



Civic Arts Commission
Office of Economic Development

Civic Arts Commission Meeting
Wednesday, September 28, 2022
6:00 PM

PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and the state declared emergency, this meeting of the Civic Arts Commission will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. The COVID-19 state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and presents imminent risks to the health of attendees. Therefore, no physical meeting location will be available.

To access the meeting remotely: Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device: Please use this URL <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86147520326>. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop-down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon by rolling over the bottom of the screen. To join by phone: Dial **1-669-900-9128** and enter Meeting ID: **861 4752 0326**. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press *9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair. To submit an e-mail comment during the meeting to be read aloud during public comment, email civicarts@cityofberkeley.info with the Subject Line in this format: "PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM ##." Please observe a 150-word limit. Time limits on public comments will apply.

Agenda

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (for items not on the agenda)
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a) July 27, 2022 Draft Minutes (Attachment 1)
 - b) August 20, 2022 Draft Minutes (Attachment 2)

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

- a) Bay Area arts scene
- b) Cross pollination between the arts disciplines

6. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS (All items for presentation, discussion and possible action)

- a) Toverii Tuppa ("Finnish Hall") Arts Space going to Tax Auction, presented by Bryce Nesbitt
- b) Recap and discussion of Civic Arts Commission retreat, presented by Jennifer Lovvorn
- c) Discuss role of Chairs relative to action items and possible "Consent Calendar" by Subcommittee, presented by Jennifer Lovvorn
- d) Mural Design by Rachel Wolfe-Goldsmith for James Kenney Recreation Center, presented by Jennifer Lovvorn and Rachel Wolfe-Goldsmith (Attachment 3)
- e) Mildred Howard sculpture budget increase, presented by Zoë Taleporos
- f) Commissioner representatives on Civic Center Vision Committee

7. STAFF REPORT

- a) Civic Arts Program Updates, Jennifer Lovvorn
- b) Grants Program Updates, Hilary Amnah
- c) Public Art Program Updates, Zoë Taleporos

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Grants
 - Dana Blecher, Chair
 - Liz Ozol
 - Cameron Woo
- b) Policy
 - Kim Anno, Chair
 - Lisa Bullwinkel
 - Modesto Covarrubias
- c) Public Art
 - Matt Passmore, Chair
 - Kim Anno
 - Dana Blecher
 - Riti Dhesi

- d) Representative on Berkeley Cultural Trust
 - Lisa Bullwinkel
- e) Representatives on Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee Representative
 - Liz Ozol
 - Riti Dhesi
- f) Representative on Design Review Committee
 - Cameron Woo
- g) Representative on Ad-Hoc Artists Affordable Housing Committee
 - Kim Anno

9. COMMUNICATION

- a) Marketplace story “Programs pilot guaranteed income for artists” (Attachment 4)
- b) Carole Marasovic email regarding HUD affordable housing categories (Attachment 5)
- c) Rafael Jesús González email regarding poet laureate position (Attachment 6)

10. ADJOURNMENT

Attachments:

1. July 27, 2022 Draft Minutes
2. August 20, 2022 Draft Minutes
3. Mural Design by Rachel Wolfe-Goldsmith for James Kenney Recreation Center
4. Marketplace story “Programs pilot guaranteed income for artists”
5. Carole Marasovic email regarding HUD affordable housing categories
6. Rafael Jesús González email regarding poet laureate position

Staff Contact:

Jennifer Lovvorn
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 (510) 981-7533
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Civic Arts Commission
Office of Economic Development

DRAFT MINUTES

Civic Arts Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

6:00 PM

No physical location; meeting held exclusively through videoconference and teleconference.

1. CALL TO ORDER 6:01 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo.

Commissioners Absent: Bullwinkel.

Staff Present: Hilary Amnah, Grants Program Lead; Jennifer Lovvorn, Commission Secretary/Chief Cultural Affairs Officer; Zoë Taleporos, Public Art Program Lead.

Members of the public in attendance: 6

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (for items not on the agenda)

1 speaker

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) **June 22, 2022 Draft Minutes.**

Action: M/S/C (Blecher/Dhesi) to approve the June 22, 2022 Minutes.

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Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

- a) Civic Arts Commission retreat scheduled for Saturday, August 20, 2022, 1 – 5 PM will be a virtual meeting.

6. PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- a) **FY23 Individual Artist Projects grant funding recommendations, presented by Hilary Amnah and Grants Subcommittee**
Action: M/S/C (Blecher/Anno) to approve the FY23 Individual Artist Projects grant funding recommendations.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

- b) **FY23 Festivals grant funding recommendations, presented by Hilary Amnah and Grants Subcommittee**
Action: M/S/C (Blecher/Anno) to approve the FY23 Festivals grant funding recommendations.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

- c) **Homelessness Social Practice Project Plan, presented by Zoë Taleporos**
Action: M/S/C (Ozol/Dhesi) to approve the Homelessness Social Practice Project Plan.
Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

- d) **Aquatic Park Public Art Project Plan, presented by Zoë Taleporos**
Action: M/S/C (Passmore/Anno) to approve the Aquatic Park Public Art Project Plan.

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Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

e) **Mildred Howard sculpture Design Development, presented by Zoë Taleporos**

Action: M/S/C (Anno/Passmore) to approve the Design Development phase of the sculpture by Mildred Howard.

Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

f) **Presentation of plinth design for Queen Shamiram sculpture, presented by Zoë Taleporos**

Action: M/S/C (Anno/Blecher) to approve a 10” plinth without a step for the Queen Shamiram sculpture.

Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None; Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

g) **Marina Circle Public Art Update, presented by Zoë Taleporos** — No action taken.

h) **BART Plaza Home Sculpture Update, presented by Zoë Taleporos** — No action taken.

i) **Demographics of awarded Civic Arts Grants and Public Art commissions in Fiscal Year 2022, presented by Jennifer Lovvorn** — No action taken.

7. **STAFF REPORT**

a) Jennifer Lovvorn provided Civic Arts Program updates.

b) Hilary Annah provided Grants Program updates.

c) Zoë Taleporos provided Public Art Program updates.

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8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Grants — Grant subcommittee met on July 12, 2022 to review the FY23 grant award scenarios.
- Dana Blecher, Chair
 - Liz Ozol
 - Cameron Woo
- b) Policy — Policy subcommittee met on June 30, 2022 to discuss the inclusion of Artists Affordable Housing in the Housing Element.
- Kim Anno, Chair
 - Lisa Bullwinkel
 - Modesto Covarrubias
- c) Public Art — Public Art subcommittee met on July 20, 2022 to discuss the items that were on this meeting's agenda.
- Matt Passmore, Chair
 - Kim Anno
 - Dana Blecher
 - Riti Dhesi
- d) Representative on Berkeley Cultural Trust — No report.
- Lisa Bullwinkel
- e) Representative on Berkeley Arts Education Steering Committee (BAESC) — BEARS Summer Arts program is ongoing, but encountering obstacles.
- Liz Ozol
- f) Representative on Design Review Committee — Design Review Committee met on July 21,

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2022 to review 2440 Shattuck.

- Cameron Woo

g) Representative on Ad-Hoc Artists Affordable Housing Committee — No report.

- Kim Anno

9. COMMUNICATION

a) Marketplace story “Programs pilot guaranteed income for artists” — No discussion.

10. ADJOURNMENT Adjourn 8:35 pm

Action: M/S/C (Covarrubias/Woo) to adjourn.

Vote: Ayes — Anno, Blecher, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo; Nays — None;

Abstain — None; Absent — Bullwinkel.

Staff Contact:



Jennifer Lovvorn

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Civic Arts Commission
Office of Economic Development

DRAFT MINUTES

Civic Arts Commission Special Meeting

Saturday, August 20, 2022

1:00 PM

No physical location; meeting held exclusively through videoconference and teleconference.

1. CALL TO ORDER 1:03 PM

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Anno, Blecher, Bullwinkel, Covarrubias, Dhesi, Ozol, Passmore, Woo.

Commissioners Absent: None.

Staff Present: Hilary Amnah, Grants Program Lead; Jennifer Lovvorn, Commission Secretary/Chief Cultural Affairs Officer; Zoë Taleporos, Public Art Program Lead.

Members of the public in attendance: 0

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (for items not on the agenda)

None.

4. ICEBREAKER: Commissioners and Staff

- Breakout and Interview Partner
- Interview Report Outs

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5. **DISCUSSION – INTEREST IN CIVIC ARTS: Commissioners and Staff**
6. **REVIEW CIVIC ARTS ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Modesto Covarrubias and Jen Lovvorn**
7. **BREAK**
8. **INTRODUCE FOCUSED DISCUSSION SESSIONS: Jen Lovvorn**
9. **INSTRUCTION ON USE OF JAMBOARD: Hilary Amnah**
10. **FOCUSED DISCUSSIONS**

