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Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison Monica Harte at (310) 618-618-2380 or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

The Cultural Services Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the third Monday of each month 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room. All meetings are open to the public.

**TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M. IN THE WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT CITY HALL, 3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD
TORRANCE, CA 90503**

**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, Polcari, Chair Sargent

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, September 14, 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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS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 August 21, 2023.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

**7A. CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER –REVIEW CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION
UPDATES**

Recommendation of the Cultural Services Manager that the Cultural Arts
Commission review updates on the Cultural Services activities.

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. Adjournment of the Cultural Arts Commission Meeting to MONDAY, October 16,
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, August 21, 2023, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Monica Harte.

MOTION: Commissioner Cabrera moved to excuse the July 19, 2023 absence of Commissioner Klinenberg. Commissioner Kraemer seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Polcari.

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

Cultural Services Manager Harte reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, August 17, 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: JULY 17, 2023

Chair Sargent stated that the July 17, 2023 minutes will be deferred for City Clerk's review.

6B. CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARD RECIPIENTS

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented Item 6B.

Members of the Commission spoke on candidates for the various categories in the Excellence in Arts awards; the Literary Arts category candidate is yet to be determined.

MOTION: Commissioner Polcari moved to extend the deadline to pursue Literary Arts candidates for the Excellence in Arts Awards.

MOTION: Commissioner Polcari amended the motion and moved to extend the deadline to pursue Literary Arts candidates for the Excellence in Arts Awards and approve all candidates the committee suggested.

MOTION: Commissioner Polcari amended the motion and moved to extend the deadline to August 31, 2023, to pursue Literary Arts candidates for the Excellence in Arts Awards and approve all candidates the committee suggested. Commissioner Carrasco seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

7A. **CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – REVIEW CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION UPDATES**

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented Item 7A:

- Torrance Art Museum is working on the TRYST and NOMAD exhibitions.
- Torrance Theatre Company closed *Kinky Boots* and is preparing for the Fall season.
- Torrance Cultural Services classes are registering for Fall classes.
- Utility Box Public Art Pilot Program was approved by City Council on August 8, 2023.
- Torrance Civic Choral is preparing for the Fall season.
- Torrance Sister City Association is still working with the Kashiwa Student Delegation and working on the Sayonara Banquet.
- Torrance Theatre Company's collaboration with the Torrance Education Foundation has been successful.
- Torrance Rose Float received final approval.

Members of the Commission spoke.

7B. **CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – PRESENTATION BY TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS FOUNDATION (TOCA) OF THEIR ANNUAL REPORT**

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented item 7B:

Chris Wolfe, Executive Director of the Cultural Arts Foundation, and Wendy Shu, Board President of the Cultural Arts Foundation, spoke on the Cultural Arts Foundation's Annual Report.

Board President of the Cultural Arts Foundation Shu stated that the season has been record breaking with the highest revenue generation of ticket sales in the last 6 years.

Board President of the Cultural Arts Foundation Shu stated that TOCAPALOOZA was rebranded, and the most recent event had an attendance of 5,500 individuals.

Board President of the Cultural Arts Foundation Shu stated that there are (3) areas of focus: success of the season, (4) shows to be accessible to the community (tickets less than \$35), and growing TOCAPALOOZA.

Members of the Commission spoke.

Subject to Approval

7C. CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER – DISCUSS VOTING PROCEDURES AND COMMISSIONER’S TENURE

Cultural Services Manager Harte presented Item 7C.

Chair Sargent stated that past practice for nominations were based on commissioner seniority, but any Commissioner can nominate a fellow Commissioner to Chair or Vice Chair.

Cultural Services Manager Harte clarified that voting should take place in the month of July.

