



ARTS COMMISSION

Monday, May 8, 2023

Council Chambers

505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, CA 92651

5:00 P.M.

- A G E N D A -

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Approval of Minutes
- 3) Chair's Announcements (Wood)
- 4) Commissioner, Council and Staff Communications
- 5) Public Communications - *To assist the Arts Commission in the timely completion of its business, speakers are asked to limit their presentation to three minutes or less.*
- 6) Items for Discussion and Action:
 - A. **935 Laguna Canyon Road (Sawdust Art Festival) Temporary Mural Installation** – Discuss and approve a 12-month temporary mural installation titled “Harmonic” by Tara Luther. (Commissioner: Ballard; Staff: Bichler)
 - B. **935 Laguna Canyon Road (Sawdust Art Festival) Temporary Sculptural Mural Installation** – Discuss and approve a temporary installation by Nevada Silva. (Commissioner Ballard: Staff Bichler)
 - C. **Chamber Banner Competition** – Discuss and approve competition guidelines. (Commissioner: Chauvel, Staff: McGregor)
 - D. **Pacific Opera Project** – Verbal update on the scheduled performance for May 13, 2023. (Commissioner: Wood, Staff: McGregor.)
- 7) Adjournment

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with a disability who require a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in a meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, may request such modification or accommodation from the Arts Manager at 949-497-0722 or email art@lagunabeachcity.net. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

cc: City Manager
City Clerk
Council Liaison Mayor Kempf
Director Transit and Community Services

Post through May 9, 2023



LAGUNA BEACH ARTS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Monday, April 24, 2023

Council Chambers

505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, CA 92651

5:00 p.m.

Recap of Minutes

PRESENT: **Commissioners:** Donna Ballard, Suzi Chauvel, Michael Ervin, Laura Ford, Pat Kollenda, Adam Schwerner, and Karen Wood.

STAFF: Siân Poeschl, Cultural Arts Manager, Michael McGregor, Arts Program Coordinator, and Jamie Bichler, Public Art Coordinator

- 1) Karen Wood called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
 - 2) Minutes of the April 10, 2023, meeting were approved as presented. M/S Kollenda/Ballard.
 - 3) **Chair's Announcements:** None
 - 4) **Commissioner and Staff Communications:** Michael Ervin and Pat Kollenda noted that the Laguna Beach Arts Stars Awards would take place on Friday, April 28, 2023, at the Festival of Arts. Staff Bichler noted artist Sonny Behan would be installing the mural "Beneath the Waves" at the peppertree parking lot April 30 to May 10, 2023. Staff McGregor requested Commissioners volunteer to introduce Sunset Serenades concerts. Staff McGregor noted the Artist Fund at Festival of Arts was exhibiting work in the first-floor hallway gallery at City Hall.
 - 5) **Public Communications:** None.
 - 6) Items for Discussion and Action:
 - A) **2023 World Music Series** – Jason Feddy presented the recommended line-up for the World Music concert series. A motion was made to approve the concert schedule as presented. M/S Kollenda/Ervin. Yeas: Ballard, Chauvel, Ervin, Ford, Kollenda, Schwerner, Wood. Noes: None.
 - B) **2023 Sunset Serenades** – Jason Feddy presented harpist Mareia Antoinette as the recommended replacement performer for the Sunset Serenades concert on May 12, 2023. A motion was made to approve Mareia Antoinette to perform on May 12, 2023. M/S Ervin/Kollenda. Yeas: Ballard, Chauvel, Ervin, Ford, Kollenda, Schwerner, Wood. Noes: None.
 - C) **Symphony on the Go! Concert** – Staff McGregor presented a proposal from Pacific Symphony to host a free Symphony on the Go! concert at the Heisler Park Amphitheater. Staff noted that the program was already funded with the stipulation that the concert be held in a public park and be open to the public. Staff noted in lieu of the Pacific Symphony's bus stage entering the park, the City could provide audio services similar to Sunset Serenades. A motion was made to approve a Symphony on the Go! concert at the Heisler Park Amphitheater, from 5:30 p.m. to sunset, on Friday, October 6, 2023, at a cost not to exceed \$900. M/S Kollenda/Ervin. Yeas: Ballard, Chauvel, Ervin, Ford, Kollenda, Schwerner, Wood. Noes: None.
 - D) **Temporary Installations** – Staff Bichler provided updates on temporary installations planned for Alta Laguna Park and the Laguna Frontage Road pocket-park.
 - 7) Adjourned at 5:24 p.m.
- cc: City Manager, City Clerk, Mayor Pro-Tem Kempf, Director of Transit and Community Services

