

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]  
Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-618-2937 or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

**TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA  
MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M.  
WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
CITY HALL, 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD**

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

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

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

**2. FLAG SALUTE:**

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

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, January 19, 2022 /s/ Rebecca Poirier

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

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

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for public comment on items on the agenda or on topics of interest to the general public. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, Commissioners cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. Speakers under this Public Comment period will have no longer than 1 minutes per speaker. Your comment to the Commission meeting will be recorded as part of the meeting. By staying in the meeting and making public comment during the meeting, you are agreeing to have your comment recorded.*

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Recommendation of Cultural Services Manager that your Honorable Body approve the Cultural Arts Commission minutes of November 21, 2022.

## **7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **7A. UPDATE ON THE SISTER CITY EVENTS**

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Division that the Cultural Arts Commission receive and file updates on the Sister City Events.

### **7B. CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES**

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

## **8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**9A.** Adjournment of the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting to MONDAY, February 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

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

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:04 p.m. on Monday, November 21, 2022, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Community Services Director John La Rock.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hsiao.

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

Chair Polcari reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, November 17, 2022.

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

- None.

**5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

- None.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sargent moved to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

**6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 19, 2022**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. UPDATE ON UTILITY BOX PUBLIC ART PUBLIC PROGRAM**

Community Services Director LaRock presented a finalized draft regarding the Utility Box Public Program for City Council's review and requested the Commission's feedback.

Community Services Director LaRock stated that he would attempt to present the finalized document to City Council during the December 2022 meeting to possibly begin wrapping February 2023.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sargent moved to approve the Utility Box Public Art Program files for presentation to City Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hsiao; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

**7B. CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES**

Community Services Director LaRock presented Cultural Services Division Updates:

- Regarding the Excellence in Arts Awards, staff is looking into expanding the scope of entertainment and collecting data from the attendees to get a head start for next year's ceremony.
- Community Services Coordinator Nico Clifton is working on expansion of program classes in the Cultural Division.
- New intern from LA County Arts, Jorge Macias, an audio expert and scenic designer has started.
- There was an acceptance regarding a new Cultural Arts Manager who will start January 3, 2023.

**7C. CANCEL DECEMBER COMMISSION MEETING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Sargent moved to cancel the December 2022 and to have the next Commission meeting January 23, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hsiao; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

**8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Members of the Commission spoke.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** At 8:00 p.m., Commissioner Kraemer moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, January 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hsiao; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

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## **CITY OF TORRANCE SISTER CITY**

The City of Torrance and its Cultural Arts Commission are working with the Torrance Sister City Association to finalize the events around the Kashiwa Delegation visit, February 17 through February 20. Main events include the following:

### Friday, February 17, 2023

1. 8:45 am City Hall Welcome
2. 10:00 am TAM Japanese Art Exhibit and Planting of the Cherry Tree
3. 6:00 pm Mayor's Dinner at DiRoma Restaurant (Not open to the public)

### Saturday, February 18, 2023

1. 11:00am BBQ picnic at Wilson Park (\$20 includes t-shirt)
2. 5:00 pm Dinner at Nakano Theater (Not open to the public)
3. 7:00 pm Friendship Festival at Armstrong Theater  
Purchase tickets at (\$25-\$35)

<https://torrancearts.org/show/friendship/>



### Sunday, February 19, 2023

1. 6:00 pm Sayonara Banquet at Doubletree Hotel (Not open to the public)

For Commission Meeting  
January 23, 2023

**TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

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

**RE: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION MANAGER- DIVISION UPDATES**

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

- Torrance Art Museum will open January 28<sup>th</sup> with Bridging the Pacific (flyer attached).
- Torrance Theatre has added an improv night to their season called Hot Tip, presented the first Sunday of every month at 7:00 PM.
- Torrance Theatre opens with The Half Life of Marie Curie February 4.
- Cherry Blossom Festival is in development for March 26.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Monica Harte  
Cultural Services Manager

**TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

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

**SUBJECT: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – JANUARY 2022**

**Administration**

Staff organized Officials' Night on Thursday December 29, 2022 for Torrance Rose Float Association. Digital reservations were requested for the event. There were 116 RSVPs.

Staff continues to create digital content for Cultural Services Division.

Cultural Services Division is revamping the web pages for a friendlier look and ease of access to all Cultural Services programs.

**Nico Clifton, Performing Arts Program Coordinator**

Fall session ended in December 2022. Non-resident registration for winter 2023 opened on December 6, 2022. Throughout December, classes were promoted through our social media and print. Flyers were distributed to the senior centers and library branches. The extensive promotion proved effective as enrollment numbers were higher for the winter session than in the past years.

