REGULAR MEETING of the ARTS COMMISSION
October 19, 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, 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 July 20, 2026.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Update on actions taken at the October 5th Art in Public Places Panels by Commissioner Schmalbach.

3. Update on actions taken at the September 16th Downtown Commission meeting by Commissioner Houston.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

4. Staff briefing regarding an update on the Hotel Occupancy Tax by Jesús Pantel, ACME Cultural Funding Supervisor.
5. Staff briefing regarding update on the Cultural Arts Funding Programs by Jesús Pantel, ACME Cultural Funding Supervisor.
6. Staff briefing regarding an update on the ACME Funding Programs by Laura Odegaard, ACME Division Manager, Cultural Affairs & Investments.
7. Staff briefing regarding an update on Art in Public Places by Jaime Castillo, ACME Art in Public Places Manager.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

8. Establish an Austin Arts, Culture, Music, and Entertainment (ACME) Funding Appeals Working Group to review appeals from organizations who were not chosen for funding.
9. Approve a recommendation for the Northeast Service Center: Suspended 3D Art in Public Places Artist Selection.
10. Approve a recommendation for the Northeast Service Center: Cistern Murals Art Call.
11. Approve a recommendation of the Special Meeting of the Art in Public Places Deaccession Review, Art in Public Places artworks at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.
12. Approve a recommendation regarding updates to the Art in Public Places Ordinance, Guidelines and Policies per City Council Resolution No. 20250306-029.
13. Approve second term for Art in Public Places Panel members Bernardo Diaz and Andrew Danziger.

WORKING GROUP UPDATES

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

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon

request. For assistance, please contact the Liaison or TTY users' route through 711. A person may request language access accommodations no later than 48 hours before the scheduled meeting. Please call or email Jesús Varela at Austin Arts, Culture, Music and Entertainment (ACME), at 512-974-2444 or jesus.varela@austintexas.gov, to request service or for additional information.

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