



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE and
VISUAL ARTS IN PUBLIC PLACES (VAPP) COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, October 16, 2014
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

MINUTES

Arts Advisory
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

Arts Advisory Committee Members Present: Robert Adams, Darian Bleecher, Elizabeth Owen, Marylove Thralls, Nathan Vonk

Arts Advisory Committee Members Absent: Nina Dunbar, Vacancy

Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Present: Judy Nilsen, Darian Bleecher, Martha Gray, Susan Keller

Visual Arts in Public Places Committee Absent: Teen Conlon, Jaqueline Dyson, Phyllis de Picciotto, Suzanne Fairly-Green, Mary Heebner

Liaisons Present: Frank Hotchkiss, City Council; Courtney Miller, ABR

Liaisons Absent: Judith Cook, Parks & Recreation; Barry Winick, HLC

Staff Present: Ginny Brush, Executive Director; Rita Ferri, Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of Collections; Lyn Semenza, Department Business Specialist

Arts Advisory Chair, Robert Adams, called the meeting to order at 3:40pm and Roll Call was taken. There were no changes to the Agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Subject: Approval of Minutes**

ACTION: Judy Nilsen made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2014 meeting. Nathan Vonk seconded. Martha Gray Abstained. *Motion Passed.*

ARTS ADVISORY ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Subject: Update from Youth Interactive on the temporary mural location of “Santa Barbara 2.0” mural at 22 Anacapa Street

This item was continued to the November 20, 2014 meeting.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Subject: Executive Director’s Report

Update on Vacancies for City Arts Advisory and Events & Festivals Committees:
There are 4 applications submitted for our City Advisory Committees. These positions should be filled by the end of the year, after the interview process and appointments are completed by City Council.

OFFICE LOCATION:

1100 Anacapa Street
3rd Floor, Rotunda Tower
County Courthouse

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Community Arts Enrichment Grants were reviewed yesterday. There were 25 applicants that applied for the \$12,600 in funding available. 18 were awarded funding. Letters and a press release will be going out the last week in October. Grants were reviewed by Arts Commissioners Hannah Rubalcava, 5th District, Kam Jacoby, 4th District, Barbara Burger, 2nd District and Karen Kearns from the SB Bowl Education Outreach committee of the Bowl Foundation. Overall, these were the strongest, most compelling group of grants to date. The CAE Grant program is made possible through a partnership with the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation and the Arts Commission, with funding provided by the Bowl Foundation's Arts Subsidy Fund. The purpose of the grants is to increase access to the arts to underserved communities and foster community engagement Countywide.

The 5th Annual **Pianos on State Street project** began October 10th with ten pianos secured along State Street and in the Historic Cultural District. In addition to State Street, pianos have been placed at the SB Airport Baggage claim area, and in the Funk Zone. Pianos will remain up, through October 20th in conjunction with the New Noise Festival. This project is the result of the collaborative efforts of The County Arts Commission, Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation, Notes for Notes, SB Education Foundation, The New Noise Foundation, SB Arts Collaborative and the Downtown Organization.

This month the County Arts Commission is launching the 2015 **Poetry Out Loud Competition** in conjunction with the California Arts Council (CAC) and the National Poetry Foundation. The date of the Countywide Competition is scheduled for Wednesday, February 4th, 2015 in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room on the 4th Floor of the County Administration Bldg. at 105 Anapamu St. in Santa Barbara. This year the Arts Commission will be working closely with the CAC to broaden its outreach to high schools throughout the County. The Arts Commission will be providing information on our Facebook page and website for Santa Barbara County schools interested in participating. We are working with the Santa Barbara Education Foundation and County Office of Education in reaching out to all high schools in the County regarding the POL program.

In January we will begin the process of the search for the next City Poet Laureate with the first step being the creation of an Ad Hoc Poet Laureate Search committee to meet in early January. Chrissy Yost's term as City Poet Laureate will end with the installation of the next Poet Laureate the first week in April, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT – The Arts Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:00PM.

Visual Art in Public Places Chair, Judy Nilsen, called the meeting to order at 4:00PM and Roll Call was taken.

VISUAL ART IN PUBLIC PLACES (VAPP) ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Subject: Proposal for a Temporary Exhibition in the City Hall Gallery

The committee received a presentation from Visual Arts Coordinator, Rita Ferri on a proposed exhibition for the City Hall Gallery that will tie in with a City-wide celebration of the life and work of Ray Strong.