- a. Full Commission & Policy Subcommittee: Modesto Covarrubias, Kim Anno, and Jen Lovvorn
 - Opening Discussion Chair and Staff Person on Values & Impact
 - Breakout Room Discussions on Values & Impact
 - Report Out from Breakout Rooms
 - Full Group Discussion on Values & Impacts & Strategies
- b. Public Art Subcommittee: Matt Passmore and Zoe Taleporos
 - Opening Discussion Chair and Staff Person on Values & Impact
 - Breakout Room Discussions on Values & Impact
 - Report Out from Breakout Rooms
 - Full Group Discussion on Values & Impacts & Strategies
- c. Grants Subcommittee: Dana Blecher and Hilary Amnah
 - Opening Discussion Chair and Staff Person on Values & Impact
 - Breakout Room Discussions on Values & Impact
 - Report Out from Breakout Rooms
 - Full Group Discussion on Values & Impacts & Strategies

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11. REFLECTION: Commissioners and Staff

12. ADJOURNMENT Adjourn 5:01 pm

Action: M/S/C (Bullwinkel/Blecher) to adjourn.

Staff Contact:



Jennifer Lovvorn

Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission

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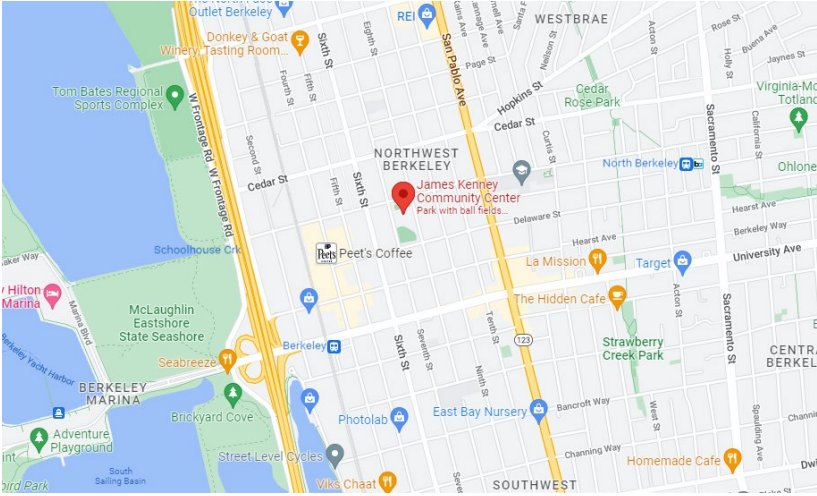
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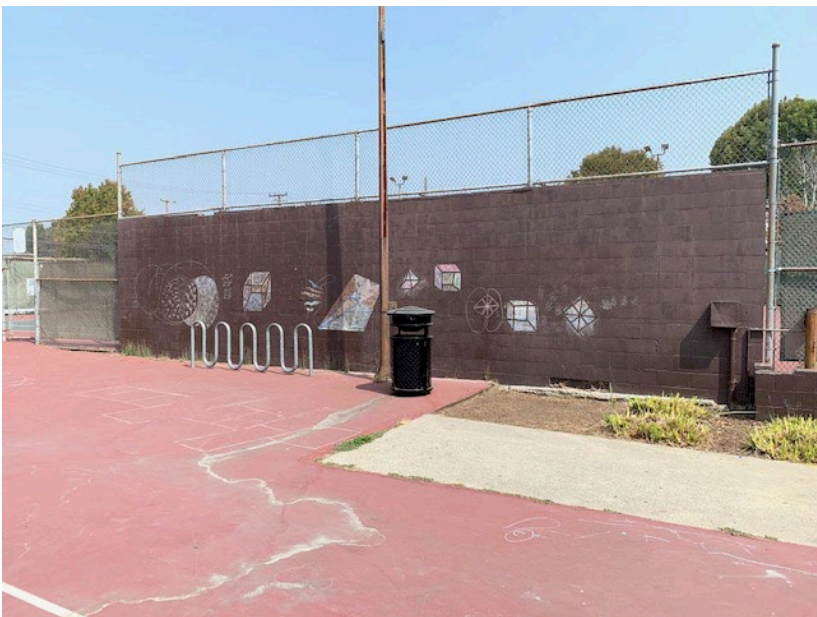
Rachel Wolfe-Goldsmith Mural for James Kenney Recreation Center