**City of Laguna Beach
Cultural Arts Department
Staff Report**

To: Arts Commission
From: Jamie Bichler, Public Arts Coordinator
Agenda Item: A
Subject: 935 Laguna Canyon Rd (Sawdust Art Festival) Temporary Mural Installation
Location: 935 Laguna Canyon Rd, Laguna Beach

Overview

The Cultural Arts Department has received an application from the Sawdust Art Festival requesting the replacement of the existing mural with the design “Harmonic” by Sawdust Art Festival exhibitor Tara Luther. The mural will be painted with latex and acrylics and coated with an anti-graffiti sealant. The mural will measure 50’ in length by 8’ in height and will be on exhibit through spring 2024. The festival has presented a pedestrian mitigation plan for the mural installation.

Two fluorescent LED photocell lights will be mounted above the mural to provide lighting with sensors when day transitions to night throughout the duration of the installation. Proposed lighting shall minimize glare and light spillage onto Frontage Road and Dark Sky compliant.

Tara Luther has been exhibiting her work since 2013 and has been a Sawdust Art Festival exhibitor starting in 2021. Her experience with large-scale work is reflected in the enclosed application. The imagery of “Harmonic” reflects the harmony of the natural world, culminating in the symbolic gesture of one hand sharing natural gifts and talents, while the other hand reaches out to receive them.

If approved, Staff will prepare a memorandum to the City Council and Planning Commission on behalf of the City Manager. Upon review, members of the City Council or Planning Commission have 10 days in which to appeal the Arts Commission decision. If appealed, the application would be reviewed by the Planning Commission.

Recommendation:

The Public Art Subcommittee, consisting of Commissioners Donna Ballard, Suzi Chauvel, and Adam Schwerner, has reviewed the application and recommended approval of the mural installation. Staff is seeking Arts Commission approval of the new temporary mural.

Attachments: Municipal Code Chapter 25.54
935 Laguna Canyon Rd (Sawdust Art Festival) Application

City of Laguna Beach Municipal Code

Chapter 25.54 Sign Regulations

“Mural” means an original work of art that is applied or attached to an exterior wall. (At the discretion of the arts commission a mural may be considered a wall sign, if it contains words, logos, trademarks or graphic representations of any person, product or service that identify a business.)

25.54.024 Murals.

- (A) Murals shall conform to the design standards and permit procedures outlined below; except that murals proposed in compliance with Chapter 1.09 (Art in Public Places) shall be governed by the design standards and permit procedures of that chapter, and mural proposals which are considered to be wall signs shall conform to the design standards applicable to wall signs. Signature(s) of the artist(s) shall be allowed and limited to a maximum of two square feet.
- (B) The following procedures shall govern the approval of mural proposals:
- (1) Applications. Applications for mural permits shall be submitted to the department of community development on an approved application form and shall be accompanied by the following: a site plan showing the lot and building dimensions and indicating the proposed location of the mural; a scale drawing and color photo of the building showing the proposed size and placement of the mural; a colored drawing of the proposed mural; and the proposed maintenance schedule.
 - (2) Arts Commission Review Required. The arts commission shall review and approve all proposed mural applications. If the proposed mural contains words, logos, trademarks or graphic representations of any person, product or service that identify a business, the arts commission shall determine whether the proposal is a mural or a wall sign.
 - (3) Heritage Committee Review Required. If a mural is proposed on a historic structure identified on the city’s historic resources inventory and/or city’s Historic Register, the heritage committee shall review and make a recommendation regarding the mural proposal prior to the review of the arts commission.
 - (4) Additional Review. All proposed murals located in the downtown may be appealed to the planning commission by a member of the planning commission or city council for review and approval.
 - (5) Criteria. In addition to the design criteria set forth in this chapter and Section 25.05.040 for design review, the following criteria shall be considered in the review of mural applications:
 - (a) Visual Enhancement. The proposed mural has attributes that enhance the site;
 - (b) Artistic Excellence. The proposed mural exemplifies high artistic quality of original artwork;
 - (c) Public Safety. The proposed mural does not create a public safety issue;
 - (6) Lighting. Proposed lighting of murals shall minimize glare and/or light spillage onto the public way or adjacent properties.
 - (7) Long-term Maintenance and Removal. The mural shall be maintained in good condition for the life of the mural according to the maintenance schedule and responsibilities approved by the arts commission. The removal or deaccession of murals shall comply with the deaccession policy established by the city council of Laguna Beach. (Ord. 1499 § 1, 2009; Ord. 1408 § 1 (Atth. A (part)), 2002).

