



REGULAR MEETING of the ARTS COMMISSION
February 24, 2025, at 6:00 PM
Austin Energy, Mueller Assembly Rm 1111a (115).
4815 Mueller Blvd, Austin, TX 78723

Some members of the ARTS COMMISSION may be participating by videoconference. The meeting may be viewed online at: <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/watch-atxn-live>

Public comment will be allowed in-person or remotely via telephone. Speakers may only register to speak on an item once either in-person or remotely and will be allowed up to three minutes to provide their comments. Registration no later than Noon the day before the meeting is required for remote participation by telephone. To register to speak remotely, call or email Jesús Varela at jesus.varela@austintexas.gov or at 512-974-2444.

CURRENT COMMISSIONERS:

Celina Zisman - Chair, Heidi Schmalbach - Vice Chair, Keyheira Keys, Monica Maldonado, Felipe Garza, Gina Houston, Acia Gray, Faiza Kracheni, Amy Mok, Nagavalli Medicharla

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first 10 speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the Arts Commission Regular Meeting on January 27, 2025.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Discussion on DEI words that will no longer allowed to be used by the Trump administration by Chair Zisman
3. Report of the Art in Public Places Liaison concerning actions taking during the February 3rd meeting of the Art in Public Places Panel by Commissioner Maldonado

4. Update on actions taken at the January 15th Downtown Commission meeting by Commissioner Mok

STAFF BRIEFINGS

5. Staff briefing regarding the establishment of the Office of Arts, Culture, Music, and Entertainment by Matthew Schmidt, Acting Cultural Arts Division Manager
6. Staff briefing regarding an update on the Hotel Occupancy Tax by Matthew Schmidt, Acting Cultural Arts Division Manager
7. Staff briefing on the Cultural Arts Funding Programs by Jesús Pantel, Cultural Funding Supervisor

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

8. Action to Approve Request for Qualification for the Asian American Resource Center Art in Public Places Project
9. Action to Approve Final Design for the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Terminal Expansion Phase (TEP) II “A” Art in Public Places Project
10. Discussion and possible action on recommendation for the evolution of the Cultural Arts Grants in 2025 and beyond, after presentation by Commissioner Medicharla, on behalf of the CAD Grants Working Group
11. Discussion and possible action on recommendation for specific updates to the Elevate grant for a potential May/June 2025 rollout, after presentation by Commissioner Medicharla, on behalf of the CAD Grants Working Group.

WORKING GROUP UPDATES

12. Update from joint Arts/Music Commission Working Group on Urban Core Issues with Commissioners Gray, and Schmalbach (chair).
13. Update from the Community Feedback on most recent release of the Cultural Funding Programs Working Group with Commissioner’s Kracheni, Maldonado, Gray, Houston, Medicharla (chair)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days (48 hours) before the meeting date. Please call Jesús Varela at the Economic Development Department, at 512-974-2444, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Arts Commission, please contact Jesús Varela at 512-974-2444.