Katy Krantz— Artist Laureate Update Cultural Affairs Commission Meeting 6/20/23

Artist Laureate Projects—Current:

1. Coordinated Culver City Artist's Meet Up with Shona Gupta from Culver Arts Foundation. Event to be held June 15th from 7-9, at the Wende Museum. This is intended to be a casual happy hour type get together. Funding provided by Culver Arts. Artists of all disciplines welcomed. Purpose of the event is to build community and offer networking/professional development opportunity for artists who live or work in Culver City. I will be at a table collecting stamped ceramic words from attendees and incorporating them into the Culver City Pots and Poetry Project (see below). This event is intended to be the kick off to a possible series of events. Future events could be smaller and organized by artistic discipline.





2. Culver City Pots and Poetry Project: Developed two different types of workshops — an interactive drop-in activity appropriate for events and 1.5—2 hour sit down ceramics hand-building class. Both types of workshops are used to generate material for a large scale hanging sculpture to be displayed in a public place. At the first type of workshop, participants are asked to brainstorm words that come to mind when they think about the past, present, and future of Culver City. After coming up with a number of words, they are asked to choose their favorite one, and stamp the words into soft clay using provided letter stamps. At the second type of workshop, participants sign up in advance and spend time doing the activity described above, and then learn basic handbuilding techniques to make unique pots, beads and figures for the collaborative sculpture. Words and other ceramic components to be strung together to create the sculpture.

Interactive Events:

- Pride Rally, Downtown Culver City (6/3)
- Artists Meet Up, Wende Museum (6/15)
- Juneteeth, Ivy Station (6/17)
- Fiesta La Ballona (8/25,8/26, 8/27)
- Possibly Saturday mornings in Culver City Parks (need to coordinate with Parks and Rec)

Sit-Down Ceramics Classes:

- Senior Center (6/5, 6/19, 7/24)
- Julian Dixon Library— Families (7/29, 8/19)
- Village Well— Targeting 20s/30s age group (7/26)
- Stoneview Nature Center (date TBA)
- Culver Palms YMCA (date TBA)
- CCARP/Teen Center/Kids and Teen Camps (need to coordinate with Jake Bakke in Parks and Rec)

All words jotted down on paper at events and workshops will be collected and given to group of local poets* who will craft original poems using the the crowd sourced words. Poems will be published in a small zine and distributed at the opening event for the sculptural installation. Considering newspaperclub.com as the printer for the zine.

*Janet Hoult and Karen Gibson Roc are interested in participating. Would like to find 6-8 poets of different ages and backgrounds to contribute poems. Have reached out to two CCHS alumni writers, Brian Sonia-Wallace and Topacio Althus, to see if they would be interested. Will also reach out to CCHS poet Leah Johnson to see if she is interested. Poets would receive free copies of the zine, but would also like to offer an honorarium to create the poems.

Desired outcomes of Culver City Pots and Poetry Project: 1. The clay workshops offer a moment to be present/mindful/absorbed in the creative process which has mental health benefits. 2. Chance to experience new medium and take risks/have fun. 3. Opportunity to meet other people in the community/make connections/build community. 4. Word brainstorm offers an opportunity to "take the pulse" of various communities around Culver City and see how community members experience their city. 5. Poetry component supports local writers and builds bridges between disciplines. 6. Resulting sculptural installation would have visual impact reflect the diverse communities within Culver City. 7. Opening event would bring out community and offer a chance for in-person exchange and celebration.

Timeline: Workshops to run all summer from June 3-August 27. Collected words distributed to poets 9/15. Poems collected 10/15. Zine published 11/15. Opening event to be held December 2023

From Pride Rally 2023:







From Handbuilding Class (Senior Center)



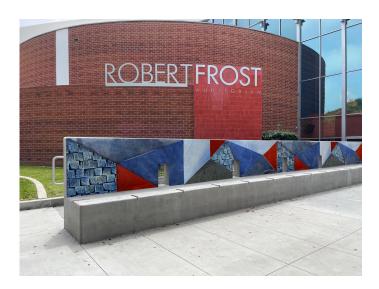




Artist Laureate Projects - Projected

3. Ceramic Tile Mosaic located on the concrete benches in front of the Frost Auditorium. Theme is poetry/spoken word. Collaborate with Karen Gibson Roc who is leading spoken word workshops with AVPA students. Meet ceramics teacher and see if there are students who would want to assist for independent study. Possible to open up poetry and or tile making workshops to students at CCMS and the elementary schools. Ask Heather Moses to run the project by architecture firm that did the remodel and get their thoughts. Design can be done in such a way that it complements, and does not detract from, the (lovely) architecture. Once completed, students can perform in front of finished piece.





4. Tile mural on city property (location TBD). As the Artist Laureate work with city to find a suitable location for a permanent public tile mural. Possible locations include a structure located in a Culver City Park or the Farragut Pedestrian Passageway.