adults, RK Sports programs for children, a Civic Jazz Ensemble, and expanded Ceramics classes.



Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Monica Harte", written over a horizontal line.

Monica Harte  
Cultural Services Manager

For Commission Meeting  
September 16, 2024

**TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

**FROM: MONICA HARTE, CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARD RECIPIENTS.**

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Manager that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss and approve the Subcommittee's recommendations for the Excellence in Arts Award recipients.

In 1977, the Cultural Arts Commission established the annual Excellence in Arts Awards. The purpose of these awards was to recognize excellence in the advancement of the arts and outstanding contributions to the cultural life of the community, as demonstrated by individual artists, businesses, or organizations whose artistic offerings touch the residents of Torrance.

Individuals or organizations that demonstrated the above characteristics could be nominated for the following categories: Arts Education, Dance, Drama & Theatre Arts, Literary Arts, Music, Visual Arts and Design, the Katy Geissert Award, and Emerging Artist.

This will be the 46<sup>th</sup> year that the Cultural Arts Commission is being asked to discuss and approve the award recipients from the current nomination list.

Respectfully submitted,



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Monica Harte  
Cultural Services Manager

Attachment: A) 2024 Excellence in Arts Nominees



**Excellence in Arts Nominations Selected by the Subcommittee**

- Dance: Ilona Glinarsky
- Drama & Theatre Arts: Daniel Scipio
- Katy Geissert: Torrance Bakery
- Music: Garry and Julie Lawrence
- Visual Arts: Caroline Cheng
- Dr. Tom Rische Arts Education: Ed Trimis
- Literary Arts: Ruth Stevens
- Emerging Artist: Kamiko Adams for Dance and Choreography
- Golden Circle: Under Consideration