



## ARTS COMMISSION

Monday, April 8, 2024

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 (Ballard)
- 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. **Streamline Review of Artist Occupancy Permit Application** – Discuss and approve revisions to the ordinance Chapter 25.16 of the Municipal Code. (Commissioner: Ballard, Staff: Poeschl)
  - B. **Temporary Public Art Installation at the Stage on the Promenade on Forest** – Discuss and select a design for a three month installation or reject all submissions. (Commissioner: Schwerner, Staff: McGregor)
  - C. **Restoration of Public Art** - Discuss and approve the restoration of “Canyon View” at a cost not exceeding \$9,500. (Staff: Schwerner, Staff: Wood.)
  - D. **City Council and Arts Commission Joint Meeting** - Discuss and approve joint meeting agenda items. (Commissioner: Ballard)
  - E. **2024-2025 Cultural Arts Funding Grants Allocations** – Review grant applications and approve the funding allocations recommended by the sub-committee. (Commissioner: Ballard Staff: Poeschl)
  - F. **Artist Innovation Grant Update** – Update on progress made by grant applicants. (Staff: Poeschl)
- 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](mailto: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, Director Transit and Community Services

Post through April 9, 2024



**LAGUNA BEACH ARTS COMMISSION**  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, March 11, 2024  
Council Chambers  
505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, CA 92651  
5:00 p.m.

**Recap of Minutes**

**PRESENT:**       **Commissioners:** Donna Ballard, Austin Barrow, Suzi Chauvel, Michael Ervin, Pat Kollenda, Carl Smith, and Adam Schwerner.       **Absent:** Michael Ray

**STAFF:**       Siân Poeschl, Cultural Arts Manager, Michael McGregor, Arts Program Coordinator, Karen Wood, Public Art Coordinator, Michael Litschi, Director of Transit and Community Services.

**COUNCIL:**       Mayor Sue Kempf

- 1) Donna Ballard called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- 2) The minutes of the February 26, 2024, regular meeting were approved as presented. M/S Ervin/Chauvel.
- 3) **Chair’s Announcements:** Donna Ballard commended the dedication of the temporary sculpture “Dream Big”.
- 4) **Commissioner and Staff Communications:** Michael Ervin noted attending the Laguna Beach Arts Alliance meeting on March 8, 2024. Pat Kollenda, Carl Smith, Staff Poeschl, and Mayor Kempf commended the dedication of the temporary sculpture “Dream Big”. Staff McGregor noted the Art That’s Small at City Hall exhibition had been installed and the deadline for the Youth Art Advisory Board’s call for artists for an installation at the Promenade on Forest was April 1, 2024. Staff Poeschl thanked Commissioners and staff for attending the City Council meeting regarding the Public Art Ordinance and noted the joint meeting between the City Council and the Arts Commission would be April 23, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.
- 5) **Cultural Arts Funding Presentations:** Joy Dittberner presented on behalf of Laguna Dance Festival regarding how grant funding was used.
- 6) **Public Communications:** None.
- 7) Items for Discussion and Action:
  - A) **2024 Banner Competition** – Staff Wood presented the 41 submitted designs. Staff McGregor noted the Youth Art Advisory Board’s recommendations. A motion was made to select designs by Kate Cleaves, Kimberly Fleming, John Hanrahan, and Suzanne Redfearn. Motion: Ballard. Second: Schwerner. Yeas: Ballard, Barrow, Chauvel, Ervin, Kollenda, Smith, Schwerner. Noes: None.
  - B) **Public Art Activations** – Staff Poeschl presented pop-up event concepts to active the temporary art installation “Dream Big” by Elizabeth Laul Healey. A motion was made to approve undertaking activations for the temporary artwork between March and June 30, 2024, at a cost not to exceed \$2,500 funded through savings the Arts Commission Special Programs Budget. Motion: Kollenda. Second: Chauvel. Yeas: Ballard, Barrow, Chauvel, Ervin, Kollenda, Smith, Schwerner. Noes: None.

- C) **World Arts Day** – Staff McGregor presented informational cards and a banner design promoting World Art Day. A motion was made to 1) Approve the creation of a banner at a cost not to exceed \$150 allocated from savings in the Arts Commission Special Programs Budget; 2) Approve the display the banner in front of City Hall and gold ribbons with information cards on the public art sculptures in the Downtown on April 15, 2024. Motion: Kollenda. Second: Smith. Yeas: Ballard, Barrow, Chauvel, Ervin, Kollenda, Smith, Schwerner. Noes: None.

- 8) Adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

cc: City Manager, City Clerk, Mayor Kempf, Director of Transit and Community Services

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 2, 2024

**TO:** Arts Commission

**FROM:** Siân Poeschl, Arts Manager

**SUBJECT:** Streamline Review of Artist Occupancy Permit Application (Item A)

---

The purpose of this revision to Chapter 25.16 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code is an effort to streamline the process for obtaining an artist occupancy permit by modifying the existing review procedures.

The current procedure under Chapter 25.16 mandate advance meeting noticing and in person public meetings of the Arts Review Panel for decision-making on artists occupancy permits necessary for artists to occupy working and living units, a task that can be cumbersome in scheduling for the Panel members and applicants. The proposed ordinance aims to expedite this process by authorizing the Community Development Director or their designee to review and decide on these applications.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City previously enacted Chapter 25.16 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code to offer artists the opportunity to work and live in the same space with the overarching objective of promoting affordable living for artists and encouraging them to reside in Laguna Beach. Section 25.16.030 provides the framework for obtaining an artist occupancy permit for artists to use and occupy a working and living unit to create art in a combined working and living environment.

To obtain an artist occupancy permit under the current framework, the artist must obtain written authorization from the Community Development Director or their designee through an application process. Upon submission of a complete application, the Artist Review Panel, a subcommittee consisting of three members of the City's Arts Commission, meets in person within thirty days of the artist occupancy permit application's submission to either approve or deny the application. Decisions made by the Panel are directly appealable to the City Council

The public nature of the Panel's meetings requires compliance with the Brown Act's advance notice requirements. This process inherently results in a significant commitment of staff time and resources to prepare the necessary noticing materials and staff reports. Given the time and administrative constraints in convening in person to decide on each artist occupancy permit application, the City's Cultural Arts Manager has proposed amending Section 25.16.030 and associated provisions of Chapter 25.16 of the Municipal Code to streamline this review process.

Under the proposed ordinance, the Community Development Director or their designee will instead review and approve or deny artist occupancy permit applications within fourteen days of receiving a complete application from the applicant. Applicants dissatisfied with the decision of the Community Development Director or their designee will continue to have the option to appeal the decision in accordance with the procedures of Section 25.05.070 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code. Additionally, the proposed ordinance will amend Sections 25.16.040 and 25.16.050 of the Municipal Code to ensure consistency with the changes being proposed in Section 25.16.030.

It is recommended that the Arts Commission approve amendments to Chapter 25.16 of the Municipal Code to streamline review of Artist Occupancy Permits.

