



Agenda

**Regular Meeting of the Arts
Commission
August 11, 2025 at 5:30 PM
Community Gallery
Santa Fe Community
Convention Center
201 West Marcy Street**

Procedures for Arts Commission Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Request for Approval of July 7, 2025 Arts Commission meeting minutes
5. Matters from the Public
6. Presentations
 - a. Presentation regarding Quadstock festival at Midtown site in October (Carly Venditti, cavenditti@santafenm.gov)
7. Discussion Items: Discussion Only
 - a. Discussion regarding working group updates (Chair Karl Duncan, kduncan@pojoaque.org)
 - b. Discussion regarding public engagement with the Arts Commission (Chair Karl Duncan, kduncan@pojoaque.org)
8. Executive Session
 - a. Discussion regarding Art is the Solution Finalists (Vice Chair Winoka Yepa, Winoka.yepa@gmail.com)
9. Action Items: Discussion and Action
 - a. Request for Approval of Art is the Solution: Cultural Futures awardees for FY26 (Vice Chair Winoka Yepa, winoka.yepa@gmail.com)
10. Matters from the Chair

11. Matters from Staff

- a. Update regarding the Creative Hub (Director Chelsey Johnson, cxjohnson@santafenm.gov)
- b. Updates regarding General Arts & Culture Department (Director Chelsey Johnson, cxjohnson@santafenm.gov)
- c. Updates regarding the Arts & Culture budget overview and funding rules (Melissa Velasquez, mrvelasquez@santafenm.gov)
- d. Updates regarding UNESCO 20th Anniversary initiatives (Deputy Director Sharla Russell, smrussell@santafenm.gov)

12. Matters from the Committee

- a. Updates regarding the Community: relevant and timely arts-related events and issues of note (all Commissioners)

13. Next Meeting:

- a. Next Meeting: September 8, 2025 at 5:30 pm, Community Gallery

14. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6521, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

**ARTS COMMISSION
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025, 5:00 PM
SANTA FE COMMUNITY CONVENTION CENTER
CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Arts Commission was called to order at 5:05 pm on Monday, July 14, 2025, by Chair Carl Duncan, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The meeting was held in-person and virtually.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Carl Duncan, Chair
Commissioner Winoka Yepa, Virtually, arrived later in the meeting
Commissioner Marcia Mikulak, virtually
Commissioner Robyne Robinson, virtually
Commissioner Herman Gomez Chavez
Commissioner Mayrah Udvardi, virtually
Commissioner Erin DeRosa
Commissioner Heidi Brandow, virtually
Commissioner Karina Hean

OTHERS PRESENT

Chelsey Johnson, Director, Arts and Culture Department
Shala Russell, Deputy Director, Arts and Culture Department
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer, virtually

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner DeRosa, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows:

Commissioner Mikulak, yes; Commissioner Robinson, yes; Commissioner Gomez Chavez, yes; Commissioner Udvardi, yes; Commissioner DeRosa, yes; Commissioner Brandow, yes; Commissioner Hean, yes; Chair Duncan, yes.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF JUNE 9, 2025 ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner DeRosa, seconded by Commissioner Gomez Chavez, to approve the minutes as presented.

VOTE The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows:

Commissioner Mikulak, yes; Commissioner Robinson, yes; Commissioner Gomez Chavez, yes; Commissioner Udvardi, yes; Commissioner DeRosa, yes; Commissioner Brandow, yes; Commissioner Hean, yes; Chair Duncan, yes.

5. PRESENTATIONS

None.

6. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AGENDA

Commissioner Yepa arrived at the meeting virtually.

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Chair Duncan asked if there were any working group updates.

Commissioner DeRosa reported that the Grants and Funding working group will be meeting in July or August.

Commissioner Yepa reported that the Art in Public Places working group met and had a productive meeting.

Ms. Johnson reported on the Mayor's Awards working group saying thank you to everyone for vetting the nominations.

B. DISCUSSION REGARDING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ARTS COMMISSION

Ms. Johnson said the Governance Committee discussed ways to bring awareness invite the public to meetings.

Chair Duncan said yes, we discussed more awareness.

Commissioner Gomez Chavez asked what has been done in the past to get the public to come and what can be done.

Chair Duncan said we did try going to different sites for our meetings and still not have much attendance. We do post is publically. We also talked about outreach events.

Commissioner DeRosa said maybe think about different locations and bringing snacks.

Commissioner Mikulak said we talked about publicity about the Arts Commission. She would like to request again that there be more publicity about the Commission and the Department.

Commissioner DeRosa said that is a great idea. Maybe do a call to action on resources and funding for arts.

Ms. Russell said she would like to have an agenda or plan to have community engagement around a call to action or another idea.

Ms. Johnson said you are advisory to the Governing Body. It is appropriate to do policy work. We will introduce the new Commissioners in our newsletter.

Chair Duncan said the outreach working group can come up with a plan and priorities.

Commissioner Hean said maybe we should have something of informational value on our agenda.

C. DISCUSSION REGARDING PUBLIC MURAL PROJECT TO RAISE AWARENESS OF MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Chair Duncan said we wanted to relook at the Commission reviewing a public mural or topic and do a call for the art.

Ms. Johnson said the mural location is one of the walls of Warehouse 21. There have been some concerns about this mural and the Commission doing something to elevate the message. The Arts Commission would be the jury to do the selection. The Departments role is to protect and preserve until there is new management. We would like to do this call promptly.

There was discussion around ideas and City involvement.

D. DISCUSSION REGARDING CURRENT FUNDING LANDSCAPE FOR

THE ARTS

Chair Duncan said so my institution, nonprofits and others are running into Federal funding changes. It is important for us to come together to address defunding arts and culture. He wants us to start thinking about that and define areas of opportunity to make up that difference.

Ms. Russell said she and Chelsey had a meeting with the County's newly formed Arts and Culture Committee. We should include the County in our conversations. We need to continue to ask for the funding.

8. ACTION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ART IS THE SOLUTION EVALUATION PROCESS

Commissioner Yepa reviewed the current process for approval of the Art is the Solution grants and presented the working group recommendation to make the following change:

The working group will interview the top 10 applicants, then determine the 5 finalists, who they will present for review and approval at the Arts Commission August meeting.

MOTION A motion was made and seconded to approve the recommended change to the process.

VOTE The motion passed on a voice vote.

9. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

None.

10. MATTERS FROM STAFF

A. GENERAL ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Ms. Johnson gave an update on activities, programs and events.

B. UNESCO 20TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVES AND OUTREACH

Ms. Russell gave an update on the events and outreach for the UNESCO 20th Anniversary celebration.

11. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

**A. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY UPDATES: RELEVANT AND
TIMELY ARTS RELATED EVENTS AND ISSUES OF NOTE**

Members of the Commission shared event updates and issues.

12. NEXT MEETING

Monday, July 14, 2025, 5:30 pm at the Community Gallery.

13. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Carl Duncan, Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer