



Agenda

**Regular Meeting of the Arts
Commission
December 8, 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 August 11, 2025 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
 - b. Request for Approval September 8, 2025 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
 - c. Request for Approval October 20, 2025 Arts Commission Meeting Minutes
5. Matters from the Public
6. Presentations
 - a. Presentation by Worcester Polytechnic Institute student team by Creative placemaking project
7. Discussion Items: Discussion Agenda
 - a. Discussion regarding Short-Term and Long-Term Strategies to Support Artists Experiencing Economic Stress (Chair Karl Duncan, kduncan@pojoaque.org)
8. Action Items: Discussion and Action
9. Matters from the Chair
10. Matters from Staff
 - a. General Arts & Culture Department updates (Director Chelsey Johnson, cxjohnson@santafenm.gov)
 - b. Gallery and art in public places update (Community Gallery Manager Rebecca Aubin, rraubin@santafenm.gov)

- c. Planning for 2026 UNESCO programming (Director Chelsey Johnson, cxjohnson@santafenm.gov)

11. Matters from the Committee

- a. Community updates: relevant and timely arts-related events, community matters, and issues of note (all Commissioners)

12. Next Meeting: January 12, 2025

13. 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, AUGUST 11, 2025, 5:30 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 5:38 pm on Monday, August 11, 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
Commissioner Marcia Mikulak
Commissioner Robyne Robinson
Commissioner Herman Gomez Chavez
Commissioner Mayrah Udvardi
Commissioner Erin DeRosa
Commissioner Karina Hean

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Heidi Brandow

OTHERS PRESENT

Chelsey Johnson, Director, Arts and Culture Department
Sharla Russell, Deputy Director, Arts and Culture Department

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Johnson said item 6 A and item 11 C have been postponed.

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Mikulak, seconded by Commissioner Hean, to approve the agenda as amended.

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

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF JULY 7, 2025 ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

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

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

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

5. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

(No Name Given) The member of the public spoke about the mural at the Railyard and her concern that it has not been cleaned, saying it is an insult to the Blessed Virgin, Our Lady of Guadalupe.

6. PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION REGARDING QUADSTOCK FESTIVAL AT MIDTOWN SITE IN OCTOBER

This item was postponed.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AGENDA

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 met to synthesize the discussions that we have had and to discuss our outreach efforts and goals. We feel that what the Department does for outreach is robust. We think we can increase it by exploring what other cities do, reaching out to Jamie Blossen at SFMI and reaching out to SITE regarding their grant writing classes. We will be working on that.

Commissioner DeRosa said we also talked about Federal funding issues as well and grants. The Department has a priority to not compete with other organizations for funding. We will keep an eye out for grants that are specific to municipalities.

Commissioner Yepa spoke about the story maps project.

B. DISCUSSION REGARDING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ARTS COMMISSION

Ms. Johnson said we will be adding more information to the bios of our Commissioners.

Commissioner Gomez Chavez said he has been reaching out to artists to make them aware of our monthly meetings so they can participate if they want.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING ART IS THE SOLUTION FINALISTS

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Yepa, seconded by Commissioner Gomez Chavez to enter into Executive Session pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

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

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

The Commission reconvened in open session.

9. ACTION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF ART IS THE SOLUTION: CULTURAL FUTURES AWARDEES FOR FY26.

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Yepa, seconded by Commissioner Gomez Chavez, to award the top five organizations with the Art is the Solution grants, with the sixth award to be dependant on the Department's funding.

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

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

10. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

None.

11. MATTERS FROM STAFF

A. UPDATE REGARDING THE CREATIVE HUB

Ms. Johnson reported that the Department has developed a working group of thirty collaborators to better coordinate and foster the creative community. This group has completed a report with recommendations.

Ms. Johnson shared the report on screen and reviewed the recommendations and list of questions and needs. She will send the report to the Commissioners.

Ms. Johnson said we will continue to convene this group. This effort will culminate into an online navigator for the creative economy.

B. UPDATES REGARDING GENERAL ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Johnson reviewed the sponsorships the Department has funded.

C. UPDATES REGARDING THE ARTS AND CULTURE BUDGET OVERVIEW AND FUNDING RULES

This item was postponed.

D. UPDATES REGARDING UNSECO 20TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVES

Ms. Russell said we are going to have an exhibit in the gallery that will be all UNESCO related. If you know of any artists who are seeking to be represented, let us know. We will continue to keep you updated on programming and conformations of cities that will participate.

12. MATTERS FROM THE COMMUNITY: RELEVANT AND TIMELY ARTS-RELATED EVENTS AND ISSUES OF NOTE

The following events were discussed: Indian Market, a Pathways event and the new President of IAIA.

13. NEXT MEETING

A. NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 8, 2025, COMMUNITY GALLERY

14. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Arts Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Carl Duncan, Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

**ARTS COMMISSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025, 5:30 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 5:30 pm on Monday, September 8, 2025, by Vice Chair Yepa, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The meeting was held in-person and virtually.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Winoka Yepa, Vice Chair - Chaired the meeting
Commissioner Marcia Mikulak
Commissioner Robyne Robinson
Commissioner Herman Gomez Chavez
Commissioner Mayrah Udvardi
Commissioner Karina Hean
Commissioner Heidi Brandow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Karl Duncan, excused
Commissioner Erin DeRosa, excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Chelsey Johnson, Director, Arts and Culture Department
Melissa Velasquez, Arts and Culture Department

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 9 (A) was removed from the agenda and rescheduled for the October meeting.

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Gomez Chavez, seconded by Commissioner Udvardi, to approve the agenda as amended.

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

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AUGUST 11, 2025 ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

It was noted that Chair Duncan's first name is spelled Karl.

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

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

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

5. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

6. PRESENTATIONS

None.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS: DISCUSSION ONLY

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Chair Yepa reported that at the last meeting of the Art is the Solution Working Group, we determined the six recipients of the Art is the Solution grant. Those names have been made public.

Ms. Velasquez said we had an excellent orientation for vendor registration and payment with the grantees. We are working on purchase acquisitions and are pleased with the progress.

There was discussion around presentations to the Commission by grantees.

B. DISCUSSION REGARDING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Chair Yepa said hopefully, Karl can share his ideas with us at the next meeting.

Ms. Velasquez said one of his ideas was a basic contact card for Arts

Commissioners to have.

Ms. Johnson said we can see if the City will print cards for the Commission. We also discussed meeting with the Mayor's Youth Commission to engage with youth.

There was discussion regarding engaging youth, connecting with churches, public outreach to encourage public participation in Commission meetings, community informative workshops, public art, developing a template of what the Commission wants to say, outreach to groups that Commissioners are involved with, and education of Commissioners on what is available to artists through the Commission.

8. ACTION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AND ACTION

None.

9. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

A. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE - ARTS COMMISSIONER MARCIA MIKULAK

This item was removed from the agenda and scheduled for the October meeting.

10. MATTERS FROM STAFF

A. UPDATE REGARDING COMMUNITY GALLERY

Ms. Johnson said there is an exhibit currently being installed. It is a mix of submissions and will be up until November 1st. There will be programing around the show as well.

B. UPDATE REGARDING THE CREATIVE HUB

Ms. Johnson said she has met with the Creative Hub group members and will keep the Commissioners informed.

C. UPDATE REGARDING GENERAL ARTS & CULTURE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Johnson reported that the contractor hired to do the Greer Garson Theater Feasibility Study has begun their work with site visits and focus groups. They will be looking at both physical needs of the building and potential operational scenarios.

D. UPDATES REGARDING UNESCO 20TH ANNIVERSARY INITIATIVES

Ms. Johnson said our plan was to bring several international cities to Santa Fe,

but have encountered issues regarding visas. The visits have been postponed to spring. One City in Japan will be visiting Santa Fe soon.

E. UPDATES REGARDING THE ARTS & CULTURE BUDGET AND FUNDING RULES

Ms. Velasquez offered to provide comprehensive training on the funding opportunities and budget of the Commission one-on-one to Commissioners or at the next meeting. She gave updates on completing the purchase order packets for reimbursements in Arts and Culture Department programs, sponsorships and reports, and a detailed overview of the New Mexico Anti-Donation Program - what is allowable and what is not allowable.

F. UPDATE REGARDING THE MAYOR'S ARTS AWARDS

Ms. Velasquez said we have interviewed six on the seven awardees. It has been wonderful.

Ms. Johnson reported that the event will be on October 7th and is sold out. We will make sure Arts Commissioners get into the event.

11. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

A. UPDATES REGARDING THE COMMUNITY: RELEVANT AND TIMELY ARTS-RELATED EVENTS AND ISSUES OF NOTE.

Commissioner Mikulak stated that Santa Fe is a Sanctuary City. She has seen signs at restaurants and other sites stating the legalities of who can be interviewed etc. by ICE. Are there rules for taking a stand?