**DRAFT ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA  
AMENDING CHAPTER 25.16 OF THE LAGUNA BEACH MUNICIPAL  
CODE TO STREAMLINE REVIEW OF ARTIST OCCUPANCY PERMIT  
APPLICATIONS AND DETERMINING THE ORDINANCE TO BE  
EXEMPT FROM CEQA**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Laguna Beach (“City”) adopted Chapter 25.16 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code with the objective of providing opportunities for economically constrained artists to create artwork within the City by facilitating combined working and living units specifically for artists;

**WHEREAS**, artists desiring to reside in a unit designated for both working and living purposes must secure an artist occupancy permit in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 25.16.030 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code;

**WHEREAS**, the City remains committed to encouraging occupancy of artist working and living units to enable artists to reside and produce art within these spaces;

**WHEREAS**, the Laguna Beach Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on [DATE], to review and consider recommending to the City Council approval of this **draft Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Local Coastal Program Amendment modifying Sections 25.16.030, 25.16.040, and 25.16.050** of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code to streamline the review process for obtaining artist occupancy permits;

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Commission has determined that the proposed amendments to the Laguna Beach Municipal Code are in general conformance with the City’s General Plan and recommended approval of this Ordinance;

**WHEREAS**, acknowledging the necessity of a streamlined review process, the City Council desires to revise Chapter 25.16 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code; and

**WHEREAS**, all legal prerequisites to the adoption of this Ordinance have been met.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The recitals above are true and correct and are each incorporated by reference and adopted as findings by the City Council.

**SECTION 2.** Section 25.16.030 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code (Authorization – Artist Occupancy Permit Required) is amended to read as follows (**additions made in underline and deletions made in strikethrough**):

The use and occupancy of an artist’s working and living unit shall be for artists and their household. Each artist who proposes to occupy an artist working and living unit shall first obtain written confirmation from the community development director or his/her designee, that the type of proposed art work to be created is appropriate in the proposed zoning designation where the unit is located. A completed application for an artist occupancy permit may then be submitted to the community development department for review, ~~and~~

consideration, and decision by the ~~artist review panel~~ Community Development Director or his/her designee. In addition, each artist who may potentially occupy an artists working and living unit shall comply with not less than three of the following requirements when submitting a completed application:

- (A) Submit evidence of a body of work, created in the last three years, as documented in support materials such as ~~compact disks (CDs)~~, flash drive, slides, video and/or audio tapes, production photographs, scripts or works of fiction, non-fiction, or poetry. Support materials shall be labeled with the artist's name, date of work and any other required information;
- (B) Submit evidence that the artist has formal training in the arts, as documented in a resume that summarizes such training;
- (C) Submit evidence that the artist has presented his or her work in exhibition, performance, readings, or comparable public programming, as documented in a resume, sample programs/invitations, catalogs, press clips or similar official documentation;
- (D) Submit three letters of recommendation from artists and/or arts professionals (such as curators, producers, or teachers) who are recognized within the arts community and who will attest that the applicant is a working artist as defined below.

~~Upon submission of a complete application, artist review panel shall meet within thirty days to review the artist occupancy permit application and either approve or deny the application. The Community Development Director or his/her designee will review and either approve or deny an artist occupancy permit application within fourteen days of submission of a complete application. Any decision~~ Decisions made by the Community Development Director or his/her designee ~~artist review panel~~ may be appealed to the city council in accordance with Section 25.05.070. Upon ~~certification by the artist review panel~~ approval of the application, the artist may submit tenant improvement plans to the community development department for any desired or necessary modifications to the unit for review and approval by the community development and the fire departments.

**SECTION 3.** Section 25.16.040 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code (Definitions) is amended to read as follows (additions made in underline and deletions made in ~~strikethrough~~). Except as amended, all other provisions of Section 25.16.040 shall remain in full force and effect:

~~"Artists' review panel" means a subcommittee, appointed by the city council, consisting of three members of the city's arts commission, one of whom shall be a working artist, established for the purpose of reviewing and certifying each artist who proposes to occupy an artist's working and living unit.~~

**SECTION 4.** Section 25.16.050 of the Laguna Beach Municipal Code (Minimum Requirements for Artists' Working and Living Units) is amended to read as follows (additions made in underline and deletions made in ~~strikethrough~~). Except as amended, all other provisions of Section 25.16.050 shall remain in full force and effect:

(A) Development Standards. The development standards of the applicable allowable zone identified in subdivision (1) shall be the development standards for an artist's working and living development project. In the event of a conflict between the development standards set forth in the applicable allowable zone and the standards in this chapter, the provisions of this chapter shall take precedence. All artists' working and living units shall be designed to comply with applicable building code standards. The type of art work created in an artists' working and living unit shall be consistent with allowable uses and compatible with requirements of the zoning district in

which it is located. The city reserves the right to perform on-site inspections to determine compliance with this chapter, the artist occupancy permit, and the conditional use permit.

...

(14) Future additions, modifications or enlargements of structures, and modification of sizes of floor areas designated as residential dwelling area and working space shall require review by the planning commission and the approval of an amendment to the conditional use permit. Any subsequent change in the approved type(s) of artist(s) and/or art work(s) shall require subsequent review in accordance with Section 25.16.030 by the artist review panel including artist certification.

**SECTION 5.** This proposed ordinance is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines, as it is not a “project” and has no potential to result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change to the environment. (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15378(a).) Further, this Ordinance is exempt from CEQA as there is no possibility that this Ordinance or its implementation would have a significant negative effect on the environment. (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3).) This Ordinance merely changes duties of application review from an artist review panel to the Community Development Director or designee. There is no possibility that this Ordinance or its implementation would have a significant negative effect on the environment.

**SECTION 6.** If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or place, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance, and each and every section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 7.** The City Clerk of the City of Laguna Beach shall certify to the passage and adoption of this Ordinance and shall cause the same to be published in the manner required by law in the City of Laguna Beach.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Laguna Beach, California, at a regular meeting of the City Council held on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sue Kempf Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Marie McKay, City Clerk

**Cultural Arts Department  
Staff Report**

**To:** Arts Commission  
**Meeting Date:** April 8, 2024  
**Agenda Item:** **B**  
**Title:** Stage on Forest – Temporary Installation  
**Location:** 295 Forest Avenue

---

**Overview**

The Stage on Forest is located at the corner of Forest Avenue and Glenneyre Street, a retail area with numerous restaurants and boutique businesses located near Main Beach. The stage is utilized for live music performances on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings.

The Youth Art Advisory Board serves as youth ambassadors to the City’s Arts Commission. One of the responsibilities of the Board is to facilitate an art installation-style project during their seven-month appointment. The Youth Arts Advisory Board convened and drafted a call for a temporary art installation or mural with the theme of “Marine Sanctuary” to occupy the Stage on Forest for up to three months or based on condition with an honorarium of \$5,000. The Art Commission approved the competition guidelines on January 22, 2024.