Planning for the outdoor classes is in development. Parks considered for offsite classes include Entradero Park, La Romeria Park, McMaster Park, Walteria Park, and Wilson Park, all of which have the necessary space and facilities to hold various classes. Outdoor classes are slated to begin the summer session of 2023.

**Gia Jordahl, Producing Artistic Director, Torrance Theatre Company**

**Torrance Theatre Company**

The Torrance Theatre opened THE CORDRAY CHRISTMAS VARIETY HOUR on December 3rd. The show ran for three weekends and all 15 shows were sell outs. Auditions for THE HALF-LIFE OF MARIE CURIE were held in December, and rehearsals began the end of the month. The show, written by Lauren Gunderson, will open on February 4th, and play for four weekends. Tickets are on sale now at [www.torrancetheatrecompany.com](http://www.torrancetheatrecompany.com)

Rehearsals were held for the first offering of HOT TIP, the new improv team from the Torrance Theatre Company. The team will perform every first Sunday of the month beginning in 2023. Info is on the TTC website.

### **Torrance Civic Chorale**

The Torrance Civic Chorale presented A Holiday Celebration on December 17th at 8 pm at the James R. Armstrong Theatre. The concert featured holiday music from around the world, and special guest South Bay Children's Choir. This was the first concert held by the Chorale in the Armstrong since the pandemic.

### **Torrance Sister City Association**

Torrance Sister City Association continues preparations for the 50th Anniversary event in February. The weekend will include a Cherry Tree Planting Ceremony, a re-signing of the agreement between Kashiwa and Torrance, a special Friendship Celebration performance in the Armstrong Theatre, tours around Torrance, and a picnic at Wilson Park. The City is assisting with the coordination of bus transportation, coverage by Citicable staff of events, and a special welcome ceremony at City Hall to kick-off the delegations stay.

### **Rose Float Association**

The Rose Float Association hosted the annual Official's Night at Fiesta Floats where 90+ people were able to get a sneak peek at the Torrance Rose Float entry, as well as several other floats that were under construction.

The Rose Float is also preparing for the Celebration Dinner which will be held at the Toyota Meeting Hall on Feb. 4th at 5:30 pm. More info is available at [www.torrancerosefloat.org](http://www.torrancerosefloat.org).

### **Max Presneil, TAM Curator and Director**

Torrance Art Museum closed out 2022 with the **UnCivil War** show on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Since then we have deinstalled that show, prepped the spaces and redone all the walls for the next exhibition, delivered the artworks back to the artists/collectors/institutions that we loaned the works from, and started collecting all the art works for the next show – **Bridging the Pacific**, which opens on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 6-9pm.