(B)

City of Laguna Beach

ARTS COMMISSION APPLICATION

Name: Sawdust Art Festival

Address: 935 Laguna Canyon Road Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Phone / Fax: 949-497-0517

Date: April 20, 2023 Contact person: Franky Duschane

Art in Public Places – required by the Municipal Code

Property Information:

Location: 935 Laguna Canyon Road Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Property owner: Sawdust Festival Corporation

Description of Project: (Additional information may be attached. Please include materials, maintenance schedule, site drawing, colored drawing of installation and photograph of location.)

A mural titled, "Harmonic," by current Sawdust artist Tara Luther, will be located at the rear entrance of the Sawdust Art Festival on Frontage Road. The mural will be painted onsite, on a perimeter fence that measures 50 feet in length by 8 feet in height. The mural will be painted in late May/early June 2023 as a temporary installation and will remain in place for one year, through May 2024. Please refer to detailed information enclosed within this application.

Dimension of site: 50 ft length x 8 ft height

Dimension of proposed art work: 50 ft length x 8 ft height

Estimated cost: \$3,000 Artist stipend

Maintained by: Sawdust Festival Corporation

This form must be submitted to the Cultural Arts Department for consideration at an Arts Commission meeting.

Signature: Franky Duschane

For Cultural Arts Department Use

Date received: _____ Arts Commission agenda date: _____

Application # _____

Date _____

Tara Luther

Artist CV

347 Canyon Acres Dr.
Laguna Beach, Ca
312.399.0905
taraluther22@gmail.com
Taraluther.com

Professional Artist, Chicago, IL and Laguna Beach, CA

2000- current

Creation of custom pieces, portraits, murals, illustration, tattoo designs, hand-made cards, print production, & curating group shows

Art Lecturer, San Diego, CA

2015-2017

Art Lounge Lecture Series, Co-Facilitator & Featured Artist, Pecoff Studios

Art Therapist at Deborah's Place- Chicago, IL

September 2010- June 2013

Clinical counseling, facilitating art therapy groups involving talk therapy & art-making