**Summary of the Matter**

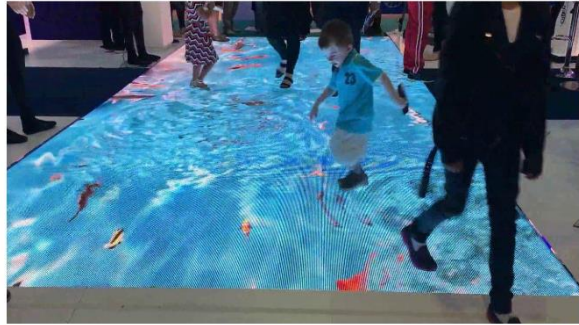
Submissions were received via SlideRoom through April 1, 2024, with a total of nine applicants. The Arts Commission may view the submissions at [www.slideroom.com](http://www.slideroom.com) and images are attached to this report. Per the guidelines, the chosen proposal and design should be durable, safe to the public, and withstand an unprotected display, as well as celebrate and include references to sea-life conservation and Laguna Beach being a marine sanctuary. Extra consideration should be given to proposals that include the use of repurposed and/or recycled materials. The sub-committee may provide a verbal recommendation.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Arts Commission consider the recommendations of the Public Art sub-committee and Youth Art Advisory Board and discuss the submissions and select a proposal to be installed at the Stage on Forest for the period of June to September 2024, or select up to three finalists to present their concepts with material samples at the Arts Commission meeting on April 22, 2024.

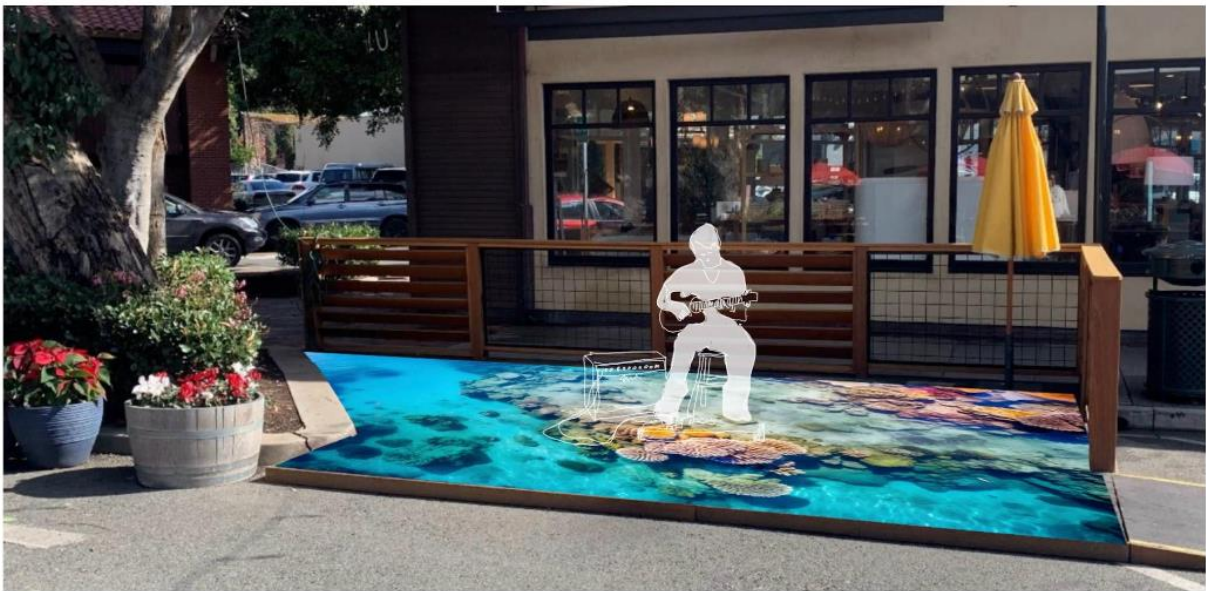
Attached: Design submissions for the Stage on Forest Temporary Installation



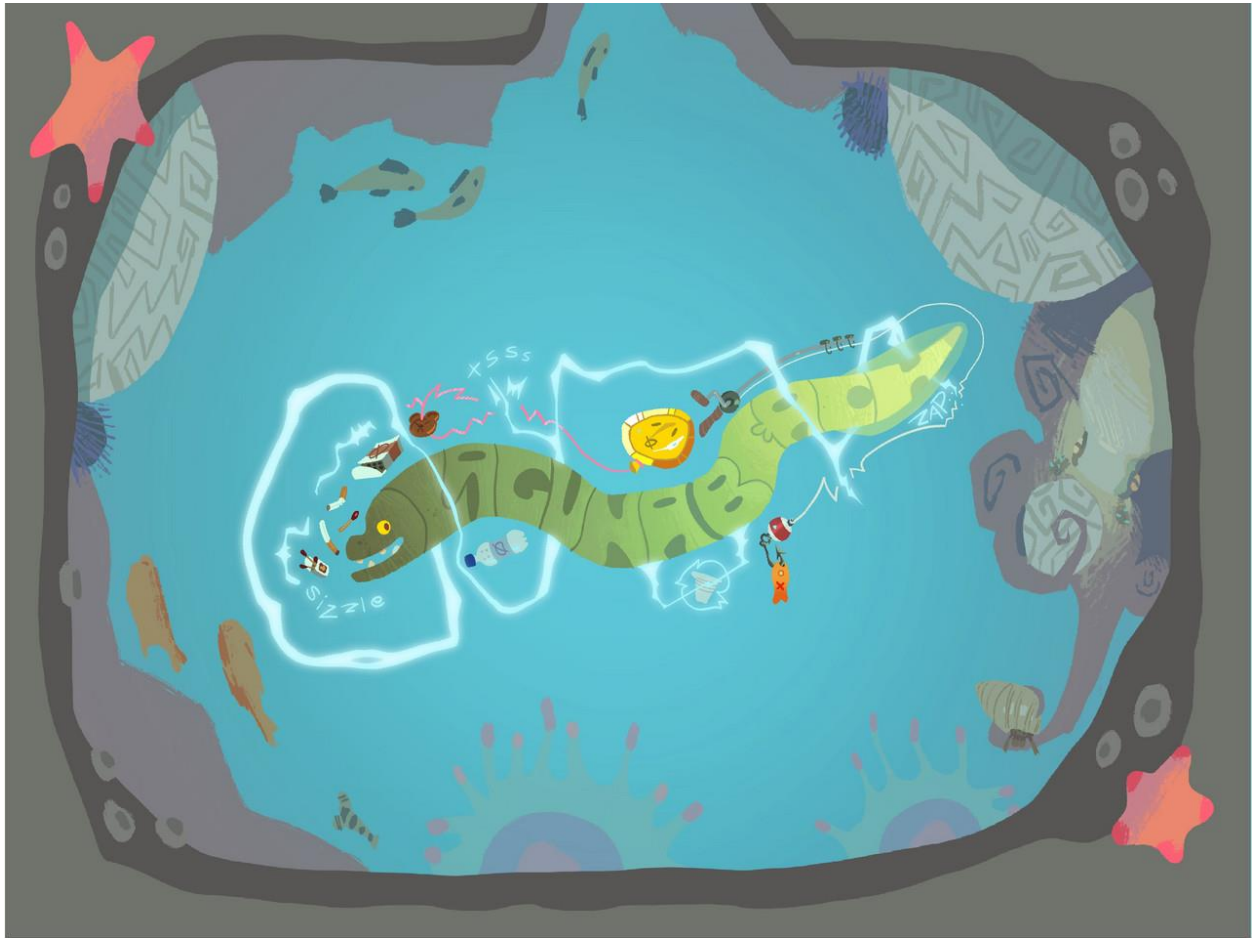


Examples of interactive LED floors (indoor/outdoor) showing fish swimming and the water moving/rippling.