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

All members of the Commission spoke on personal and city experiences.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: At 8:05 p.m., Commissioner Klinenberg moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, September 18, 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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For Commission Meeting
September 18, 2023

TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: MONICA HARTE, CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER

RE: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION MANAGER- DIVISION UPDATES

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

- The Excellence in Arts Award nominees have all been notified and the event in production.
- Torrance Art Museum (TAM) is preparing the October 7th opening Sur Biennial and MALA MUERTE and TRYST/NOMAD exhibitions at Del Amo Crossing.
- Torrance Theatre Company (TTC) opens October 7th with Dangerous Corner, a thriller! Season tickets are also on sale.
- Torrance Cultural Services Classes started last week.
- The Utility Box Public Art Pilot Program website is up, and the Press Release went out September 15, 2023.
- The ad hoc committee formed to survey businesses to explore interest in adding arts elements has completed the investigation and is developing a survey. Businesses expressing interest will be referred to the Torrance Economic Development Department for further consideration.
- The Public Art Installation in the Cultural Arts Center was unveiled September 5, 2023.
- Torrance Civic Chorale started their season this evening and will be performing for the City Council November 28, 2023.
- The Torrance Sister City Association is preparing for their trip to Kashiwa with a delegation that includes the Mayor and Councilmembers.

Respectfully Submitted,



Monica Harte
Cultural Services Manager

For Commission Meeting
September 18, 2023

TO: CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION
FROM: MONICA HARTE, CULTURAL SERVICES MANAGER
SUBJECT: CULTURAL SERVICES DIVISION REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2023

Administration

Staff are currently assisting Torrance Sister City Association visit to Kashiwa in October.

The first ever Torrance Summer Nights (TSN) was a great success with approximately 5,000 people total in attendance.

Staff is currently working on production details for the Excellence in Arts award ceremony, October 15, 2023.

Staff added Utility Box Public Art Pilot Program [page](#) to the website.

Gia Jordahl, Producing Artistic Director, Torrance Theatre Company

Torrance Theatre Company

HOT TIP on October 1st is on sale now at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com. Special musical edition, featuring improv sketches set to live music.

Improv, music and other theatre classes for youth and adults are being planned for the Winter Session, info available in next month's report.

The first show of the downtown season is DANGEROUS CORNER by J.B Priestley. Step into the captivating world of secrets and suspense in this 30's era play. Tickets on sale at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com, performances run Oct. 7-28.

Season subscriptions for all five shows at the downtown venue are also available online at www.torrancetheatrecompany.com. Subscriptions are only \$125 for the whole season. (And subscribers get discounted tickets for HOT TIP shows.)

Kinky Boots was a great success. Third-highest selling musical of the last 24 years.

Torrance Civic Chorale

Fall session begins Sept. 18, and there is still time to join through the end of the month.

The holiday concert will be held on Friday, Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the Armstrong Theatre. Tickets on sale in October. More information can be found at www.torrancecivicchorale.net.

Rose Float Association

The Torrance Rose Float Association (TRFA) is in the beginning stages of Lyrical Call of Nature float. The initial test was aired on KTLA 5. Bev Finley and Mayor Chen were interviewed in the [impressive TV spot](#).

Max Presneil, TAM Curator and Director

Torrance Art Museum (TAM)

Plan 9 From Outer Space, selected by TAM staff, was presented at Wilson Park on Sat Aug 26 as part of the summer film series.

Tuesday, September 5 saw the unveiling of the new Kaleidoscope mural in the hallways outside the dance studios.

Body Politic exhibition closed on Saturday 9 Sept after a successful run and much social media attention.

We continue to develop the TRYST project – the world’s largest art fair for alternative galleries and artist-run initiatives with over 60 spaces from around the world and SoCal participating. This will open in tandem with NOMAD, the largest pop-up in California, on October 27-29, at The Del Amo Crossing building.

Nico Clifton, Performing Arts Program Coordinator

Classes / Cultural Education

Summer classes finished in the month of August. Fall registration opened August 15th for Torrance residents and August 22nd for non-residents.

Interviews were held at the for both a new Jewelry Instructor and Lab Technician. Those two positions were filled and will allow us the opportunity to grow our ceramics and jewelry programming.

A special acknowledgement is needed for two ceramics instructors, Sharleen Taira and Thomas Trulove, for all their hard work and help running the Ceramics studio in the absence of a Lab Technician. Their assistance has ensured students were able to get their ceramic pieces in a timely manner and continued to have an enjoyable experience in class.