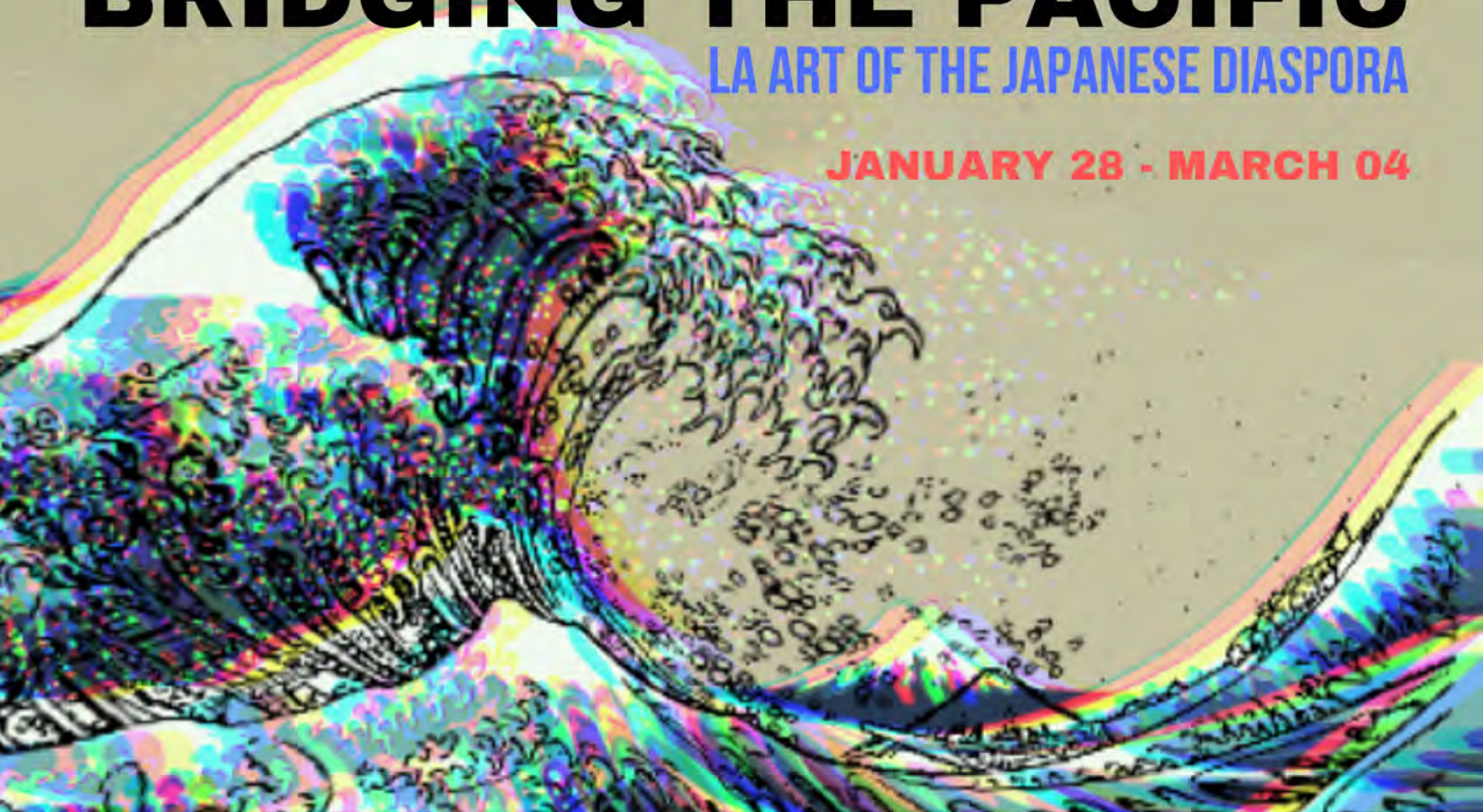
2023 is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Sister-City program between the city of Torrance and Kashiwa in Japan. To celebrate this milestone we will present an exhibition of the myriad artistic talents of the Japanese American community based here in Southern California. These artists reflect the complexity and diversity of art practices from those who share a dual legacy, inclusive of the cultures of both countries, to form unique composite expressions of culture. Also on show, in Gallery Two, will be **Free Fall** - an exhibition of large sculptures from LA based artist Rochelle Botello



# BRIDGING THE PACIFIC

LA ART OF THE JAPANESE DIASPORA

JANUARY 28 - MARCH 04



## BRIDGING THE PACIFIC LA ART OF THE JAPANESE DIASPORA

Jan. 28 - Mar. 04, 2023

Opening Reception  
Saturday, Jan. 28, 6-9 PM

**Featured Artists:** Tetsuji Aono, Yumiko Glover, Kio Griffith, Clement Hanami, Bryan Ida, Ichiro Irie, Takeshi Kanemura, Wakana Kimura, Ibuki Kuramochi, Kaoru Mansour, Yoshie Sakai, Macha Suzuki, Misato Suzuki, Tomoaki Shibata, Devon Tsuno, Miki Yokoyama, Bruce Yonemoto

To celebrate the milestone 50th Anniversary of the Sister-City program between the city of Kashiwa, in Japan, and the city of Torrance, TAM is presenting an exhibition of the myriad artistic talents of the Japanese-American community based here in Southern California. These diasporic artists reflect the complexity and diversity of art practices from those who share a dual legacy, inclusive of the cultures of both countries, to form unique composite expressions of culture.

### Gallery Two:

#### FREE FALL - ROCHELLE BOTELLO

A sculptural exploration into the complex and contradictory nature of everyday life. Drawing upon the absurd to visualize sensations of wonder and play, Botello's work aims to engage with ideas of existence and exploits extremes to explore the opposing themes of stability/instability, fragility and strength, and chaos and control.



**OPERATING HOURS:** Tues - Sat 11AM - 5PM  
3320 Civic Center Drive, Torrance, CA 90503  
www.torranceartmuseum.com T: 310. 618.6388  
FREE to public | Hours and programs subject to change.

TAM is a program of the Cultural Services Division, Community Services Department. Creating and enriching community through people, programs and partnerships.



## TORRANCE ART MUSEUM

### [OFF-SITE] WINDOW: **JUAN VARELA**

*Presented as part of the museum's on-going public art project in collaboration with Discover Torrance.  
[Location: Del Amo Fashion Center]*

The Riverside based Mexican born artist uses paint and embroidery to honor the indigenous roots of his culture. Entirely self-taught, he uses contemporary art practices to present traditional pre-Columbian imagery, blending anthropology, history, and fine art.