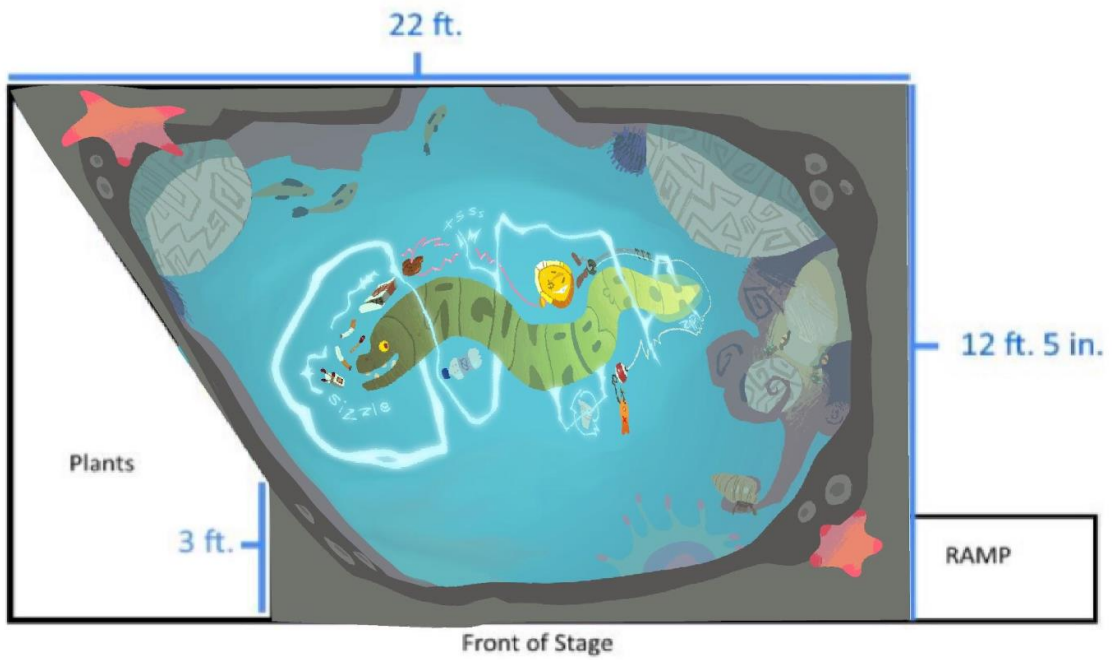
1.



The stage area remains clear and unobstructed for music, talent and/or other acts.



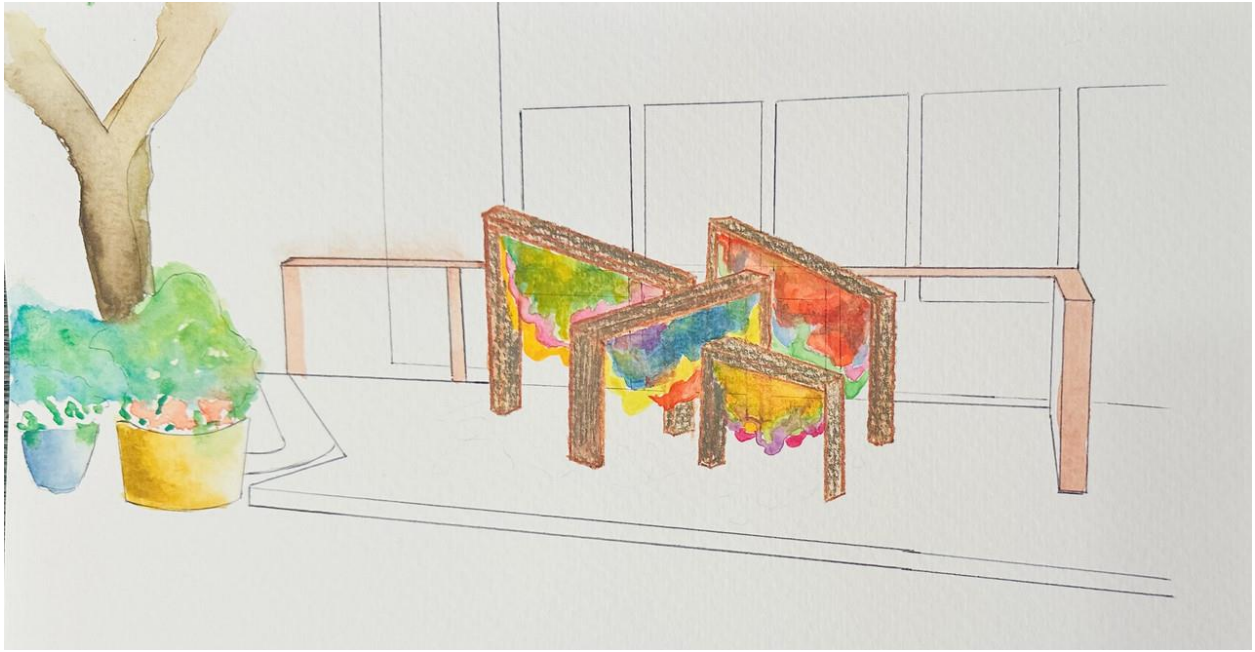
2.







3.



4.



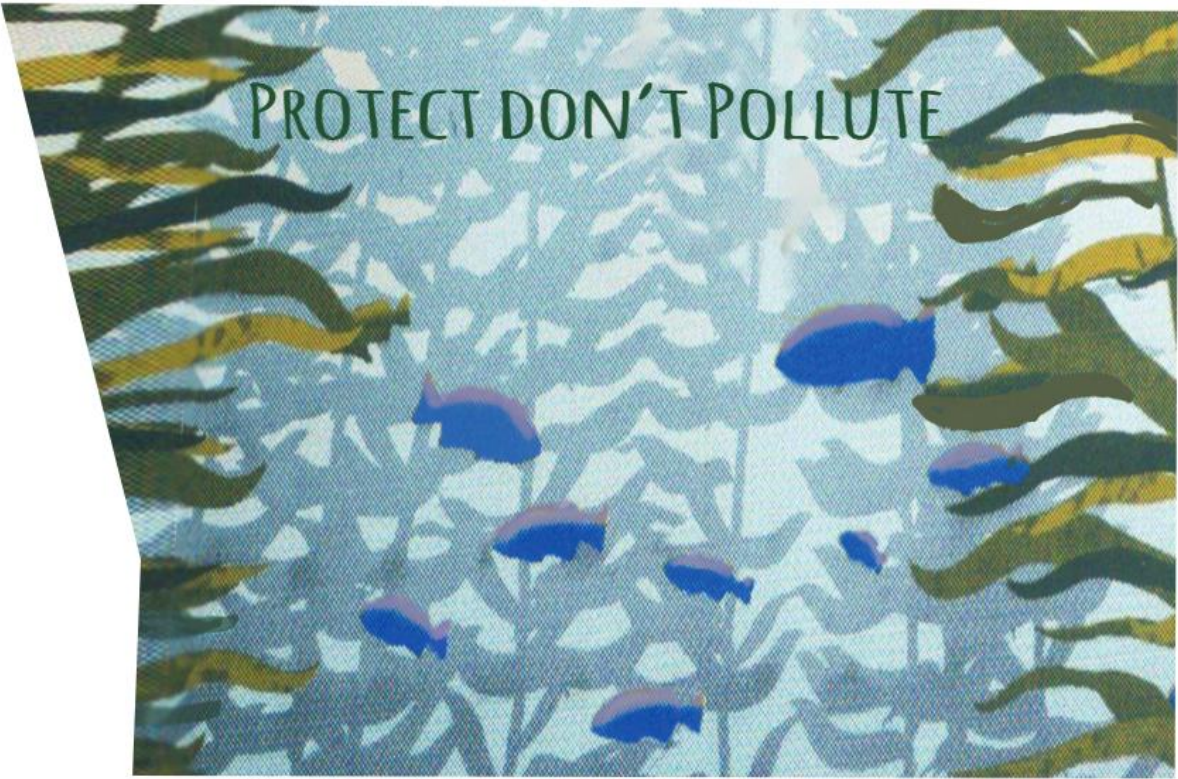
5.