EXHIBITIONS

2022 Sawdust Winter fantasy Festival, Laguna Beach, Ca

2022 Sawdust Art Festival, Laguna Beach, Ca

2021 Sawdust Winter fantasy Festival, Laguna Beach, Ca

2021 Hive Gallery, Whimsical Fury, Group Show, Los Angeles, Ca

2021 Sawdust Art Festival, Laguna Beach, Ca

2019 Sawdust Winter fantasy Festival, Laguna Beach, Ca

2019 Laguna Art-A-Fair, International Juried Festival, Laguna Beach, CA

2019 Curly Tale Fine Art, Wonderfully Weird Wonders, Group Show, Chicago

2019 Gallery 1070, Women's Empowerment show, Chicago, il

2019 [blink] Haus gallery, Women's Group Show, Chicago, il

2018 Uncommon Ground, Solo show, Chicago, IL

2018 [blnk] Haus Gallery, Geometric Dreams, Chicago IL

2018 Laguna Art-A-Fair, International Juried Festival, Laguna Beach, CA

2017 Bucktown Gallery, Chi-Town 12"x12" Group Show, Chicago, IL

2017 Bucktown Gallery Solo Show, Chicago, IL

2016 Soderworld Group Show, Willowbrook, IL

2016 Main Beach Fine Art, Laguna Beach, CA

2016 Woods Cove Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA

2015 Mezz Gallery, Art-Round-Town, Chicago, IL

2015 Glenwood Art Festival, Chicago, IL

2015 San Diego Art Walk, San Diego, CA

2014 Sawdust Winter Fantasy Art Festival, Laguna Beach CA

2014 Glenwood Art Festival, Chicago IL

2014 Solo Show, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago IL

2013 Group Show, Willis Tower Metropolitan Club, Chicago IL

2013 Solo Show, Studio Within, Chicago IL

2013 Glenwood Art Festival, Chicago IL

EDUCATION

Adler University, Chicago IL - *Masters of Counseling in the Arts*

August 2009 - May 2011

Summa Cum Laude

Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL- — *Bachelor of Arts*

August 1997- June 2000

Cum Laude

April 20, 2023

935 Laguna Canyon Road

Tara Luther is a contemporary oil painter residing in Laguna Beach California where she participates annually in the Sawdust Art Festival. Her work explores themes of mysticism, allegory, cosmology, nature, world religions, and folklore. Her style can be described as pop surrealism or fantastical.

Tara received her undergraduate in studio art from Columbia College Chicago, and her Master's Degree in Counseling in the Arts, from Alder University in Chicago. Tara spent several years working with formerly homeless women as an art therapist in Chicago before she relocated to Laguna Beach in 2019. Additionally, Tara has studied and practiced astrology for nearly 20 years. She frequently draws upon psychological and astrological archetypes to inform her work. Tara has shown her work extensively at galleries and art fairs in both Chicago and Southern California.

Artwork Title

April 20, 2023

Tara Luther, Sawdust Art Festival

935 Laguna Canyon Road



"Harmonic"

April 20, 2023

935 Laguna Canyon Road

"Harmonic"

There is no separation in nature. Everything works in harmony, even cycles of chaos and entropy lead to nourishment, and enhancement of the system. When our system runs organically, every creature, every challenge, every shift is useful. To allow for this type of flow in our everyday lives, we have to be comfortable with letting go, and being still enough to allow the natural current to guide us. Sometimes, when fears or subconscious blocks come up, we resist the flow, we dig into our ideologies and dogmas, and we buy into the idea that we are separate. We forget the flow of the natural world.

Nature is here to remind us to listen, to watch, to allow things to unfold in the sunlight. When I'm in nature, it speaks to me and invites me into contemplation. It teaches me ways to evolve my empathy into compassion, my dreams into creative action, to be in wonder of the world we share. The bees remind me of the power of the collective, but also the need for respect and discernment. In the spirit of natural harmony, one hand reaches out in a symbolic gesture of sharing natural gifts and talents, the other hand reaches out to receive. It's through our appreciation of each other and our creative endeavors that we create the community around us.



Previous Large Scale Work

April 20, 2023

Tara Luther, Sawdust Art Festival

935 Laguna Canyon Road



Identified Scale

April 20, 2023

Tara Luther, Sawdust Art Festival

935 Laguna Canyon Road



April 20, 2023

935 Laguna Canyon Road



Location of Mural on Frontage Road

**City of Laguna Beach
Cultural Arts Department
Staff Report**

To: Arts Commission
From: Jamie Bichler, Public Arts Coordinator
Agenda Item: B
Title: 935 Laguna Canyon Road (Sawdust Art Festival) Temporary Art Installation
Location: 935 Laguna Canyon Road., Laguna Beach

Overview

During the 2020 Pandemic, the Arts Commission and Cultural Arts Department, with funding from the Wayne Peterson Fund through the Laguna Beach Community Foundation, created a grant program titled “Fostering Creativity in a Time of Crisis.” Laguna Beach artist Nevada Silva submitted his design proposal and was awarded a grant.

