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AGENDA
Cultural Arts Commission
Regular Meeting
Council Chambers, 305 W. Third Street
April 16, 2025
4:30pm

To join remotely, click on the link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82238160454?pwd=wshxH0l1DDRvNddT9-athOugc9Wxhg.P5tgyJfVqjvsJv4v>

Or telephone (toll-free): 833 548 0282 US Toll Free 877 853 5257 US Toll Free 888 475 4499 US Toll Free
833 548 0276 US Toll Free
Meeting ID: 822 3816 0454
Passcode: 434186

If you wish to speak during public comments or a particular item on the agenda, please sign-on by following the zoom call in steps listed above. Once the Chair calls for public speakers, press *9 to raise your hand, or if online, click the raise hand icon in the Zoom interface to inform the Chair you would like to speak during the public speaking section for that particular item on the agenda.

YOU MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

1. ATTEND THE MEETING AT THE LOCATION LISTED ABOVE OR VIA ZOOM
2. EMAIL COMMENTS OR REQUESTS TO SPEAK BEFORE THE MEETING
 - a. Submit a request to speak no later than 1:00pm on the day of the meeting by contacting the Cultural Arts Commission Liaison Julie Estrada at julie.estrada@oxnard.org. Please indicate the agenda item number in the subject line.
3. PROVIDING PUBLIC COMMENTS REMOTELY DURING THE MEETING
 - a. To provide a public comment during the meeting dial (888) 475-4499 and enter the Meeting ID and Passcode listed above as the Zoom details for this meeting. When the Chair announces the particular item on the agenda you want to speak on, press *9 to raise your hand. Once called on, press *6 to unmute your phone.
 - b. Public comments on agenda items will be taken following the announcement of the item. After the item is announced, members of the public shall have three minutes to register or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

A. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. SUBJECT: Minutes of the meeting of February 5, 2024 regular meeting.
RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At a regular meeting, a person may address the Cultural Arts Commission only on matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. The presiding officer shall limit public comments to three minutes. The Commission cannot enter into detailed discussion or take action on any item presented during public comments not on the agenda. Such items may only be referred to the

Commission Secretary for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion. Unless otherwise approved by the Commission, persons wishing to speak on items not on the agenda should do so during public comments.

D. REPORTS

1. SUBJECT: Report on Cultural and Community Services Art Programs
RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive a report on Art Programs throughout the Cultural and Community Services Department.

E. COMMISSION BUSINESS

1. SUBJECT: Election of 2025 Cultural Arts Commission Chair and Vice Chair
RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission select a Cultural Arts Commission Chair and Vice Chair to serve until January 2026.
2. SUBJECT: Discussion of the 2025 Commission Goal of Developing a Future Project List for Public Art.
RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission discuss the 2025 goal of creating a future project list and establish an Ad Hoc Committee to research ideas with a sunset date of September 2025.
3. SUBJECT: Discussion of the 2025 Commission Goal of Presentations from Local Artists and Arts Organizations at Commission Meetings.
RECOMMENDATION: That the commission discuss and develop parameters for the goal of inviting local artists and arts organizations to present at future commission meetings.

F. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

The Commission Secretary shall report on items of interest to the Commission occurring since the last meeting. The Commission cannot enter into detailed discussion or take action on any items presented during this report. Such items may only be referred to the Secretary for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion.

G. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioners may individually report on items of interest or concern outside of Ad Hoc Committee reports. The Commission cannot enter into detailed discussion or take action on any item presented during these reports. The Commissioner's report shall not exceed three minutes.

H. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Commissioners may request that items be placed on future agendas for extended discussion.

I. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require special assistance to participate in a meeting, please contact Julie Estrada 805-385-7995. Notification at least 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to reasonably arrange for your accessibility to the meeting.

TO: Cultural Arts Commission

FROM: Julie Estrada, Cultural Arts Program Manager, Julie.estrada@oxnard.org,
805-385-7995

DATE: April 16, 2025

SUBJECT: Cultural and Community Services Art Programs - Item D.1

RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission receive a report on the Cultural and Community Services Art Programs

DISCUSSION

Who we are

The Cultural Arts Division celebrates creativity, community, and connection across generations. Our programs serve residents from ages 3 to 103, offering recreational and educational art experiences that inspire, engage, and bring people together in spaces throughout the city.