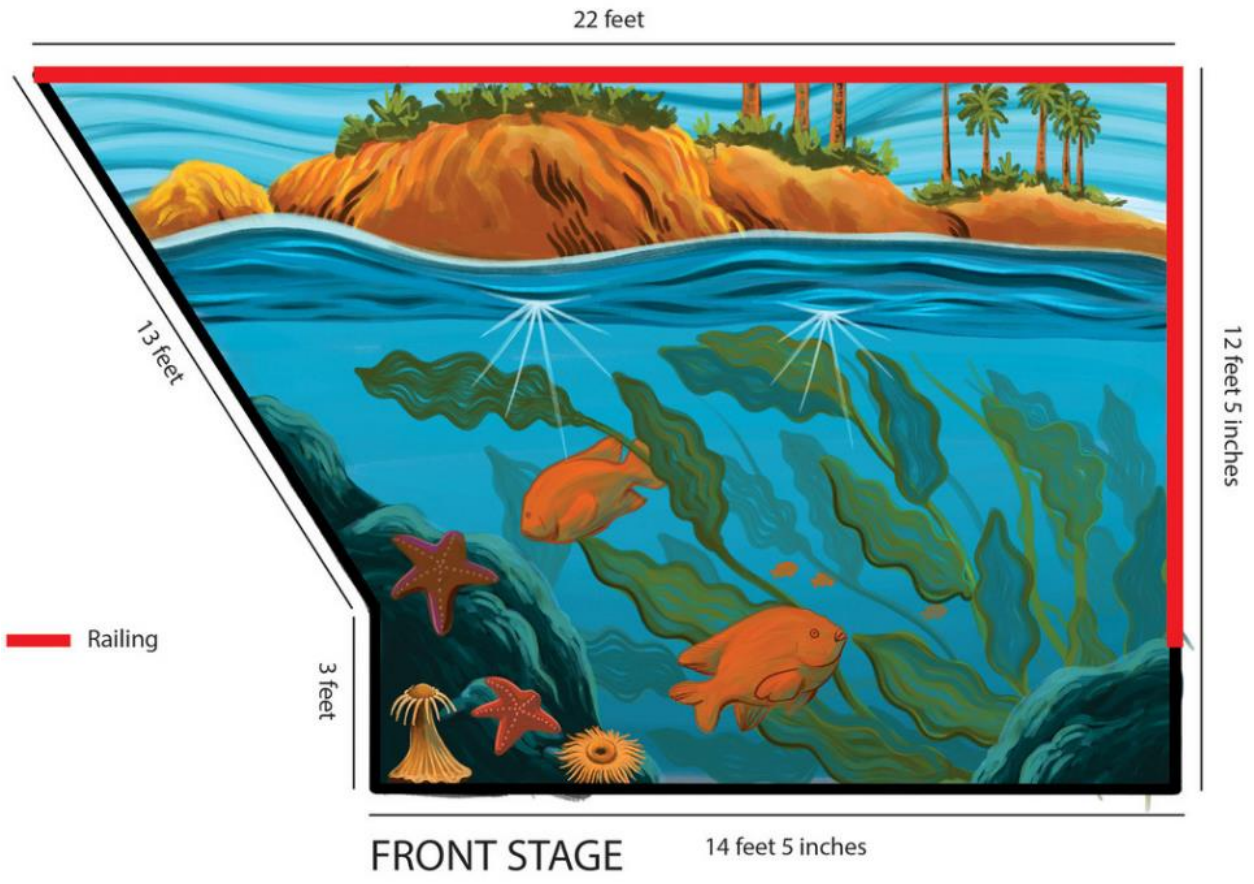
6.





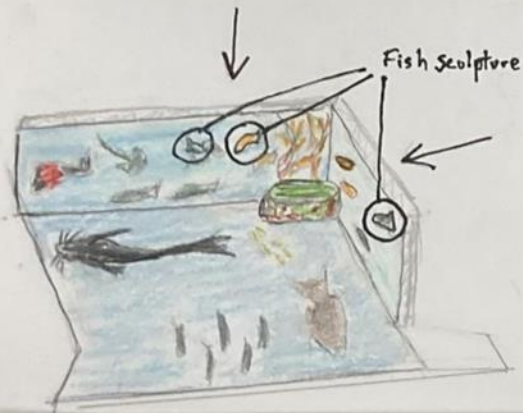
7.





8.





Laguna  
Beach  
Native  
Sea life

Can you find these?

- |                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 8 Corbina       | Sea grass   |
| 5 Grunion       | kelp        |
| 5 Garibaldi     | Sea Anemone |
| 3 Surf perch    | Barnacles   |
| 2 Sheephead     | Crabs       |
| 1 Female 1 male | Star        |
| 1 Manta Ray     |             |
| 1 Halibut       |             |
| 1 Seal          |             |

9.



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

To: Arts Commission  
From: Karen Wood, Public Art Coordinator  
Agenda Item: 6 C  
Title: Public Art Restoration, “Canyon View” 375 Broadway

---

**Overview**

At the direction of the Arts Commission, the Cultural Arts Department is reviewing each public art installation in the City’s collection to assess and address specific maintenance and restoration needs. Assuring appropriate and timely maintenance protects the investment of these significant and unique installations and assures the cultural public art legacy of the City and the artists.

**Summary of the Matter**

Independent contractor, Gerard Stripling, is engaged by the Cultural Arts Department to facilitate the reviews and provide recommendations for restoration. He has reviewed “Canyon View”, along with one of the three original artists, David Cooke, and reports that major restoration work needed on the wooden benches, and lessor work on the Arbor itself, all originally installed 20 years ago at the cost of \$65,000. Very little maintenance has been required over this period. Damage includes general weathering, termite infestation and cracks. Mr. Cooke does not wish to do the restoration but has provided input to Mr. Stripling.

Complete Restoration of “Canyon View” will include:

Eleven Benches and faux stone bench supports- The benches will be taken off-site for one week to be cleaned, striped, sanded, filled, sealed, and stained. The benches are constructed of Port Oxford Cedar wood. Restoration will include the removal of the wooden plugs to access bolts, removal of wooden bench tops, filing of the holes and depressions, and sanding and refinishing each bench top. New plugs will be cut and glued in place after the benches are reattached onsite. The concrete faux stone bench supports will be cleaned and sealed onsite.

