

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION  
PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

January 15, 2026  
6:00 P.M.

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

The special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee was called to order at 6:06 P.M. in the Patio Room at City Hall.

Present: Ehsaan Mesghali, Member  
Shona Gupta, Member

Staff: Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager  
Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst

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**Consent Calendar Items**

Item C-1

**Approval of Minutes of the December 8, 2025 Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee Meeting**

MOVED BY MEMBER GUPTA, SECONDED BY MEMBER MESGHALI AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 8, 2025 CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING.

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**Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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**Action Items**

Item A-1

**Consideration of (1) the Neighborhood Representatives' Recommendation of the Five Artist Finalists for the FY 2025-2026 Culver City: Colorful Communities (CC:CC) Poster Program Awards; and (2) Review, Discuss, and Provide Comments; and, (3) Make a Motion to Approve and Advance the Five Finalists to the Cultural Affairs Commission for Program Commission**

Sam Lee, Cultural Affairs Analyst, introduced the item; discussed the process; scoring; categories; criteria; eligible applications; alternates; and he provided background on and examples of past work for the artists chosen.

Sally Unsworth, Cultural Affairs Manager, discussed choice of neighborhoods.

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the intent to start with five neighborhoods and cycle through the 15 Culver City neighborhoods with all posters ready by the fourth year; the ability for the artists to resubmit for future cycles; media; diversity; creation of a short list for artists for the next round; consistency; streamlining processes; use of community representatives from the neighborhoods; community engagement with the artists; engagement with CVL Economics; the competitive process; review of previous work by artists who scored very close to the top; items that will end up as handmade objects as part of the collection; proficiency in different mediums; having local and locally connected artists; the specific aesthetic being sought; providing onramp opportunities for artists who have not done civic work to get into public art; use of images that resonate; and emerging artists.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the artist stipend; offsetting liability insurance costs; the process; community engagement; providing accessibility for artists; time and effort involved; tax paid by the artist; the amount paid by LACMTA for similar projects; different requirements for LACMTA; event insurance; touchpoints; engagement and time spent with the community; different engagements depending on location; alignment with the cultural framework; piggybacking on other events; the large undertaking; connections to other things; cities that copy each other; different focus for the downtown corridor and more

commercial neighborhoods; Cultural Affairs information available on the Culver City website; organization of the website by program; ensuring a dynamic web presence; and new accessibility standards.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding the recommendation for Commission consideration in February; artists selected; providing a short-list option for the next round; increasing the stipend by \$1,000 per person due to insurance requirements; support for having three alternates; the ability for the alternates to apply in the next round; alerting future neighborhood representatives about the alternates; pilot launch; lessons learned; diversity of applicants and styles; being prepared to provide regular subcommittee updates to the Commission; the Architecture as Art application; new items that the full Commission is not as aware of; invitations sent to the professional panelists; the Public Art Master Plan; and upcoming items.

MOVED BY MEMBER MESGHALI, SECONDED BY MEMBER GUPTA AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE: APPROVE THE NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES' RECOMMENDATION AND ADVANCE THE RECOMMENDATION TO THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION FOR FINAL APPROVAL AND INCREASE THE STIPEND BY \$1,000.00.

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**Items from Members/Staff**

Discussion ensued between staff and Subcommittee Members regarding date of the next meeting.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 7:01 p.m., the special meeting of the Cultural Affairs Commission Public Art Subcommittee adjourned.

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Jeremy Bocchino  
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California  
EX-OFFICIO CITY CLERK of the City Council of Culver City,  
California

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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Ehsaan Mesghali  
CHAIR of the Culver City Cultural Affairs Commission  
Public Art Subcommittee