As part of the City of Oxnard's Cultural and Community Services, the Cultural Arts Division oversees a diverse range of programs, including the Mini Murals Project, Oxnard Arts Academy, Public Art Projects and the Public Art Trust, the Oxnard Performing Arts and Convention Center Management, and the Carnegie Art Collection. We collaborate closely with the Recreation & Community Services Division and the Oxnard Public Libraries to enrich the city's cultural landscape. This report provides an overview of programs designed for or incorporating the arts.

At the heart of everything we do is our vision: "*Art is for Everyone*". We believe art is essential to the human experience—its power to delight, move, and inspire helps us understand the world and each other.

Our Mission is to enhance the lives of residents through the promotion of art in all its forms by providing opportunities to the Oxnard community to participate in arts programming, cultural experiences, and special events.

Our Values C.R.E.A.T.E.

- Celebrate – We honor the diversity and creativity in our community.
- Respect – We value every voice, culture, and form of expression.
- Embrace – We welcome all ideas and inspire authentic connections.
- Art That's for Everyone – We make art accessible and inclusive for all.

From vibrant storytimes at local libraries and hands-on art projects in preschools to dynamic afterschool programs, teen workshops, and enriching senior center classes, the Cultural Arts Division brings the joy of art to every corner of our community. Together, we are building a

more connected, expressive, and vibrant community—one brushstroke, dance step, and story at a time.

Educational Arts Programs

Oxnard Arts Academy

Provides Music and Art Classes for ages 7-14. This is located at Colonia Recreation Center, Southwinds Youth Center, Oxnard Public Library, and the South Oxnard Branch Library. We are opening clubs in 8 afterschool programs next month. With the opening of these new clubs this program annually will serve over 250 youth.

Oxnard Scholars Afterschool Program

The Scholars program serves around 2,000 students and offers art classes on a weekly basis at 20 school sites in the Oxnard School District. Last December the middle school students from our K-8 schools had the opportunity to attend an assembly with syndicated illustrator Robb Armstrong, creator of the JumpStart comic strip. During the event, Robb shared insights about his career and taught the students how to create unique and relatable characters, giving students valuable tips on bringing personalities to life through illustration. It was an inspiring and educational experience that encouraged the students to think creatively about their own character designs.

SHINE Afterschool Program

SHINE serves around 1,000 students and offers art classes on a weekly basis at 10 school sites in the Hueneme School District. Those classes include a variety of mediums, there are also performing arts that include dance, acting and singing. Within the middle schools there is mariachi, theater classes, dance classes that include folklorico, and hip hop.

Senior Centers

Senior Services provides participants a variety of artistic expressions, ranging from seasonal arts and crafts and weekly quilting/crocheting groups to line dancing and folklorico dancing. Our folklorico dancers perform during the Dia de los Muertos celebration and a large Mexican Independence Day event, among other times. Senior participants created a vibrant display during last year's World Art Day Gala and entered several items in a juried art contest hosted by the county. We also do painting in the garden on occasion and during Covid offered Paint to Go kits.

Oxnard Special Populations

Oxnard Special Populations (OSP) provides quality, inclusive art programs for participants of all abilities and ages. We adapt our art classes for all participants including their families. We expose our participants to different styles and materials in art (watercolors, clay, paint, paper, etc.). OSP participates in World Art Day, CCS Art Gala, and hosts an art show after every 8 week session in-house. We offer art programs on Monday mornings at the Main Library and evening classes at the Wilson Center. All of OSP art programs are free of charge for all families and we provide all materials needed.

Oxnard Police Activities League (PAL) Dance Program: Alias Dance Family

Founded in 2003, Oxnard PAL's dance team has achieved over 100 awards and titles including features with top recording artists and television appearances over the last 15 years. Community members as young as 4 years old can join and learn creative movements, build friendships, and explore the joy of music through dance. Alias Dance Family maintains a roster of over 100 youth.

Youth Directors Council (YDC)

Oxnard PAL Youth Director's Council year-round program designed to give students a sense of leadership while developing a sense of community, creativity, and ownership. Students have participated in Mini Mural paintings, large community canvas paintings at the MLK Youth Summit, painting for relaxation classes, playground touch-ups at Meet Up Clean Up, and most recently the PAL Gym Lobby renovation. YDC currently has 25 members.

Seniors In Motion (SIMS)

Art is included in the special activities offered by our Senior in Motion program, where we offer Paint and Sip opportunities as well as Plein Air painting events. We expect to offer expanded outdoor painting opportunities in the spring. The program has also held cookie decorating classes. SIMS serves 80 seniors.

