

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, MAY 15, 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, May 11, 2023 /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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS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 the Cultural Arts Commission approve the Cultural Arts Commission minutes of April 17, 2023.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES

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

7B. VOTE ON A DATE TO TOUR THE ARMSTRONG AND NAKANO THEATERS

Recommendation of the Cultural Arts Division that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss and vote on either June 19, 2023 or August 21, 2023 to tour the Armstrong and Nakano Theaters.

7C. DISCUSS EXCELLENCE IN ARTS CATEGORIES

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Division that the Cultural Arts Commission discuss potential new Arts Award categories for the Excellence in Arts award ceremonies including youths emerging as artistically talented and individuals with exceptional lengths of service in the arts.

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

- 9A.** Adjournment of the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting to MONDAY, June 19, 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 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, 2023, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Monica Harte, Community Services Director John La Rock, Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation Executive Director Christian Wolf, Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation Board President Wendy Shu, and Torrance Cultural Arts Center General Services Senior Business Manager Jordan Rumery.

MOTION: Commissioner Sargent moved to excuse the absence of Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco. Commissioner Klinenberg seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco absent).

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, April 13, 2023.

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS:

None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public spoke.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MARCH 20, 2023

MOTION: Commissioner Sargent moved to approve the March 20, 2023, minutes as amended. Commissioner Kraemer seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco absent).

7. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

7A. **CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES**

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented the Cultural Services Division Updates:

- Torrance Theatre Company's, *Wild with Happy*, closes April 22, 2023.
- Torrance Civic Chorale presents, *Broadway in Torrance*, April 22, 2023.
- Torrance Theatre Company's, *Native Gardens*, opens June 3, 2023, and runs through June 24, 2023.
- Excellence in Arts subcommittee met April 11, 2023, and spoke on expansions on award categories, social media marketing, and Commission assignments.
- Free Concert Series in the Park subcommittee to meet April 24, 2023, to speak on potential events; staff is currently seeking sponsorships.
- Poet Laureate Program will not move forward at this time; the Youth Poet Laureate candidate was granted a \$500 scholarship.
- Professional float rendering updates are pending for the Torrance Rose Float Association.
- Classes have been successful, with positive survey reviews; expansion on classes will occur.

Members of the Commission spoke.

Cultural Services Manager Harte stated that an update can be had on the Poet Laureate.

7B. **DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE TOCA ANNUAL AGREEMENT**

Torrance Cultural Arts Center General Services Senior Business Manager Rumery presented Item 7B:

- The Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation (TOCA) Agreement was enacted in 1997 and renewed each subsequent year.
- Staff will prepare the Agreement for formal adoption by City Council June 2023; the Commission's recommendations will be conveyed as part of the Item.

Members of the Commission and members of TOCA spoke.

Commissioner Kraemer requested documents / reports that TOCA gives to the City on July 1st of every year. Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation Executive Director Wolf acknowledged the request and stated that reports could be forwarded to Cultural Services Manager Harte to provide to the Commission.

MOTION: Commissioner Kraemer moved to recommend the TOCA Annual Agreement to City Council. Commissioner Sargent seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco absent).

7C. VOTE FOR NEW EXCELLENCE IN ARTS CATEGORY

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented Item 7C:

- Youth Arts category (under 18 years old) is being investigated.

Members of the Commission spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Sargent moved to discuss the Excellence in Arts Award category for the youth in a future Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hsiao; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco absent).

7D. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS TO EXCELLENCE IN ARTS CATEGORIES

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented Item 7D.

MOTION: Commissioner Sargent moved to appoint the following Commissioners to the following categories: Commissioner Sargent to present the Drama & Theater Arts category / Commissioner Cabrera to present the Music category / Commissioner Carrasco to present the Dance category / Commissioner Hsiao to present the Arts Education category / Commissioner Kraemer to present the Literary Arts category / Commissioner Klinenberg to present the Visual Arts & Design category / Chair Polcari to present the Katy Geissert Award. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected (5-0) approval (Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco absent).

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the Commission and staff spoke.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: At 8:19 p.m., Commissioner Kraemer moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, May 15, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klinenberg; a roll call vote reflected (5-0) approval (Commissioners Cabrera and Carrasco absent).

###

For Commission Meeting
May 15, 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 Summer Nights line-up includes 11 events at the Wilson Park Amphitheatre, HouseParty! at the Torrance Art Museum, and three family movies sponsored by the Recreation Department at Lago Seco, Victor and Wilson Parks. We currently have three sponsors for the event: Optum, Malaga Bank, Discover Torrance.
- Torrance Art Museum (TAM) is preparing for the new exhibition: Baker's Dozen May 27 to June 17. This will be followed by the Museum's Torrance Summer Nights events: HOUSEPARTY! a DJ Dance Party; and Ed Wood's 1959 film, PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE, a collaborative event with Torrance Theatre Company. This event features Gia Jordahl, Cyndy Shields, and Perry Shields providing live comic riffing in the spirit that honors the work in a fun, fresh light.
- Torrance Theatre Company (TTC) is rehearsing NATIVE GARDENS by Karen Zacarias and auditioning for the summer Tony Award winning musical, KINKY BOOTS by Harvey Fierstein. TTC is also presenting HOT TIPS! at the Torrance Summer Nights Festival and the collaborative event: PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE with TAM.
- Torrance Cultural Services Classes is working on developing a 501c3 "Friends of" organization to support scholarships and increase supplies for Cultural Services Classes.
- Excellence in Arts Subcommittee met May 11, 2023, and discussed the social media launch date.
- The Torrance Summer Nights Subcommittee met April 24, 2023. The committee members connected me with many members of their personal networks and will continue to help with social media marketing.

