



**Civic Arts Commission Meeting  
Public Art Subcommittee  
Thursday, November 6, 2025  
4:00 PM**

To attend this meeting via computer or smart device, click: <https://cityofberkeley-info.zoomgov.com/j/1616125937>. If you wish to speak during Public Comment portions of the agenda, click the Raise Hand icon, located under Reactions, and wait to be recognized by the Committee Chair. To attend this meeting via phone, dial 1-669-254-5252 and enter Meeting ID: 161 612 5937. To submit an e-mail Public Comment, email [civicsarts@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:civicsarts@berkeleyca.gov) with the Subject Line in this format: "PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM #." Please observe a 150-word limit. Time limits will apply all Public Comments.

**Agenda**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The City of Berkeley recognizes that the community we live in was built on the territory of Huchiun (*Hooch-yoon*), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (*Cho-chen-yo*) speaking Ohlone (*Oh-low-nee*) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona (*Vuh-roh-nuh*) Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. We acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley residents have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley incorporation in 1878. As stewards of the laws regulating the City of Berkeley, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today. The City of Berkeley will continue to build relationships with the Lisjan (*Lih-Shawn*) Tribe and create meaningful actions that uphold the intention of this Land Acknowledgement

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

**4. CHAIR'S REPORT**

## 5. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- a) **Action Item:** Cube Space exhibition proposal by Ahn Lee, January – March 2026. (20 minutes).

Introduced by Mark Salinas, Public Art Program Lead. Presented by Cube Space Curator Kevin Chen and artist Ahn Lee. (Attachment 1).

**Recommendation:** Approval of Cube Space exhibition by Ahn Lee, January – March 2026.

**Public Comment**

- b) **Action Item:** Public Art Project Plan for the Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. South Berkeley Senior Center. (20 minutes).

Introduced and presented by Mark Salinas, Public Art Program Lead. (Attachment 2).

**Recommendation:** Approval of Public Art Project Plan for the Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. South Berkeley Senior Center.

**Public Comment**

- c) **Discussion Item:** 2026 Public Art Subcommittee Meeting Calendar (5 minutes).

Introduced and presented by Mark Salinas, Public Art Program Lead.

**Public Comment**

## 6. STAFF REPORT

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

### Attachments:

1. Cube Space exhibition proposal by Ahn Lee, January – March 2026
2. Project Plan for the Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. South Berkeley Senior Center

### Staff Contact:

Mark Salinas, Public Art Program Lead  
msalinas@berkeleyca.gov / (510) 981-7538

Communications to City of Berkeley boards, commissions, or committees are considered public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. Please note that e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record. If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do

not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.

**ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION:** To request disability-related accommodations to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Compliance Program by phone (510) 981-6418 or by TTY (510) 981-6347 at least three business days before the meeting date.



**Cube Space January - March 2026**  
**Artist Ahn Lee | Curator Kevin B. Chen**

**Ahn Lee** is a queer Cantonese artist, self-taught ceramicist, and researcher. Their interdisciplinary ceramics practice is a combined methodology of autobiographical re-making and archival research on the Cantonese diaspora. Ahn is a person of Sunwui (Xinhui) descent, one of the few counties in Southern China where most of the first wave of Chinese immigrants were from. Ahn explores their ancestral roots to this contested site of capitalism and imperialism through leveraging archival research and historiography, critical race and gender theory; with a focus on the Bay Area. Though trained as an academic researcher, Ahn aims to create with intuition, using critical history and personal narratives to imagine a current queer Cantonese futurity.

Previously, Ahn studied at UCLA as a Eugene V. Cota Robles Graduate Fellow. Ahn is a 2022 MFA graduate of the UC Berkeley Art Practice Department. They are the 2021 Jack K. and Gertrude Murphy Award Winner, a 2022 Watershed Ceramics Zenobia Fellow, and a 2022-23 Headlands Center for the Arts Graduate Fellow. In 2024, Ahn was a resident at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, and an artist in California Clay at Bedford Gallery. Ahn was a 2024 finalist for the SFMOMA SECA Award.

## Previous Works





智福 (Ze Fook) *Fu Dog of Good Fortune*, 2025  
Stoneware, glaze, gold  
16 × 10 × 11 in.