Ms. Johnson said we have ethics guidelines for employees. This is a safe City for immigrants. We have not officially been declared a Sanctuary City.

Commissioners shared upcoming events.

Commissioner Gomez Chavez said a well known artist contacted him seeking a space for an exhibit. It would be nice if we could help.

Ms. Johnson asked the Commissioner to send her the details and she will put the request in the newsletter.

12. NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 6, 2025

Ms. Johnson said we will send out an email about the next meeting date.

13. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Winoka Yepa, Vice Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

**ARTS COMMISSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025, 5:30 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 5:30 pm on Monday, October 20, 2025, by Chair Karl Duncan, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The meeting was held in-person and virtually.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Karl Duncan, Chair
Commissioner Marcia Mikulak
Commissioner Robyne Robinson
Commissioner Herman Gomez Chavez
Commissioner Mayrah Udvardi
Commissioner Karina Hean

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Heidi Brandow
Commissioner Winoka Yepa, excused
Commissioner Erin DeRosa, excused

OTHERS PRESENT

Chelsey Johnson, Director, Arts and Culture Department
Sharla Russell, Deputy Director, Arts and Culture Department
Melissa Velasquez, Arts and Culture Department

Chair Duncan said he appreciates everything Commissioner Mikulak has done for the arts and the Commission. Her experience is welcomed and appreciated. She is an asset to the Commission and to the community. We are going to miss her. Thank you Commissioner Mikulak and best wishes to you. We appreciate you.

Ms. Johnson said Marcia, you have put so much work into this Commission. Your passion for the work is wonderful to see and is appreciated.

Ms. Johnson presented Commissioner Mikulak with a gift for her service to the community and the Commission.

Commissioner Mikulak said thank you. She wishes you all the best.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 ARTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

This item was postponed.

5. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms. Russell said we are going to hear from Heidi McKinnon under this item so that she can leave the meeting for another engagement.

Ms. McKinnon shared her screen and gave an update on UNESCO activities.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS: DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Ms. Johnson said the Art in Public Places working group has met since our last meeting.

Commissioner Udvardi said we had a great meeting. We heard a proposal from a landscape architect, who is on contract, to design the southwest quadrant of Agua Fria and San Francisco. We identified an opportunity for public art in the area. The next step is for the Arts and Culture Department team to work with them on the selection of the design.

Ms. Johnson said we will work with the Art Commissioners on an RFP for the public art installation. She would like to think about the placement of public art on a case-by-case basis so maybe the entire Commission can have a part in the process. There are four locations for median installations that Parks wants to work on with us, and other opportunities.

B. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROPOSED REVISIONS TO TRADITIONAL MARKETING IMPACT AND COLLABORATIVE IMPACT FUNDING FOR FY27.

Ms. Johnson shared her screen with a presentation regarding proposed revisions to the traditional marketing impact and collaborative impact funding for FY27. The presentation included the history of the funding, the process and proposed changes.

There was discussion regarding categories of funding, separating the collaborative impact funding from the TMI funding in a separate call, final reports, review metrics, data collection and grant amounts.

Ms. Johnson thanked the Commission for their feedback.

C. DISCUSSION REGARDING MURAL POLICIES AND PROPOSALS

Ms. Johnson said she sent the Commissioners a series of questions regarding the issues around murals. She would like their input and thoughts.

There was discussion around mural time limits, digitization, criteria, measurable community benefit, the obligation of private entities, outreach to private owners, preserving art, restoration of something that is historically valuable and temporary versus permanent murals.

Ms. Johnson said we will continue this discussion for policy recommendations.

7. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR

A. APPOINTMENT OF INCOMING ARTS COMMISSIONER APRIL CLEVELAND

This item was postponed.

8. MATTERS FROM STAFF

A. GENERAL ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Ms. Johnson said she will send an email to the Commissioners with the updates.

B. ARTS AND CULTURE BUDGET OVERVIEW AND FUNDING RULES

This item was postponed.

C. UNESCO CREATIVE ENCOUNTER WITH TAMBA-SASAYAMA

OCTOBER 23-25

This item was postponed.

9. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

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

This item was postponed.

10. NEXT MEETING: NOVEMBER 10, 2025 AT 5:30 PM, COMMUNITY GALLERY

11. ADJOURN

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Karl Duncan, Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer