



ARTS, CULTURE & LIBRARY COMMISSION UPDATE

Bill Sherwood, Assistant Library Director



BACKGROUND

- The City Council approved the merger of the Arts Commission and the Library-Historical Commission into the Arts, Culture & Library Commission on December 5, 2022.
- Appointments were needed to this newly-created commission, the Arts, Culture & Library Commission's first meeting was in April 2023.
- As part of the merger approval, Council directed staff to do a 1-year progress report.



OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

- The Arts Commission and the Library-Historical Commission had the same operational challenges:
 - Quorum, attendance, appointment issues, and a lack of agenda items.
 - Commission staffing capacity issues.
 - Community Police Review Board
 - Library-Historical Commission
 - Arts Commission
- Opportunity to leverage the Library's expertise in delivering diverse arts and culture programs in service of the Arts Master Plan.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Not one meeting of Arts, Culture & Library Commission has been cancelled due to a lack of a quorum or a lack of agenda items.
- The Arts, Culture & Library Commission has had a very productive first year:
 - Supporting the 2023 Cherry Festival with funding for the Giant Puppets Save the World program.
 - Funding the 2023 and 2024 Comedy in the Plaza event.
 - Funding the Holiday Art Trees Project – a partnership with the San Leandro Improvement Association.

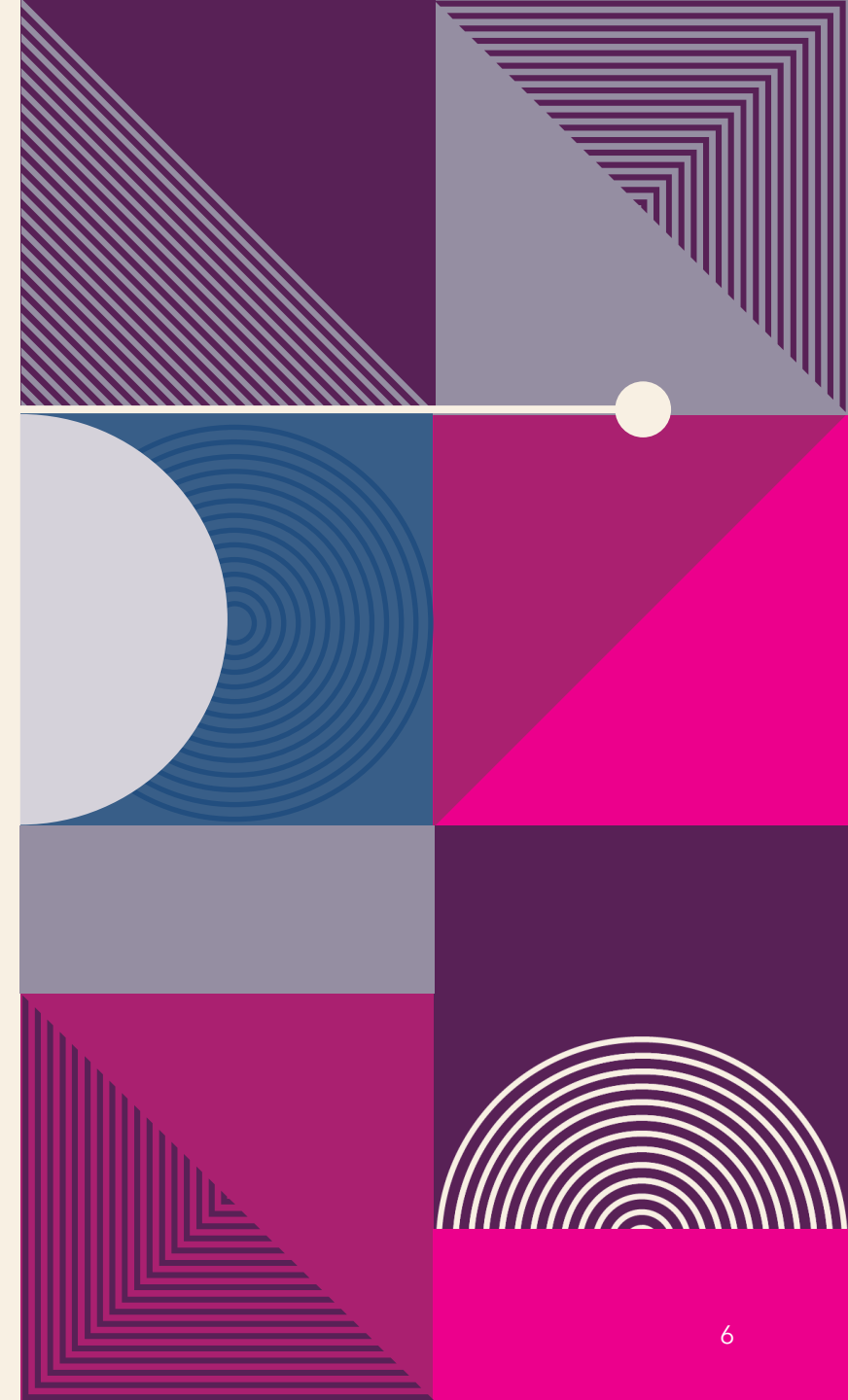


ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONTINUED)

- Collaborating with the Public Works Department to select the art component for the Steven Taylor Sanctity of Life Pavilion.
- Funding an updated exhibit at the San Leandro History Museum.
- Funding a new leased sculpture for the Hesperian Triangle.
- Collaborating with the Community Development Department on the 2024 Mural Art Project.
- Reviewing the Library Department's revised Rules of Conduct.

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS PROGRAM INNOVATIONS

- FY21, the former Arts Commission received 8 applications and awarded \$20,000 in grants.
- No Arts Commission Grants awarded FY22 & FY23.
- FY24 Arts & Culture Grant Program Innovations:
 - Streamlining the grant application process.
 - Targeting local individual artists.
 - Increased the grant budget to \$80,000.
 - Increased the grant awards limits to \$5,000 per individual and \$10,000 per non-profit organization.



ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS PROGRAM RESULTS

The results of the innovations were record setting and dramatically increased community participation:

FY24

Applications:

- 26 requesting \$153,843 in grant funding

Awarded:

- 12 grants awarded:
 - 8 to individuals.
 - 4 to non-profit organizations
- \$78,663 total

Previous Arts & Culture Grants

Applications:

- 8 requesting \$20,000 in grant funding.

Awarded:

- 8 grants awarded
- \$20,000 total

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS PROGRAM GRANTEES

- Art workshop to inspire local artists to illustrate what they like and love about living in San Leandro.
- Stories inspired by local San Leandro cafes & restaurants and told through paintings.
- “Tricks to Happiness” comedy and magic show and workshop about how to live a happier life.
- Short-form film documentaries of San Leandro entrepreneurs.
- 2024 Holiday Belly Dance Showcase



Eric Shea, “San Leandro: Order Up”



Frank Oliver, “Tricks to Happiness”

ARTS & CULTURE GRANTS PROGRAM GRANTEES (CONTINUED)

- A community collage art project.
- Teen and young adult creative reuse project.
- An award-winning San Leandro author completing her current book and teaching a writing workshop.
- Disability services art programs and show.
- Free art classes for artists of all ages.
- Turning the Bell Planter into a work of art with mosaics.
- Creative writing workshops for Latinx girls in 6th-8th grades.



Davis Street, "Disabilities Services Art Program and Show"



San Leandro Improvement Association, "Bell Planter Mosaic"



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Questions & Answers