Respectfully Submitted,



Monica Harte
Cultural Services Manager

For Commission Meeting
May 15, 2023

TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: MONICA HARTE, CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER

SUBJECT: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – May 2023

Administration

Staff is working closely with TSCA to prep for upcoming meetings for the students that will be traveling to Kashiwa in October. Staff will utilize the approved social media strategy to promote Excellence in Arts Awards, encouraging residents to submit nominations for each of the seven categories.

Staff continues to work with potential sponsors for the Torrance Summer Nights Festival of free events. Staff is currently promoting the 2023 Concert Series by engaging the public through Instagram and Facebook stories and posts. Engagement has been roughly 120+ views per Instagram story, which highlights each band that is performing. The campaign has garnered a 95% increase in engagement.

Gia Jordahl, Producing Artistic Director, Torrance Theatre Company

Torrance Theatre Company

WILD WITH HAPPY by Colman Domingo closed on April 22nd. The show was well-received, and included three very moving talk-backs at the Thursday evening performances with the actors and the audiences.

HOT TIP!, improv shows continue on the first Sunday of the month at 7 pm, and an additional (uncensored) 9:00 pm performance is added base on demand. The next show is Sunday, June 4th. Tickets are on sale now at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com. HOT TIP! is slated to do a couple performances in the park during the Summer Concert Series.

TTC is excited to add summer camps at Wilson Park this year, featuring two weeks of Improv and one week of Shakespeare. More info on these new offerings will be available in the Summer Seasons Guide.

Starlight Productions is returning to the Ken Miller Center this summer for 6 weeks of drama camp after an extremely successful outing last summer.

The last show of the downtown season is NATIVE GARDENS by Karen Zacarias, directed by Glenn Kelman. The show is currently rehearsing, and will open the first week of June. Tickets are currently on sale at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com

The TTC announced the title of the annual summer in April. We will be presenting KINKY BOOTS, the Tony-, Grammy- and Olivier-winning best musical, with book by Harvey Fierstein, and music and lyrics by Hall-of-Fame recording artist Cyndi Lauper. The show will play for seven

performances. Shows will run from August 5th to the 29th at the James R. Armstrong Theatre. Tickets for the show will go on sale August 20th at the Armstrong Box Office and online at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com.

Torrance Civic Chorale

The Torrance Civic Chorale held a successful spring concert, Broadway in Torrance, featuring everyone's favorite Broadway tunes. The concert was at the James R. Armstrong Theatre on Saturday, April 22nd at 7:30 pm, and featured special guests from the Torrance Theatre Company. Classes will resume in fall in preparation for the December concert.

Torrance Sister City Association

No updates

Rose Float Association

The Rose Float Association held their monthly meeting. They are preparing to present the initial concept art for the 2024 float to the Citizen Enrichment and Development Committee, before proceeding to City Council for final approval.

Max Presneil, TAM Curator and Director

Torrance Art Museum

BAKER'S DOZEN 2023 opens in the main gallery with 13 exhibits by 14 artists. This exhibit represents the 8th installment of TAM's innovative exploration of the Southern California artistic landscape of 2022-2023. PARTICIPATING ARTISTS include: Suzanne Bybee, Pui Tiffany Chow, Rosson Crow, Lola del Fresno, James Gilbert, Deborah LynnIrmas, James Langford, Atilio Pernisco, Cindy Phenix, Alicia Piller, Dani Tull, Michael Chattem, Jack X Proctor, and Leslie Foster.

Gallery Two hosts artist Lauri Lipton. Inspired by the 16th century Dutch Masters, she uses thousands of fine, cross-hatching lines to create her work.

TAM will participate in the Torrance Summer Nights Festival with two events: Planet 9 from Outer Space by Ed Wood in collaboration with TTC; and, HouseParty!, a DJ and Dance party at the museum from 6:00 pm to 10:00pm, highlighting music from the 60s, Ska, MoTown, Northern Soul, Funk, Disco, and the 80s.

TAM WINDOW at the Del Amo Fashion Center features Juan Verela through June 30th and TAM ¿WILD? At the Madrona Marsh and Nature Preserve features Katie Shanks from May 17, 2023 to October 2, 2023.

Nico Clifton, Performing Arts Program Coordinator

Classes

Spring classes have been going well. The main focus this month has been expanding our summer programming through contractors. There has been communication with several potential contractors for tennis, sports classes, youth cooking classes, and jewelry. We hope to get them under contract as soon as possible, so that we can start offering these classes later in the summer.

Registration for summer starts on May 23 for Torrance residents and May 30 for non-residents.