Oxnard Recreation Preschools

Providing a preschool experience through our Tiny tots and Preschool to You programs. Preschool to you goes to 5 different parks throughout Oxnard and runs programs from 10:00am to 12:00pm. They work on large motor skills, social skills, arts & crafts and a parent/guardian needs to be present at all times. Tiny tots meets Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00am to 12:00pm. designed to prepare children for future school experience by developing their self awareness and group socialization skills, learning their numbers and ABC's with some arts & crafts.

Oxnard Recreation Classes

Providing classes for the youth as well as the adults. For the youth we have Lego Education that meets twice a week for an hour for four weeks. Creative and engaging hands-on learning activities through STEAM. The baking workshops are designed around the holidays and the participants get to learn how to mix, bake and ice their baking creations before they get to take it and enjoy it with the family. For the adults we have our yoga classes that include chair yoga, yoga suave and Spanish and yoga for everyone in English. They are all designed to help the participants stretch their bodies and learn how to release stress through the stretching. Yoga allows you to reconnect with yourself and your peace. Sound Bath or Sound Immersion is a form of sound involving sound bowls and other instruments to create a soundscape in which you are able to meditate. Oil painting is creating a simple yet challenging oil art that you get to take home each class. All classes meet once a week from 1 to 3 hours depending on your class.

Preschools

Providing a preschool experience through our Tiny tots and Preschool to You programs.

These programs work on large motor skills, social skills, and artistic development. Preschool to You requires a parent or guardian to be with the child at all times while the Tiny Tots program is a drop off preschool play class designed to prepare children for future school experience by developing their self awareness and group socialization skills, learning their numbers and ABC's with some arts activities to help develop creativity and motor skills.

Recreation Classes

Providing classes for youth as well as adults. Youth have the opportunity to participate in Lego Education, creative and engaging hands-on learning activities through STEAM programs, baking workshops to learn how to mix, bake and ice their creations. Adults have the opportunity to register for movement classes such as our yoga programs that include chair yoga, yoga suave in Spanish and yoga for everyone in English. Sound Bath or Sound Immersion is a form of sound involving sound bowls and other instruments to create a soundscape in which you are able to meditate. Oil painting is creating a simple yet challenging oil art that you get to take home each class.

Recreational and Drop-in Programs

Chill Color & Craft at Oxnard Public Library

Provides a weekly program that combines social-emotion and art programming with a social event each week for special populations and group homes around Oxnard. Participants can engage in expression that ranges from painting, crafts, and singing as well as socially engaging with other people from other groups. They have served 2,227 participants since it began in July 2023.

Pop-Up Creatives at the Library

Library pop-up programs including teen gardening, quilting, fiber arts, art programs, author showcases, author talks, classes on how to draw, writing groups, among others. These programs allow patrons to explore different forms of art expression and outlets as well as a safe place to hone or teach skills for those already adept at a particular form of creative expression. Over the last 2 years alone these programs have averaged over 9,000 participants a year.

Youth Center

Each weekday year around, CCS operates five youth centers across Oxnard. School-aged youth receive homework help, engage in supervised imaginative and strategic play and participate in art projects displayed throughout the facility and as part of initiatives from the CCS Cultural Arts Division. Youth's participation in events such as the annual CCS Art Gala give them an opportunity to showcase their work with the greater community and explore art as a form of expression and self care. The Youth Centers engage over 33,000 participants annually.

Summer Day Camp

It's an 8 week summer day camp that provides services to kids 5 yrs.that have completed kindergarten to 12 year olds.Camp has a lot to offer the kids. They work on socialization,

motor skills for the little ones. They create art, they perform in camp talent shows, become competitive in the sports and take trips. In a short time they have fun and they create friendship for a lifetime. Camp also teaches them manners and respect for themselves and others.

Cultural & Community Services Events

World Art Day

Art has the power to not only bring beauty and light into a world that can often be dark, but it also can make a difference by giving a voice to political movements and social change. World Art Day is here to show appreciation for and celebrate those who have made art contributions to the world, as well as the everyday artist that can be alive in all humans! CCS programs all hold a special activity to celebrate this day.

CCS Art Gala

To wrap up the world art day celebration CCS hosts an Art Gala showcasing artwork from preschools to our senior services programs. Last year the gala featured almost 4,000 pieces of art and music performance from the Music Academy.

Mini Murals

This program was born during the pandemic to boost the community morale and provide a safe activity for the community to come together in difficult times. This program continues with a minimum of 2 events a year. Over the last 5 years we have engaged 484 volunteers and painted over 133 pieces.

