



REGULAR MEETING of the ARTS COMMISSION
May 18, 2026, 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 Austin Arts, Culture, Music and Entertainment (ACME), at jesus.varela@austintexas.gov or at 512-974-2444.

CURRENT COMMISSIONERS:

Gina Houston - Chair, Muna Hussaini - Vice Chair, Keyheira Keys, Monica Maldonado, Felipe Garza, Heidi Schmalbach, Kirtana Banskota, Bailey Pownall, 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 April 20, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Update on actions taken at the May 4th Art in Public Places Panel by Commissioner Schmalbach

3. Explore a Special Called joint meeting with the Music Commission

STAFF BRIEFINGS

4. Staff briefing on Creative Reset Part 2 with Candice Cooper, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, ACME.
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 the ACME Funding Programs by Laura Odegaard, Acting Division Manager, ACME.
8. Staff briefing regarding an update on Art in Public Places by Jaime Castillo, Art in Public Places Manager.
9. Staff briefing regarding an update on ACME Museums and Cultural Facilities by Marjorie Flanagan, Division Manager or Michelle Rojas, Acting Division Manager.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

10. Discussion and possible action to approve possible collaboration with Coalition for Austin's Arts & Spanish-Language Theatre for the expansion of the Latino Artist Access Program.
11. Establish a working group with the Arts Commission, the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center (ESB-MACC) Advisory Board, and the Hispanic/Latino Quality of Life Resource Advisory Commission to work with ACME to create recommendations for Spanish language access in the next round of Grant Fundings.
12. Approve a recommendation for the Armadillo Water Tank Art in Public Places Project Final Design.
13. Approve a recommendation for the Airport Boulevard NWSE Art in Public Places Final Design.
14. Approve a recommendation regarding updates to the Art in Public Places Guidelines and Policies per City Council Resolution No. 20250306-029. Presentation by Jaime Castillo, AIPP Manager, ACME.

WORKING GROUP UPDATES

15. Update from joint Arts/Music Commission Working Group on Urban Core Issues with Commissioners Schmalbach (chair).
16. Update from Arts Commission Bylaws Working Group with Commissioners Houston, Garza, Keys, and Anderson (Chair)

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

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For more information on the Arts Commission, please contact Jesús Varela at 512-974-2444 or jesus.varela@austintexas.gov.