



MINUTES
CIVIC ARTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, July 22, 2026
6:00 PM

Meeting Location: Tarea Hall Pittman South Branch Library
1901 Russell St, Berkeley, CA 94703

Commission Members:

Chair Montgomery, Vice Chair Bachrach, Commissioner Woo, Commissioner Vaughn Scott,
Commissioner Bullwinkel, Commissioner Pineda, Commissioner Blecher,
Commissioner Truc-Dao Kramer, Commissioner Dutta- Choudhury

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury,
Montgomery, Truc-Dao Kramer, Woo

Commissioners Absent:, Scott

Staff Present: Carianna Arredondo, Assistant to the City Manager, Mark Salinas,
Public Art Program Lead

General Public Present: 3 in-person | 5 online

Land Acknowledgement, led by Commissioner Dutta-Choudhury

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters: 1

Chairperson's Report, discussed that they included a Youth Art Award proposal under the Presentation of the report.

Commission Action Items

- 1. Action Item: Qualification of A People's History of Telegraph Avenue Mural Preservation as On Site Publicly Accessible Art for 2455 Telegraph Avenue / 2506 Haste Street**
M/S/C (Bullwinkel/ Blecher) to authorize the Commission Secretary to transmit the memorandum regarding A People's History of Telegraph Avenue mural preservation at 2455 Telegraph Avenue / 2506 Haste Street to the Zoning Adjustments Board

Vote: Ayes — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Scott.

Public Comment: 2

2. Jean LaMarr: Ohlone Park Artwork Elements

M/S/C (Montgomery/Kramer) to approve the updated final design for Jean LaMarr's Ohlone Park artwork elements, including the sculptural benches and grinding stone, and authorize staff to proceed with fabrication, coordination, and installation of the artwork at Ohlone Park.

Vote: Ayes — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Scott.

Public Comment: 0

3. Action: Civic Arts Grants Program 2027 Awards

a) M/S/C (Montgomery/Pineda) to approve Fiscal Year 2027 Individual Artist Projects Grant Awards for the nine highest-scoring eligible applicants, from Faye through Trish, at \$5,000 each, excluding Christina, who withdrew after moving outside Berkeley, for a total of \$45,000.

Vote: Ayes — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Scott.

Public Comment: 1

b) M/S/C (Blecher/Bullwinkel) to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Community Festivals Grant Awards under the funding scenario presented in the meeting packet, from the highest-scoring applicant, Dance & Create Berkeley! through Berkeley Festival of Choro, with a score of 393, for a total of \$142,484.

Vote: Ayes — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Scott.

Public Comment: 2

c) M/S/C (Blecher/Woo) to approve Fiscal Year 2027 General Operating Support (Year 2) Grant Awards under Scenario B, which excludes Vital Arts due to ineligibility, as a scenario example, and redistributes its allocation among the remaining eligible grantees, and to authorize staff to distribute approximately \$900 in remaining California Arts Council grant funds among the eligible grantees, if allowed by the grant.

Vote: Ayes — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Pineda, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Scott.

Public Comment: 1

Presentations

Presentation Items Held:

4. **Youth Art Awards**
Public Comment: 1
5. **Background Memo: Public Art on Private Development Nexus Study**
Public Comment: 0

Information Items and Updates

6. Grants, Public Art and Civic Arts Programs Updates Received:

- a) Public Art Program Updates, Mark Salinas
- b) Civic Arts Program Updates, Carianna Arredondo

Committee Updates

7. Grants, Public Art, and Policy Subcommittee Updates Received:

- a) Grants – No Updates
- b) Public Art –No Updates
- c) Policy Subcommittee – Will meet in two weeks to discuss Youth Art Awards and Education Campaign
- d) Representative on Design Review Committee – No Updates

Items for Future Agendas

These items are not scheduled for discussion or action at this meeting. The Commission may schedule these items to the Action Calendar of a future Commission meeting.

- None

Minutes for Approval

Draft minutes for the Commissions consideration and approval.

8. Minutes of June 24, 2026

M/S/C (Montgomery/ Bullwinkel) to approve Draft Minutes of May 20, 2026, Meeting

Vote: Ayes — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — Pineda; Absent — Scott.

Public Comment: 0

Commissioner Announcements

- None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM by unanimous consent.

Vote: Ayes — Bachrach, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Dutta-Choudhury, Kramer, Montgomery, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent —, Scott.

Staff Contact:
Carianna Arredondo
Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission
Berkeley, CA 94704
Telephone (510) 981-7007
carredondo@berkeleyca.gov

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CA' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.