Arbor- The structure is constructed of African Mahogany and galvanized steel, built around existing concrete pillars. Restoration will include a power wash of the entire structure taking care to catch the runoff. Flaking paint from the inner roof of the structure will be removed, as will dirt and debris from the roof. The underside of the roof will be repainted with primer and a finish paint in the same color as originally painted, as will the concrete support posts. The Mahogany beams will be sanded and re-stained. All rust or discoloration will be removed from metal portions which will then have a matching patina applied.

Timeframe and Budget:

Given that bus stop use is maximized during the summer months, the restoration work is intended for this spring of 2024. It is estimated the restoration will take one to two weeks. With the benches removed, temporary benches will be requested from the Public Works Department of the City for the convenience of the public.

This work is estimated to cost \$9,412. The scope of required restoration is beyond what was initially anticipated and will be funded through savings in the Arts Commission Special Programs budget of the Laguna Beach Tourism Marketing District.

**Recommendation:**

The Arts Commission Public Art sub-committee, comprised of Adam Schwerner, Pat Kollenda and Donna Ballard may choose to make a verbal recommendation at the meeting.

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 2, 2024  
**TO:** Arts Commission  
**FROM:** Donna Ballard, Chair Arts Commission  
**SUBJECT:** City Council and Arts Commission Joint Meeting (Item D)

---

The joint meeting of the City Council and Arts Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 4 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The recommendations for agenda items are the following:

1. Overview of Arts Commission programming
2. Public Art Ordinance and Policy
3. Upcoming Programming

Arts Commissioners may add additional items at the meeting but should consider that the meeting is only an hour in duration. It is also recommended that a Commissioner take a lead in presenting an item.

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 2, 2024  
**TO:** Arts Commission  
**FROM:** Siân Poeschl, Cultural Arts Manager  
**SUBJECT:** 2024 – 2025 Cultural Arts Allocations (Agenda Item E)

---

The Arts Commission has received 22 grant applications from nonprofit organizations requesting Cultural Arts Funding, two fewer applications than the previous year. The sub-committee consisting of Commissioners Donna Ballard, Adam Schwerner and Michael Ervin reviewed the applications and have recommended the distribution of a total \$357,000 in grant funding, this is an increase of \$36,000 from the previous year.

In considering applications, the sub-committee reviewed the Laguna Beach Tourism Marketing District Management Plan that identifies how funds can be utilized and the grant criteria.

***Goal:** The purpose of this funding is to create quality cultural art experiences that benefit guests that stay overnight at Laguna Beach hotels while improving the experience for residents. The funds available support art projects that promote tourism and related events.*

*In evaluating applications, consideration will be given to the following:*

- 1. Non-profit organizations with functioning arts programs.*
- 2. Cultural arts programs that provide the greatest benefits in meeting the needs of Laguna Beach, its residents and visitors.*
- 3. New/ and or expanded art services not currently being provided.*

Arts Commissioners should review the full applications on the platform SlideRoom. The synopsis in this report is for the benefit of public transparency in the allocation of funds.

It is recommended by the sub-committee that the Arts Commission approve the allocation of Cultural Arts Funding as presented of a total of \$357,000.

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Received 23/24</b>	<b>Requested 24/25</b>	<b>Recommended 24/25</b>
Coast Film Foundation	8,000	35,000	<b>12,000</b>
Community Art Project	6,000	7,000	<b>7,000</b>
Festival of Arts	17,000	0	<b>0</b>
First Thursdays Art Walk	15,000	25,000	<b>15,000</b>
Friends of Choral Music	1,500	9,325	<b>2,500</b>
Kontrapunktus	2,000	2,500	<b>2,500</b>
KX FM Radio	5,000	0	<b>0</b>
Laguna Beach Alliance for the Arts	21,000	30,000	<b>30,000</b>
Laguna Beach Chamber Singers	4,000	8,000	<b>5,000</b>
Laguna Beach Cultural Arts Center	25,000	45,000	<b>35,000</b>
Laguna Beach Live	30,000	55,000	<b>35,000</b>
Laguna Beach Sister Cities	5,000	5,000	<b>5,000</b>
Laguna Community Concert Band	12,000	13,000	<b>13,000</b>
Laguna Dance Festival	30,000	55,000	<b>35,000</b>
Laguna Plein Air Painters	23,000	50,000	<b>30,000</b>
LagunaTunes	5,000	5,000	<b>5,000</b>
Lagunarecoveryart.Inc	0	50,000	<b>1,000</b>
LOCA Arts Education	21,000	31,000	<b>25,000</b>
No Square	30,000	40,000	<b>35,000</b>
Opera Laguna	0	10,000	<b>2,500</b>
Pacific Vocal Series (3340 Recital)	5,000	20,000	<b>1,000</b>
Philharmonic Society of OC	12,000	20,000	<b>17,000</b>
Sawdust Art Festival	36,500	50,000	<b>36,500</b>
Third Street Writers	6,000	6,000	<b>6,000</b>
On-Line Processing	1,000	1,000	<b>1,000</b>
<b>22 Applications</b>	<b>321,000</b>	<b>562,825</b>	<b>357,000</b>

## 2024-2025 Cultural Arts Funding Grant Synopsis

### **Coast Film Foundation** (Requested \$35,000) **Recommended: \$12,000**

Established in 2022, the organization annually presents the Coast Film and Music Festival on the grounds of the Festival of Arts and Rivian South Coast Cinema. Funds will be used to hire part-time staff to manage the Foundation.

### **Community Art Project** (Requested: \$7,000) **Recommended: \$7,000**

Community Art Project was established in 1998 and is committed to increasing the visibility and appreciation of Art and serving as a catalyst for Art education. Funds will be used to market and promote its exhibitions at the City Hall, Laguna Beach Susi Q Community Center, LCAD Gallery on Forest and at The Hotel Laguna.

### **First Thursdays Art Walk** (Requested \$25,000) **Recommended: \$15,000**

Established in 1998, the mission of the organization is to promote art and appreciation through the community of fine art galleries. Funds will be used for trolley service rental, marketing, and promotions.

### **Friends of Choral Music** (Requested \$9,325) **Recommended: \$2,500**

The Friends of Choral Music were established in 1994 and its mission is to perform the highest quality choral music and educate the next generation of artists. Funds will be used for performance venue rental at the Presbyterian Church.

### **Kontrapunktus** (Request \$2,500) **Recommended: \$2,500**

Kontrapunktus is an orchestra formed in 2015. Funds will be used to produce a classical concert at the Laguna Presbyterian Church. The grant will provide funds for artists fees and venue rental.

### **Laguna Beach Alliance for the Arts** (Request \$30,000) **Recommended: \$30,000**

LBAA consisted of 22 member arts organizations and was established in 2002. The mission of the organization is to serve as an advocate for the arts, promote collaboration and networking to sustain a healthy arts environment. Funds will be used for a weekly digital calendar and arts section in collaboration with StuNews and website maintenance.

### **Laguna Beach Chamber Singers** (Request \$8,000) **Recommended: \$5,000**

The mission of the organization is to provide quality choral performances in a positive and joyful atmosphere to share with the Orange County community. Funds will be used to pay an artistic director.