智善 (Ze Seen) *Fu Dog of Compassion*, 2025  
Stoneware, glaze, gold  
15 × 11 × 11 in.





*Chrysocolla Crystalline Silkworm, 2025*  
Stoneware, crystalline glaze by Ahn Lee  
15 × 9 × 20 in.



*Jade Crystalline Silkworm, 2025*  
Stoneware, crystalline glaze by Ahn Lee  
9 x 15 x 19 in.

*Lizard Guardian, 2025*  
Stoneware  
7.5 x 10 x 9 in.



*Lizard Guardian*, 2025  
Stoneware  
7.5 x 10 x 9 in.



*Dragon Turtle Guardian, 2025*  
Stoneware  
6 x 12 x 8 in.



*Wild Boar Guardian*, 2025  
Stoneware  
6 x 8 x 12 in.



*Cat Guardian, 2025*  
Stoneware  
13 x 5 x 16 in.



*Pangolin Guardian*, 2025  
Stoneware  
9 x 11 x 16 in.



蚕王 (*silkworm deity*), 2023  
Ceramic, glaze  
28" L x 7" W x 30" H.  
Photo Credit: Aidan Jung





Ahn Lee, *These I shall not lose*, 2023, ceramic, glaze, cold finish, dimensions variable. Photograph by Aidan Jung. Courtesy of the artist.













Civic Arts Program

**PUBLIC ART PROJECT PLAN:** Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. South Berkeley Senior Center

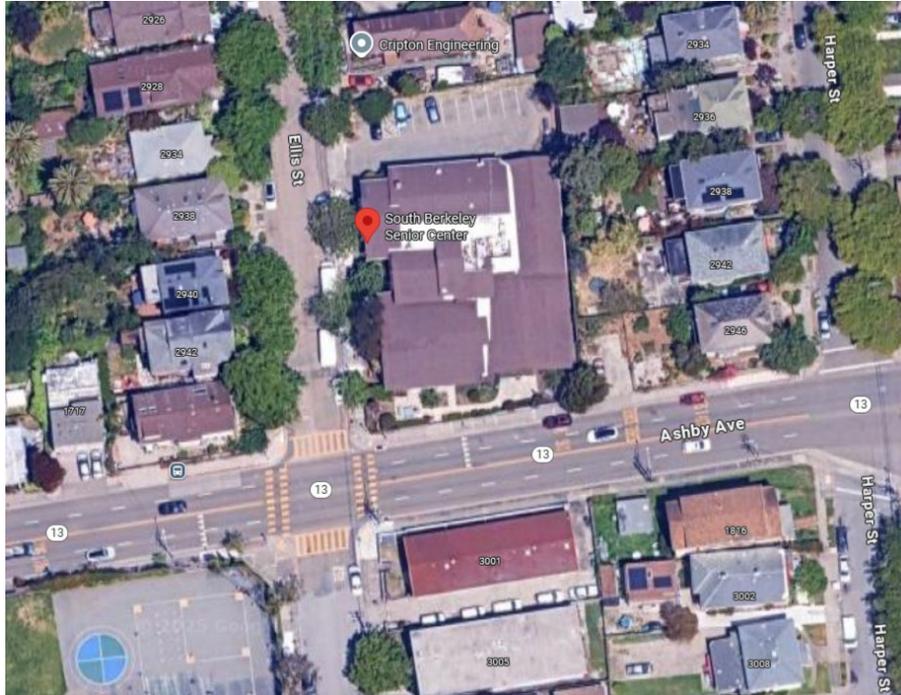


**SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. South Berkeley Senior Center, located at 2939 Ellis Street, has been a vital community hub since opening in 1979 as Berkeley’s first senior center. Established through the leadership of Judge Henry Ramsey Jr. - a lawyer, educator, veteran, civil rights leader, and City Councilmember - the center reflects his vision of creating spaces where older adults could connect, engage, and access essential services. Situated in South Berkeley, a neighborhood long recognized for its African American cultural heritage and civic activism, the center continues to uphold Judge Ramsey’s legacy of equity, inclusion, and community service.

Today, the South Berkeley Senior Center remains a vital hub for social, recreational, and supportive programs that foster wellbeing and connection among older adults. Services include daily congregate lunches, exercise and arts classes, cultural events, and educational workshops. The center’s social services staff also provide case management and referrals to help seniors access housing, health care, and transportation resources. Beyond senior-focused programs, the facility serves as an important community gathering space, hosting neighborhood meetings, nonprofit activities, and special events. Its multipurpose rooms, classrooms, and dining hall are used by a wide range of community groups, reinforcing the center’s welcoming, intergenerational character.

In 2023, the City of Berkeley selected Noll & Tam Architects to design the South Berkeley Senior Center Improvements Project. The renovation will provide seismic, electrical, and accessibility upgrades, new windows, staff space reconfiguration, and sustainability features such as solar panels and electric vehicle charging stations. Expected to be completed in spring 2027, the project will create a safer, more energy-efficient, and inclusive facility.



#### **PUBLIC ART BUDGET**

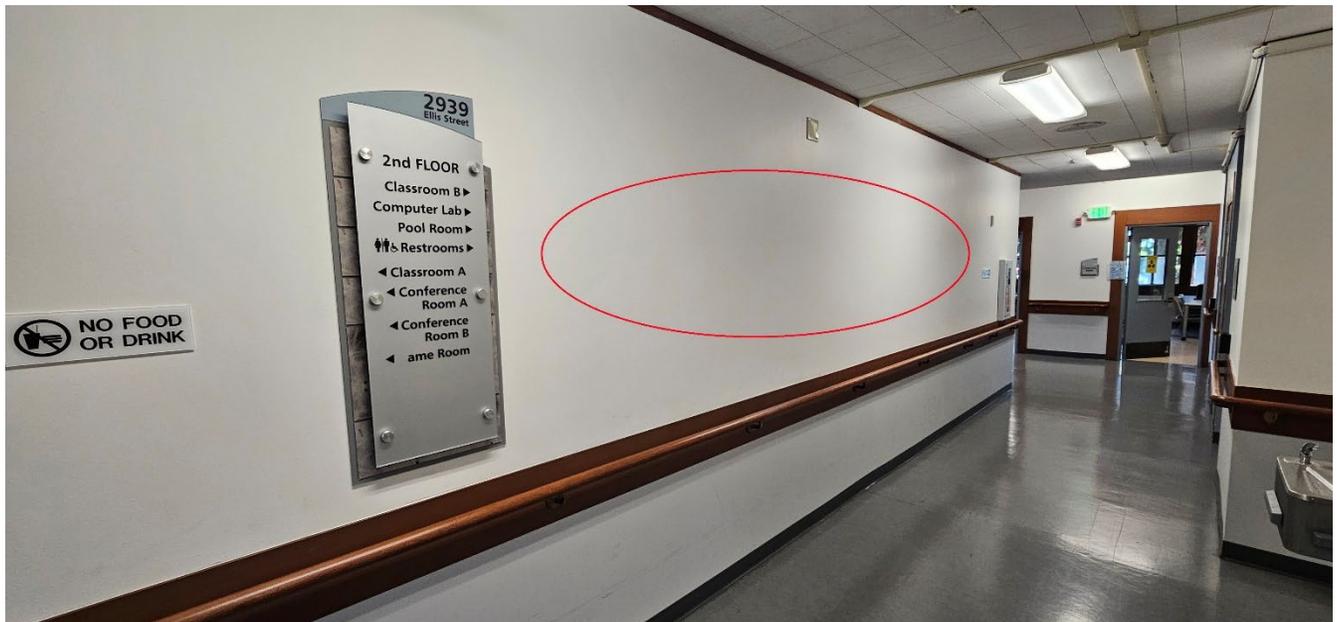
The total project amount is **\$225,000** and includes all associated costs including, but not limited to, artist design fee, research, fabrication, transportation, and installation. The selected individual, or creative team, will observe and comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, codes, and regulations of governmental agencies, including federal, state, municipal and local governing bodies having jurisdiction over any or all of the scope of artwork services.

#### **PUBLIC ART OPPORTUNITY**

The City of Berkeley has identified a public art opportunity for an artist, or creative team, to design, fabricate, and install a cohesive **series of (5) wall mounted three-dimensional artworks** in the following locations at the [South Berkeley Senior Center](#).

- **Exterior Wall (Ellis Street): (1) large wall mounted artwork near the entrance to the Senior Center.**
- **Interior Wall: (4) small wall mounted artworks on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Senior Center.**







### **PUBLIC ART GOALS**

- The artwork should **be welcoming and engaging for a diverse, multigenerational audience.**
- The artwork should feature a **strong, integrated design** that enhances the **visitor experience** of the South Berkeley Senior Center.
- The artwork should **complement the site's identity**—including its usage, culture, history, architecture, or other site-specific themes.

### **ARTIST ELIGIBILITY**

This opportunity is open to individuals, or teams, residing in the 21 Northern California Megaregion Counties. Such counties include Alameda; Contra Costa; El Dorado; Marin; Merced; Monterey; Napa; Placer; Sacramento; San Benito; San Francisco; San Joaquin; San Mateo; Santa Clara; Santa Cruz; Solano; Sonoma; Stanislaus; Sutter; Yolo; Yuba.

### **ARTIST SELECTION PROCESS**

#### **Qualification Panel**

A panel of Bay Area arts professionals will serve as the Qualification Panel, reviewing all RFQ submissions and advancing up to 20% of the total applications received.

#### **Project Panel**

The Qualification Panel will be joined by representatives from key stakeholder groups — including the Civic Arts Commission, the Commission on Aging, the architect team, and the neighborhood — to form the Project Panel. This panel will select up to three finalists.

The finalists will be required to visit the project site and meet with key project stakeholders to support the development of site-specific proposals. Each finalist will receive:

- An honorarium of \$1,750.
- Pre-approved travel reimbursement

Finalist proposals will be presented to the Project Panel, which will recommend one artist to advance.

**Civic Art Commission**

The artist recommended by the Project Panel will be presented to the Civic Arts Commission for final consideration. The City of Berkeley reserves the right to reject any or all submissions.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

- The City of Berkeley and the Civic Arts Program issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), shared via community newsletters, departmental newsletters, and social media platforms.
- A public survey is distributed through the same channels to gather community input.
- Neighborhood stakeholders are included in the Project Panel and Finalist Site Visit.
- Meetings of the Public Art Subcommittee, Civic Arts Commission, and Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Commission are open to the public.

**TIMELINE (Subject to change)**

RFQ Posts	February 20, 2026
Questions Due	March 13, 2026 (by 5:00pm PT)
Responses Posted	March 20, 2026
RFQ Closes	April 27, 2026 (by 5:00pm PT)
Finalists Selected	July 2026
Finalists Site Visit	August 2026
Finalists Proposals Due + Community Survey	October 2026
Finalists Presentations	November 2026
Civic Arts Commission Decision	December 2026
Artist Under Contract	January 2027
Design Development + Construction Review	February 2027 – April 2027
Fabrication	May 2027 – March 2028
Installation	April 2028
Unveiling	May 2028

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Mark Salinas, Public Art Program Lead / MSalinas@berkeleyca.gov / 510.981.7538

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>ESTIMATED PROJECT BUDGET</b>				
2		Total Budget per RFQ:	225,000		
3	ARTIST/TEAM NAME:				
4	ARTWORK TITLE:				
5					
6	INSTRUCTIONS:	<i>Provide item description and amount, adding lines if needed.</i>			
7					
8	<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Budgeted Amount</b>		
9	<u>Design</u>				
10	Artist Fee		49,000		
11	Digital/rendering services				
12	Engineering		5,000		
13					
14	<u>Fabrication</u>			Large x 1	Small x 4
15	Labor		130,000	110,000	5,000
16	Materials				
17	Rentals				
18					
19	<u>Delivery</u>				
20	Packing/crating		3,000		
21	Artwork transportation		3,500		
22	Parking				
23					
24	<u>Installation</u>				
25	Labor		13,000		
26	Materials		1,000		
27	Rentals		3,500		
28	Staff travel		1,000		
29	Artist travel		1,250		
30	Storage				
31					
32	<u>Administration</u>				
33	Communication				
34	Documentation				
35	Insurance		500		
36	Legal				
37	Permits				
38	Contingency		12,250		
39	Site Management		2,000		
40					
41	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>225,000</b>		
42					