Nevada Silva is proposing to fulfill the display requirement for his grant with a temporary sculptural mural installation on the Sawdust Art Festival facing Laguna Frontage Road. This location is highly visible to residents and visitors during the summer festival season. The Sawdust Art Festival board has approved the installation, which will be on exhibit from June 1, 2023, to September 4, 2023. The installation measures 4 feet wide by 6 feet tall with a central planted section, which will include species of succulents. The planting will be maintained for the duration of the exhibition by Sawdust Art Festival grounds staff in addition to the artist.

Nevada Silva has been an exhibitor at the Sawdust Art Festival since 2015 and specializes in wall-mounted metal sculptures with built-in plant design elements.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of a temporary sculptural mural installation at 935 Laguna Canyon Road on the façade of the Sawdust Art Festival by Nevada Silva from June 1, 2023, to September 4, 2023.

Exhibit A

Location of Installation (Left of Gate)



Exhibit B

Approved Grant Project



Example of plantings for the center of the installation

**City of Laguna Beach
Cultural Arts Department
Staff Report**

To: Arts Commission
From: Mike McGregor, Arts Program Coordinator
Agenda Item: C
Title: 2023 Council Chamber Banner Competition
Location: City Hall, 505 Forest Avenue

Overview

The City of Laguna Beach's Council Chamber Banner Competition is an opportunity for local artists to design and create interior single-sided banners which are displayed temporarily in the City Council Chambers at Laguna Beach City Hall, 505 Forest Avenue. The most recent Council Chamber banners designs were created in 2018.

Summary of the Matter

The competition is typically held every 4 years. A competition was held in 2022, however, no designs were selected by the Commission. Staff is recommending holding a Council Chamber Banner competition in 2023. The Arts Commission has budget and material for up to four (4) banners to be created. New Council Chamber Banners will provide an additional public arts opportunity for local artists. Designs will be accepted via online submission to SlideRoom. The guidelines have been updated for 2023 and reflect the scheduled dates for the competition.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Arts Commission approve the schedule and guidelines as presented.

Attached: 2023 Council Chamber Banner Guidelines



Council Chamber Banner Competition

Description

The City of Laguna Beach Council Chamber Banner Competition is a project of the Arts Commission. Selected artists are provided with banner material on which to paint original artwork. The completed banners are displayed in the City of Laguna Beach Council Chambers.

Eligibility

Open to artists 18 years of age or older who live, work, or exhibit in Laguna Beach (proof required).

Entry Requirements

Please submit a color design drawn to scale (15 in. x 4 ½ in.) of your banner. Designs should be hand-drawn or painted, demonstrating ability and familiarity with materials. Bright colors are suggested, and a community celebration theme encouraged. Religious symbols are discouraged. For judging purposes please do not sign the front of your submitted design. Artists may submit a maximum of two (2) designs.

Selected artists are provided with a vertical 10 ft x 3 ft. banner. Actual banners may vary slightly in size. Allow a variance of 10% in your design. Banners must be painted on one side using acrylic paint.

Deadlines and Important Dates

Sept. 3, 2023	Prospective designs must be submitted to https://lagunabeachcity.slideroom.com
Sept. 11, 2023	Arts Commission will review and select the designs.
Oct. 16, 2023	Completed banners must be delivered to City Hall.
Oct. 24, 2023	Winners will be recognized at the City Council meeting.

Jurying Process

The seven members of the City of Laguna Beach Arts Commission review designs anonymously for creativity and visual impact. Commissioners vote by ballot, which are tallied, and up to four (4) designs are selected by a majority motion.

Compensation / Award

Completed banners will be awarded an \$900 honorarium. The completed banner and designs become property of the City of Laguna Beach and will be displayed when and where the City desires.

Contact

Michael McGregor, Arts Program Coordinator: (949) 497-0743; mmcgregor@lagunabeachcity.net