### **Laguna Beach Cultural Arts Center** (Request \$45,000) **Recommended: 35,000**

Established in 2020, the mission of the Center is to harness the power of the arts for the benefit of the community. Funds will be used to hire lighting technicians, sound engineers and video editors for the presentation of live and recorded performances and the Laguna Blues Series.

### **Laguna Beach Live** (Request \$55,000) **Recommended: \$35,000**

Laguna Beach Live was established in 2001 and provides access to quality, live music. Funds will be used to present Jazz, Bluegrass and BBQ, Classical Music, Live Music Insights and World Beat. The grant will provide funds for rental, production, and artists fees.

**Laguna Beach Sister Cities Association** (Request \$5,000) **Recommended: \$5,000**

The organization was established in 2008 to develop long-term relationships with the cities of Menton, San Jose del Carbo and St. Ives. The organization facilitates cultural exchanges. Funds will be used to host quarterly programming at various art venues presenting live music, culinary experiences, and literary history of the sister cities, in addition to the June 2024 Fete de Musique.

**Laguna Community Concert Band** (Request \$13,000) **Recommended: \$13,000**

The mission of the organization is to enrich the artistic and cultural life of the community through music and learning. Funds will be used to expand indoor performances at the Artists Theatre and promote concerts in Laguna Beach, operations costs, storage, truck rental and advertising.

**Laguna Dance Festival** (Request \$55,000) **Recommended: \$35,000**

Established in 2005, the Festival's mission is to present world class dance, increase public appreciation and provide quality education. Funds will be used to present its annual Laguna Beach Dance Festival providing funds for artistic fees, venue rental, production costs, marketing, and promotion.

**Laguna Plein Air Painters Association** (Request \$50,000) **Recommended: \$30,000**

The mission of the organization is to promote the landscape painting heritage of Laguna Beach and has been a non-profit since 2005. Funds will be used for the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Laguna Beach Plein Air Invitational held at the Festival of Arts grounds. The grant will provide funds for the construction of the exhibit venue, equipment rental, marketing, and promotion.

**LagunaTunes** (Request \$5,000) **Recommended: \$5,000**

Established in 2003, LagunaTunes mission is "Celebrating Community Through the Joy of Singing." The chorus is open to everyone regardless of ability. Funds will be used to present two free concerts. The grant will provide funds for marketing and promotion.

**Lagunarecoveryart, Inc** (Requested \$50,000) **Recommended: \$1,000**

Recently established as a non-profit organization, Lagunarecoveryart Inc. has a mission to bridge connection, expression, and passion as an effective therapy. Funds would be used for art classes and studio tours for administrative staff and artist fees.

**LOCA Arts Education** (Request \$31,000) **Recommended: \$25,000**

Established in 1993, LOCA Arts Education is to provide affordable visual arts education. Funds will be used to present Art Talks, Art Escape Workshops, and Laguna Beach Landscapes. The grant will provide funds for artist fees, materials, venue rental marketing, and promotion.

**No Square Theatre** (Request \$40,000) **Recommended: \$35,000**

The organization provides performance and theatrical experience to local amateur performers. Funds will be used to present "Wisdom of the Masters: The Teaching Artists Series" with presentations by leaders in various disciplines of theatre. The grant will provide funds for artists fees, marketing, and promotion.

**Opera Laguna** (Request \$10,000) **Recommended \$2,500**

Established in 2022, the mission of the organization is to inspire awe in the transcendent beauty of the human voice. Funds will be used to present a mini summer concert series at the Rivian South Coast Theatre.

**Pacific Vocal Series** (Request: \$20,000) **Recommended: \$1,000**

Formerly 3340 Recital Series, was established in 2020, the mission of the organization is to present world-class singing to Laguna Beach. Funding will be used to present music recitals at a location and time to be determined. The grant will provide funds for hiring artists, program curation, travel housing, and marketing.

**Philharmonic Society of Orange County** (Request: \$20,000) **Recommended: \$17,000**

The Philharmonic Society of Orange County is the county's first and oldest music organization founded in 1954. The organization annually presents the Laguna Beach Music Festival, a multi-day celebration of classical and contemporary music. Funds will be used to present the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual festival in Spring 2025. Funds will be used to off-set facility rental, artist fees, marketing, and promotion.

**Sawdust Art Festival** (Request \$50,000) **Recommended: \$36,500**

Established in 1968, the mission of the organization is to promote the arts created in Laguna Beach through education, appreciation, demonstration, and hands-on experiences. Funds will be used to present "Sawdust Art Classes" The grant will provide funds for staff, marketing, and publicity.

**Third Street Writers** (Request \$6,000) **Recommended: \$6,000**

The organization consists of active and published authors and was established in 2015. Funds will be used to continue to publish a quarterly online literary journal and workshops at the Susi Q. The grant will provide funds to produce digital content.



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 2, 2024  
**TO:** Arts Commission  
**FROM:** Siân Poeschl, Cultural Arts Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Artist Innovation Grant Update (Agenda Item F)

---

In November 2023 the Arts Commission allocated \$40,000 in Artist Innovation Grants to three artists. The Artist Innovation Grants recognizing and supporting artists who reside, exhibit or work in Laguna Beach. The grant is intended to support artists who push the boundaries of creative expression, anchor our community, and advance the creative field.

### **Great North Special (Andrew Corradini)**

The awardee has launched their new single titled “Toketee Breakdown” first from the album being created with the grant funds. The entire album will be performed at Music in the Park on July 7, 2024.

[LINK TO LISTEN HERE](#)

### **Monica Parado**

Funds were awarded to develop larger scale porcelain artworks. The awardee has:

- Purchase of 300lbs of high-quality specialty colored porcelain clay
- Retained professional Laguna Beach carpenter services to build a custom 6ft x 3ft wood frame and a 3 1/2 ft tall rotating pedestal.
- Completed 1/3 of hand sculpted flowers needed for large piece.





# Exploring Abstraction Innovation Grant

First Quarter Jan - April 2024

Hedy Buzan

*"I seek to enlarge my understanding of how to create abstract artwork that respects the idealized Modernist antecedents of Abstraction while addressing contemporary image making in order to create a lesson plan of creative exercises to focus my own work and eventually share with others"*

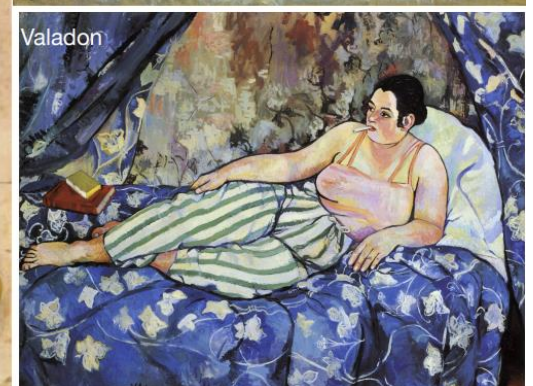
### **Three Goals:**

- 1. Enlarge my understanding of how to create abstract artwork**
- 2. Respects the idealized Modernist antecedents of Abstraction while addressing contemporary image making**
- 3. Create a lesson plan of creative exercises to focus my own work and share with others**

### **Part One: Respect the idealized Modernist antecedents of Abstraction...study relevant artists**

Apollinaire defined Cubism as beginning with Courbet, so I begin with the Impressionist painters, particularly Berthe Morrisot, Mary Cassatt and Suzanne Valadon, reviewing their works and reading their biographies.

Attended *A Weekend With Pablo Picasso* by Herbert Sigüena at the Irvine Barclay theater -A one man play based on Picasso's writings on Art and Art Making - Then I read Picasso's writings in *Theories of Modern Art* and began a biography of Picasso

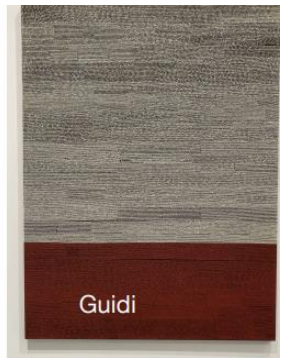


**Part Two: Addressing contemporary image making**

*Attended exhibitions*

As Japonisme was a direct influence on Impressionism: the beginning of Modernism, I attended the Hokusai exhibition *Beyond the Great Wave* at the Bower's Museum.

I loved his abstraction composition and use of color



Attended two OCMA exhibitions:

Jennifer Guidi *And So it Is*

I was particularly drawn to Guidi's small gouache studies

A retrospective exhibition of the works of Joan Brown.

I enjoyed Brown's use of negative space and Post-Modernist image generation.



**Part Three: Create a lesson plan ...and eventually share with others- *implementation observed other's teaching style***

Attended a five day Art4Good online course *Intuitive Abstract Mixed Media* course offered by new Zealand artist, Judy Woods. Simplistic but effective teaching tools: workbook, guided exercises, simple color mixing

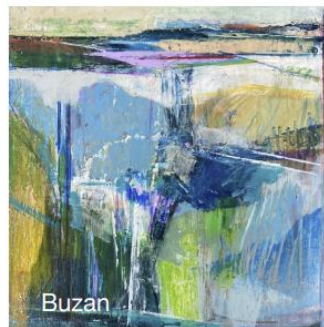
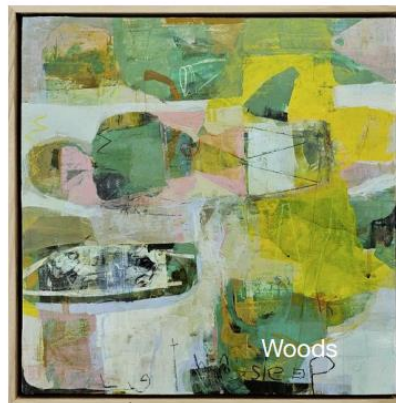
Read the excellent book *No More Second Hand Art* by Peter London: Guided exercises in creative self-awareness.

Distilled lessons from both online courses into posters and handouts as teaching aids

Taught two classes preparatory for the class I plan to design and offer free to the public at the end of this grant.

*Mixed Media*  
Sawdust Art Classes program

Creativity Quest  
Exercises from *No More Second Hand Art*.  
Suzie Q LOCA class





Attended a six week online course *Exploring Abstraction* with contemporary artist Jenny Nelson.

The emphasis was on 'Learning to See', Investigation, and finding one's voice. Technical emphasis on value and shape, working in oil, oil stick, as well as collage and acrylic. I completed a number of preparatory studies and four finished works.



Work created in response to Jenny Nelson Workshop:

B&W Studies, collage, charcoal

Skills and Techniques:

- Discovering new shapes
- Viewfinder cropping
- Investigating multiple orientations
- Looking for flow
- Building composite shapes
- Value variation
- New compositional possibilities
- Exploring accident
- New painting techniques



## Work created in response to Jenny Nelson Workshop:

Paint Studies on Canvas Paper

### Skills and Techniques:

Premixed limited palette  
Shape edge manipulation  
Investigating multiple orientations  
Translation and editing  
Building composite shapes  
Awareness of value organization and contrast



## Work created in response to Jenny Nelson Workshop

Oil on Paper 24 x 18"

### Skills and Techniques:

Working with edges  
Scrapping down and revisiting  
Restatement  
Introducing lost and found line  
Energizing passive areas





Work created in response to  
Jenny Nelson Workshop  
Acrylic on Paper 24 x 18"

Skills and Techniques:

Media: Golden slow drying OPEN acrylics  
Caran D'ache, LYRA pencil, Stabile & Art Graph

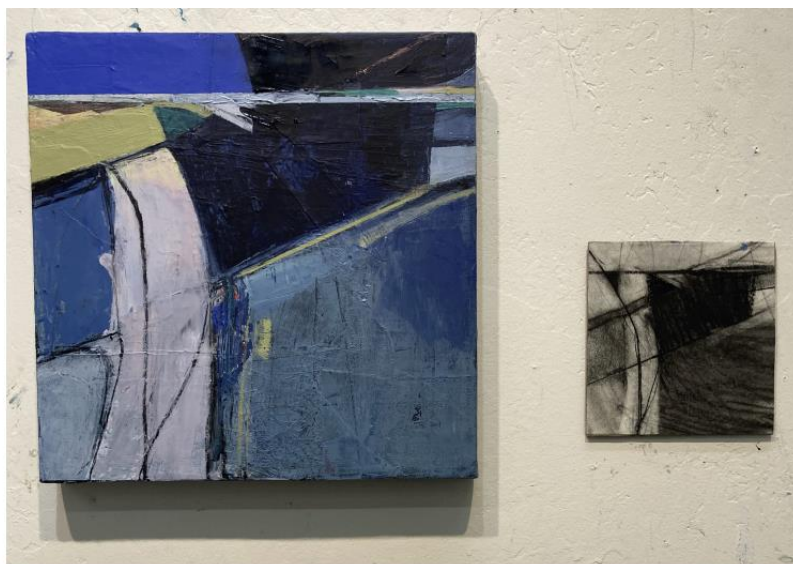
Integrating edges  
Rest and contrast shapes  
Line and linear shape.



Work created in response to  
Jenny Nelson Workshop

Translating a study to a painting  
Acrylic on Canvas 12" x 12"

Skills and Techniques:  
Respecting yet altering a study  
Introducing color  
Value awareness



### **Moving Forward: Next Quarter Goals**

Continue working on my Innovation Grant objectives while simultaneously creating other styles of work for exhibition and sale at the Sawdust Festival

#### **Part One: *Respect the idealized Modernist antecedents of Abstraction...***

Continue a study of Impressionism and Post- Impressionism with a special focus on the picture plane  
Close reading of *Techniques of the Impressionists* by Anthea Callen

#### **Part Two: Address contemporary image making**

Re-visit Jenny Nelson's course in a larger format on canvas and board supports  
Continue to review work of contemporary Post-Modern abstract artists

Attend relevant **cultural events**.

#### **Part Three: Create a lesson plan**

Draft a lesson plan for myself for the remaining grant  
Continue to study and practice activities from *No More Second Hand Art*. Read and adopt techniques from *Coaching the Artist Within* by Eric Maisel

Thank you to the Arts Commission for this generous grant and the opportunity to pursue new abstract explorations

Sincerely,

Hedy Bužan