



Agenda Report

Arts Commission

Item #: 25-285

Meeting Date: 5/1/2025

TITLE: ARTS SPECIALIST REPORT
DEPARTMENT: PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
PRESENTED BY: LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST
CONTACT INFORMATION: LAURETTE GARNER, ARTS SPECIALIST, (714) 754-5322

UPDATES:

❖ **Arts Grant Program**

City contract agreements for all awardees are currently being executed. Checks will be sent out within the coming month. Staff is currently working on a calendar of arts grant events to share with the Arts Commission.

(Arts and Culture Master Plan: Goal 4. Action 1.1 and 1.2)

❖ **ARTventure**

The ARTventure application for adult artists will open up on June 2, 2025 with a deadline of July 28, 2025. The Youth Art application will close on May 5, 2025 but may be extended depending on the number of applications received by then. Currently there are four (4) applications.

(ACMP: Goal 1. Action 2.1)

❖ **Exhibition Spaces**

Reminder that the opening reception for artist Charlie Groh will be May 16th from 4pm to 6pm at the Senior Center on the second floor. Charlie Groh creates works in photography and custom framing.

(ACMP: Goal 4. Section 2.3)

❖ **Free Park Performances**

Staff is working with Arts Commissioner Debora Wondercheck to host Make Music Day in Costa Mesa for the first time as part of the Free Park Performances program.

What is Make Music Day?

Each year, over 1,000 cities around the world conduct citywide music celebrations on June 21. In 1982, France's Ministry of Culture dreamed up an idea for a new kind of musical holiday. They imagined a day where free, live music would be everywhere: street corners and parks, rooftops and gardens, store fronts and mountaintops. And, unlike a typical music festival, anyone would be invited to join and play music, or host performances on summer solstice, June 21. This year is Costa Mesa's first year participating as part of this worldwide celebration.

Make Music Day in Costa Mesa will take place on the Lions Park event lawn and stage from 11am to 2pm. Anyone can sign up to perform on the Costa Mesa's Make Music Day website that is now up and running. There are also flyers available for distribution.

(ACMP: Goal 1 Action 2.4)

❖ **Free at Segerstrom Center Campus**

The final show for the program will be mid-June. In August, staff will bring a final report for the program back to the Arts Commission and present on changes to the program for the next fiscal year, based on things learned from the second year of the program. After the budget is approved by City Council, staff will work on a new schedule for free tickets beginning in late fall.

(ACMP: Goal 1. Action 2.2)

❖ **Poet Laureate Program**

Staff is currently working on a schedule for Danielle Hanson's upcoming events and will create a calendar for the year. The goal is to create a sub-calendar on the Arts and Culture Calendar webpage that will host Arts and Culture events and programs managed by the City of Costa Mesa.

(ACMP: Goal 3. Action 1.4)