Dia de los Muertos

Since 2021 when the Cultural Arts staff were made aware that there was requests for a Community Dia de los Muertos altar, staff has gathered together with the city programs and created a large art installation on the steps of the Carnegie building complete with hand made Catrinas, sugar skulls, alebrijes and marigold petal pathways where the community can bring photos of their loved ones and enjoy sunset performances and ceremonies each night.

Float Tours

The Santa and Halloween floats are a popular feature within the CCS Department that goes around the city from neighborhood to neighborhood. The float itself is a moving piece of art with elements hand painted and crafted by staff and participants. The floats are featured at our corresponding events like the Christmas Parade and toy distributions or the Fall Festival an dCCS Trunk or Treats. The floats help create a festive atmosphere throughout our community drawing over 30,000 spectators.

Festivals

Recreation hosts several large, free festivals annually which attract approximately 10,000 to 15,000 each. Each festival offers an opportunity to explore new ideas, spend quality time with family as well as having a free arts/crafts corner. Our Fall Festival offers both an arts corner as well as art activities centered around Dia de los Muertos, such as

decorating masks or creating luminarias. The festivals also provide opportunities for local crafters to purchase a booth space to sell their products.

Conclusion

The Cultural Arts Division continues to play a vital role in fostering creativity, community engagement, and cultural enrichment throughout Oxnard. Despite past challenges, our commitment to integrating arts into education, recreation, and public spaces has remained unwavering. Through innovative programs, inclusive opportunities, and collaborative efforts, we have expanded access to the arts for residents of all ages and backgrounds. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to enhancing and growing our programs, ensuring that the arts remain a dynamic and integral part of our community's cultural and social fabric.

Attachments:

- A. CCS Arts Snapshot



OXNARD CULTURAL ARTS SNAPSHOT



BRINGING ART TO LIFE - FOR EVERYONE, AGES 3 TO 103

Welcome to the Cultural Arts Division Snapshot—a celebration of creativity, community, and connection across every generation. Our programs reach residents from ages 3 to 103, offering recreational and educational art experiences that inspire, engage, and connect people in spaces all around the city.

This pamphlet highlights the impact of these programs through inspiring participant stories, meaningful statistics, and powerful testimonials that showcase how art enriches lives—whether it's a child discovering painting for the first time or a senior perfecting their crafting skills.

At the heart of everything we do is our vision: Art is for Everyone. We believe that art is essential to the human experience. It's the power of creativity and culture to delight, move, and inspire us that helps us make sense of the world around us.

Our Mission

To enhance the lives of residents through the promotion of art in all its forms by providing opportunities to the Oxnard community to participate in arts programming, cultural experiences, and special events.

Our Values — C.R.E.A.T.E.

- **Celebrate** – We honor the diversity and creativity in our community.
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From vibrant storytimes at local libraries and hands-on art projects in preschools to dynamic afterschool programs, teen workshops, and enriching classes at senior centers, the Cultural Arts Division brings the joy of art to every corner of our community.

Thank you for being part of a city where creativity knows no age limit. Together, we're building a more connected, expressive, and vibrant community—one brushstroke, dance step, and story at a time.

OXNARD CULTURAL ARTS IMPACT STATEMENTS

"I started teaching a basic mosaic class in January. We had 8 young adults sign up and they were very enthusiastic. All of them said "I can't believe I can do this!" They listened and put what they learned in play. In the end, they expressed how delighted they were with their new talent. All of them signed up for the second class."

Library Mosaic Teacher



"Kids need to nurture their arts and crafts which they will get here because the staff are really great at bringing that out in the children, and letting them see ideas and designs they won't see at home or at school, but they will get here at the library."

Library Patron, Childrens Area



"I love drawing and I like coming here [Southwinds PAL Youth Center] because I can use my hands to do art and origami."

Angel Carmen, 9 years old, Arts Academy

"I like painting here [Southwinds PAL Center - Arts Academy], because I can show what I learned at art class"

Ian Gonzalez, 7 years old, Arts Academy



"Not only do you get to interpret love, which is the arts, but you have the staff who are willing to step it up through a lot of murals, and paintings that are done by the children and families."

Library Patron, Oxnard Mini Murals at OPL

I enjoy doing arts and crafts at the Colonia Youth center because I can express myself through creativity."

Janessa Acosta 11 years old, Colonia Youth Center

I can show my skills of art that I'm proud of to my friends and the Colonia Center staff."

