



REGULAR MEETING of the ARTS COMMISSION
August 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM
Austin City Hall, Council Chambers, Room 1001.
301 West 2nd Street, Austin, Texas 78701

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:

Gina Houston - Chair, Acia Gray - Vice Chair, Keyheira Keys, Felipe Garza, Heidi Schmalbach, Muna Hussaini, Celina Zisman, Faiza Kracheni, Sharron B Anderson, 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 July 21, 2025.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Presentation of how fiscal sponsors optimize the experience of all parties involved in City granting where they live — plus fiscal sponsorship best practices by Carman Gaines of Local Color, San José, CA.
3. Presentation of how fiscal sponsors optimize the experience of all parties involved in City granting where they live — plus fiscal sponsorship best practices by Thaddeus Squire of Social Impact Commons, Philadelphia, PA.

4. Discussion of Annual Review and Report

STAFF BRIEFINGS

5. Staff briefing regarding an update on the Hotel Occupancy Tax by Jesús Pantel, Cultural Funding Supervisor.
6. Staff briefing regarding update on the Cultural Arts Funding Programs by Jesús Pantel, Cultural Funding Supervisor.
7. Staff briefing regarding an update on Art in Public Places by Jaime Castillo, Art in Public Places Manager.
8. Staff briefing regarding ACME Funding Guidelines final draft, by Morgan Messick, Assistant Director, ACME

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

9. Discussion and possible action on recommendation of the updated ACME funding guidelines.
10. Appoint new representative to the Downtown Commission.
11. Appoint new liaison to the Arts in Public Places Panel.

WORKING GROUP UPDATES

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