James Kenney Recreation Center Location

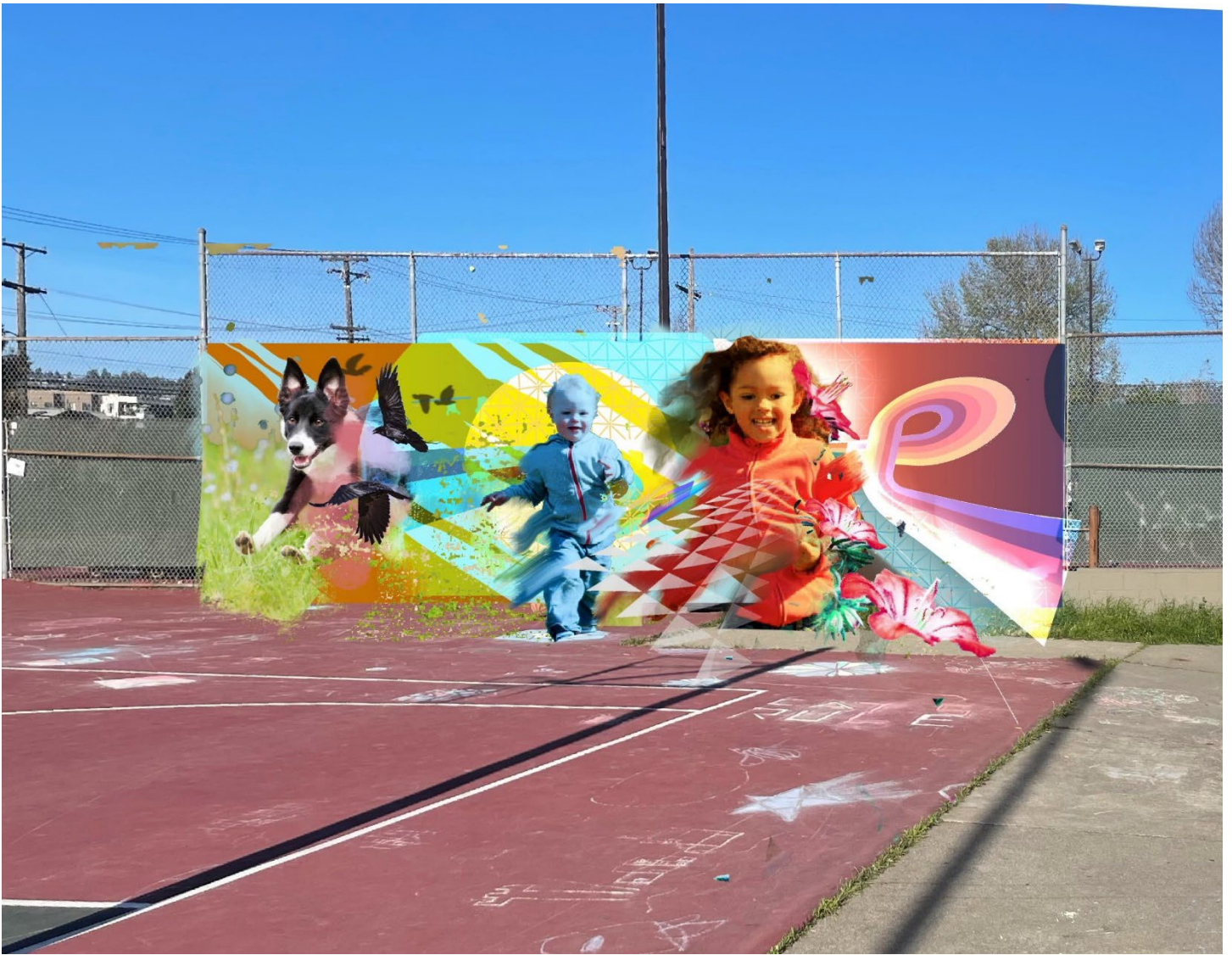


General Area of Mural



Mural Wall

Rachel Wolfe-Goldsmith Mural for James Kenney Recreation Center



7/6/2022

Hello Jen,

I heard this segment on NPR yesterday and thought that you, your staff and other commission members might find it interesting ... thanks for sharing it.

<https://www.marketplace.org/2022/07/05/programs-pilot-guaranteed-income-for-artists/>

Best regards,

Cameron

MORE FROM THIS SHOW



Programs pilot guaranteed income for artists

[Kristin Schwab](#) Jul 5, 2022

Heard on:  MARKETPLACE®
LISTEN NOW

Organizations in New York, San Francisco and St. Paul are piloting guaranteed income programs for artists. Recipients don't necessarily have to put the funds toward art. [mixetto/Getty Images](#)

It was the beginning of the pandemic and McKinley West was frustrated. His DJ jobs had dried up overnight. So Mickey Breeze — that's his DJ name — did the only thing he could think of: he wrote a song about it, "Munny Hungee."

"Literally all of these problems that you have with family, with cars, with mental health, with content can, in some shape, way or form, be solved with money, and I hate when people demonize it," he said.