Sebastian Valdez -13 years old, Colonia Youth Center

"We like to come do art at Southwinds because it's a good distraction and it is relaxing to just sit and do art." - Fernanda and Nayeli, 13 years old, Southwinds PAL Center

"I like everything about [art classes]. I enjoy art, it makes me feel happy when i know we are going to have an art class...[staff] is very talented and she is sharing her talent with us. That is a gift for us. I personally would like more art and painting classes"

Mary Ellen Garcia, SOC Senior Center



I enjoy doing arts and crafts at the Colonia Youth Center because it's fun and enjoyable to do with friends.

Eddie Alvarez. -10 years old.





OXNARD CULTURAL ARTS SNAPSHOT BY THE NUMBERS



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Programs with Year Round Enrollment

7,705

Unduplicated

Oxnard Arts Academy Arts Classes
Oxnard Arts Academy Music Classes
Oxnard Scholars Afterschool Program
Hueneme SHINE Afterschool Program
Oxnard PAL Alias Dance Family
Oxnard PAL Youth Directors Council
Seniors In Motion (SIMs)

Our programs in the Educational Category are those where participants enroll for the duration of the year with the intention of developing their skills. Each of these programs are either designed for an artform or have pathways in which participants learn about the arts and participate in projects.

RECREATIONAL ART

Recreational Drop-in Programs

52,335

Duplicated

Oxnard Mini Murals
Oxnard Special Populations (OSP) Art Class
Chill Color & Craft (Library & OSP)
Youth Centers
Senior Centers

Library Pop Up Art Programs
Teen gardening
Quilting & Fiber arts
Art & Drawing Classes
Author showcases / talks
Writing groups
... and more

Our programs in the Recreational Category are those where participants drop in on weekly or seasonal programs for a time to be creative and learn a new skill. These programs also help with motor skill development or preservation and cognitive health.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Impact of events featuring art components

57,447

Duplicated

Dia de los Muertos
World Art Day
Art Gala

Eggstravaganza
Insect Festival
Fall Festival

Halloween Float
Tamale Festival
Santa Float

Our programs in the Special Events Category are those where participants have the opportunity to participate in arts projects, feature art contests, celebrate artistic development, or assist with the design and construction of our Floats



OXNARD CULTURAL ARTS IMPACT STATEMENTS

"One of the many great programs offered has been the art program. I believe the art program is the most popular program, also an essential resource that benefits the 100-plus families we work with. The art program has provided a safe and creative space for individuals, especially for those with special needs who often struggle to find their voice. Art serves as a unique form of expression, allowing participants to communicate their feelings and experiences in different ways....The families we work with consistently express their gratitude for the city's commitment to providing such programs. These programs have created a sense of community and belonging, and they contribute to the overall well-being of our special populations.....I support the city and its programs, especially the art program offered in collaboration with Oxnard Special Populations. It is important to continue investing in these programs that enrich lives within our community."

Taneisha Thompson, Program Coordinator Spectacular Services a Partner of Oxnard Special Populations



"I am writing to say how important the art classes are for my daughter. She attends these classes every week, and they mean a lot to her. Here in our city there aren't many activities for her, or her friends and it would be very upsetting if these classes were taken away. The staff is so nice and welcoming and they provide all the supplies she needs. It's a great place where she finally feels comfortable...I hope the art classes can continue."

Jacalin Martinez, Oxnard Special Populations Parent

"I like to come here because I get to paint and eat fruits."

Manuel Velazveta 13 years old - Durley Youth Center



I like being at the Colonia Center and playing games and making bracelets for me and my friends.

Adelyn Lopez -8 years old, Colonia Youth Center

Alias Dance is my family. I love dancing with all my friends that I've met over the past 10 years I've been dancing in the program. No matter how I'm feeling, I know going to dance AT PAL will bring me joy and positivity. - Emma Navarro (15 years old)



I've been dancing with the Alias Dance Family at PAL since I was 5 years old. When I first started, I was a very shy and an anxious kid. I remember coming to practices and always looking over to make sure my parents were sitting right there. As I got more comfortable and confident with my friends. I started gaining more confidence everywhere I went. I went from Minis, Undeclared and now Emanon. I have made lifelong friends and it's all because of the Alias dance family.

- Clarissa Elias (16 years old)

"I like to come here because they offer many activities to choose from like arts and crafts, sports and board games."

Branden Galvez 13 years old, Durley Youth Center