2015 will include a City-wide celebration of Ray Strong's artwork. The SB Historical Museum, the Natural History Museum, James Main Fine Art, Ellen Easton Gallery, Santa Barbara Museum of Art and Sullivan Goss are all planning exhibitions of his work. In addition, Sullivan Goss: An American Gallery is publishing a monograph of his collected works. Ms. Ferri requested conceptual approval for an upcoming exhibition planned for the City Hall Gallery titled: **Ray Strong: Shared Vision and Common Ground.**

For anyone new to the work of Ray Strong, he was a highly influential plein air artist who was a founding member of the Oak Group which opposed the encroachment of the oil industry onto the local landscape.

He was born in Oregon, educated at the California School of Fine arts in San Francisco and the Art Students League of New York and participated in the WPA projects in the 1930s. He moved to Santa Barbara in 1960. Several of his paintings are in the permanent collection of the Oakland Museum and the Smithsonian Museum, and to mark his 100th birthday a tribute was made to Ray Strong in the U.S. House of Representatives by Lois Capps. He continued to paint in his studio, until shortly before he died at age 101 on July 3, 2006.

In this exhibition Ms. Ferri will pair up some of Ray Strong's plein air paintings with paintings from members of the Oak Group that often traveled with him to common painting areas and shared his vision of the land. The paintings may be looking out together on the same view or a different view of the same location. The exhibition will involve exhibiting images from many locations, including: the Gaviota Coast, the San Marcos Foothills, Hollister Ranch, the Douglas Family Preserve and More Mesa. Artists include Meredith Brooks Abbott, Chris Chapman, Bill Dewey (who has photographed many of their painting trips together), Michael Drury, Larry Iwerks, Manny Lopez, Richard Schloss, Arturo Tello, and Thomas Van Stein. This proposed exhibition would install in March of 2015, but would have an opening reception on April 1st Thursday since The Oak Group will have another reception on 1st Thursday reception in March at the SB Downtown Library. The exhibition would end on February 12, 2016.

Susan Keller made a motion to approve the temporary Ray Strong exhibition in the City Hall Gallery and Darian Bleacher seconded. *Motion Passed.*

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Subject: Report from Visual Arts Coordinator/Curator of Collections

Channing Peake Gallery

The Impoverished Vision: Abstraction to the Rescue exhibition featured John Hood doing a walk-thru talk with some of the artists on October 2nd, 1st Thursday, at 6pm. John who is really passionate about the subject of abstract art and although Ms. Ferri was not in attendance, she heard from all reports that despite it being a very challenging situation (there was a power outage throughout downtown) Channing Peake was one of the few galleries that had emergency power (due to a County generator) and was able to host attendees that came through the gallery. John was able to bring the artists together and created an interesting and unforgettable evening. The *Abstraction to the Rescue* exhibition will deinstall on Friday, October 17.

The next exhibition is a collaboration between SCAPE (Southern California Painting for the Environment) and the County Arts Commission. *Near and Far: Plein Air in County Parks* will install on October 25th with works chosen by nationally known plein air artist and teacher David Gallup and open with a reception on Nov. 6th, 1st Thursday from 5-8pm.

Public Defender Building -Percent for Art Project

The Landing of Cabrillo Tapestry Project, based on the 1924 painting by Daniel Sayre Groesbeck, now owned by the County of Santa Barbara, for the Public Defender's Building has been completed. The Arts Commission had the historic painting reproduced as a large-scale tapestry format to help mitigate sound in the lobby. The artist, John Nava, who is famous for his tapestries of the Saints at Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral in LA, and for other Santa Barbara area artists, has established a working relationship with a tapestry manufacturer in Belgium and has been the 'contractor' for the fabrication, shipping and installation of the large-scale tapestry. The tapestry will be installed on October 27th and a special reception will be held from 10am to noon on October 29th for the Supervisors with John Nava in attendance and other special guests; and an open house will be held in the lobby from 12 – 2pm.

ADJOURNMENT – Visual Art in Public places (VAPP) meeting was adjourned at 4:40PM.

NEXT MEETING:

The next City Arts Advisory and Visual Arts in Public Places Committee meeting will be November 20, 2014 in the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, If you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission at (805) 568-3990. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will usually enable the City to make reasonable arrangements. Specialized services, such as sign language interpretation or documents in Braille, may require additional lead time to arrange.

REPORTS:

Copies of documents relating to agenda items are available for review at the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission office at 1100 Anacapa Street, 3rd Floor Rotunda Tower, and agendas and reports are also posted online at www.SBArtsCommission.org. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Arts Advisory Committee/Visual Art in Public Places Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission located at 1100 Anacapa Street, 3rd Floor Rotunda Tower during normal business hours.