West had sold off thousands of dollars' worth of speakers, DJ controllers and synthesizers to pay his bills. Then, just when he thought he'd hit the bottom, he got an email from Springboard for the Arts, a nonprofit based in Minnesota, saying he'd been selected for its Guaranteed Income Pilot. He'd receive \$500 a month for 18 months, no strings attached.

“I’ve literally been using it to restart, or kickstart, my career from a bit of a dead zone,” he said.

West bought back his DJ equipment. He put some money into maintaining his SUV, which he uses to haul gear to events, and used some of the stipend to pay for basics like groceries.

Universal basic income programs give people cash to spend however they want. There are guaranteed income programs that focus on disadvantaged populations, like formerly incarcerated people or low-income mothers.

Now, organizations in New York, San Francisco and St. Paul are piloting these types of programs for artists.

The programs offering guaranteed income can be controversial. Recipients aren’t necessarily required to use the money in a specific way; artists like West don’t even have to put it toward making art.

“No, people aren’t required to sort of continue to demonstrate that they are producing a particular art piece or that there’s no juried competition to see who is producing the better public art installation,” said Amy Castro, who co-directs the Center for Guaranteed Income Research at the University of Pennsylvania, which is partnering with the Springboard pilot in Minnesota.

To qualify for the program in Minnesota, artists had to show they’d been adversely affected by the pandemic. Artists of color were prioritized, and the remaining recipients were selected at random. Castro said that’s the whole point — to not decide whether an artist is good or bad, but to give them an opportunity to grow.

“The existing art world functions not on trying to create space and equality around who gets to produce, who gets access to funding, who gets gallery space. And what these projects are offering is something completely different,” she said.

But — like any experiment — the private foundations funding these programs will want to understand the results. Which means the programs have to measure some kind of outcome.

“Does it help them produce more work, to participate in more shows? Does it help them get the next grant, get the next thing?” said Sarah Calderon, executive director of Creatives Rebuild New York, which has two income pilots, a guaranteed income program and an employment program that gives artists a \$65,000 salary per year for two years.

Playwright Jesse Jae Hoon was chosen to work on new productions and community events for Asian Americans with Ma-Yi Theater Company in New York City. It means no more 3 a.m. writing sessions to work around his daytime admin job.

“Which is most of the valuable things as an artist is just having the time to really flesh out your process and your creative work,” he said.

He’s also really looking forward to the health insurance benefit. “The first thought I had was, ‘Oh my God, I can get new glasses, I can get a teeth cleaning.’”

He thinks that will give him the mental space he needs to make better work.

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Lovvorn, Jennifer

Subject: FW: Requested info regarding tonight's CAC agenda.

From: carole marasovic

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 3:35 PM

To: Lovvorn, Jennifer <JLovvorn@cityofberkeley.info>

Subject: Re: Requested info regarding tonight's CAC agenda.

Jennifer,

Thank you. I read p. 12-13. Is that all in the packet that speaks to this project?

Please send this RFP to me when it is released so that I can share it with others. As Chair of the Homeless Services Panel of Experts, I will make sure that it is distributed to the HSPE commissioners as well as elsewhere.

At the CAC affordable housing for artists subcommittee meeting, it was discussed that they were planning the housing based on the below market rate standard. However, below market rate housing is for very low-income and low-income persons. Extremely low-income persons are not included unless accompanied by a subsidy. Many artists are extremely low-income.

One of the commissioners stated that he was unfamiliar with the extremely low-income category. Please see below for current 2022 HUD income limits which are applied to affordable housing. Those limits show the maximum income for extremely low-income, very low-income and low-income persons.

Please forward this e-mail to CAC commissioners.

<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il/il2022/2022summary.odn>

Carole

Carole Marasovic

From: [RAFAEL J. GONZALEZ](#)
To: [Berkeley Mayor's Office](#)
Cc: [All Council](#); [Lovvorn, Jennifer](#); [Joyce Jenkins](#); [Sharon Coleman](#); [MK Chavez](#)
Subject: Poet Laureate position
Date: Saturday, August 20, 2022 11:33:52 AM

WARNING: This is not a City of Berkeley email. Do not click links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Muy estimado Mayor Arreguín;

I am much honored to have been named the first Poet Laureate of Berkeley, but my tenure as such has expired and I would like to relinquish the position to a successor.

It would be appropriate for Berkeley's Civic Arts Commission to choose my replacement. Should the commission want advice in best practice, I recommend my dear colleagues Joyce Jenkins, Editor of *Poetry Flash* and Sharon Coleman and MK Chávez of the Berkeley Poetry Festival.

Though I will no longer hold the title of Poet Laureate, I will not cease celebrating our beloved city.

loyally yours,

Rafael Jesús González