



CITY OF ONTARIO
ONTARIO MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA
FAYE DASTRUP HAMILL HISTORIC COUNCIL CHAMBERS
225 S. EUCLID AVE. • ONTARIO, CA
April 23, 2024 • 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

6:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Click or tap here to enter text.

ROLL CALL

- Kueng
- Caughman
- Gerstheimer
- Weems
- Garcia
- Porada /City Council Member

MUSEUM ASSOCIATES LIAISON

- Sherwood-James

STAFF PRESENT

- McAlary, Executive Director of Community Life & Culture Agency
- Kuchek, Museum Arts & Culture Director
- Oakes, Museum Manager
- Padilla, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR March 26, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENTS

6:30 PM

The Public Comment portion of the Board of Trustees meeting is limited to 15 minutes total, with each speaker allowed a maximum of 3 minutes. Additional speakers are allowed 3 minutes each at the end of the meeting. Prior to consideration of old or new business agenda items, speakers will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes each to comment on that specific item. Under provisions of the Brown Act, the Board of Trustees is prohibited from taking action on oral requests.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON PORADA

STAFF REPORTS

1. Director's Report – Marissa Kuchek
2. Culture Fest – Rebecca Ustrell
3. Agency Strategic Objective for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

OLD BUSINESS

1. Election of President pro Tem

NEW BUSINESS

Click or tap here to enter text.

MUSEUM ASSOCIATES/LIAISON COMMENTS

Click or tap here to enter text.

MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS

Click or tap here to enter text.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NEXT MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING(S)

Next meeting:

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 6:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

6:00 PM

MOTION TO ADJOURN /



ONTARIO
MUSEUM
OF HISTORY & ART

Agenda Report
April 23, 2024

SECTION: STAFF REPORT

Prepared By: Marissa Kuchek

Action: Report & File

Staff Member Presenting:

Marissa Kuchek

Approved By: Marissa Kuchek

SUBJECT

Director's Report

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Exhibits

The Exhibition department has been working diligently on developing the upcoming fourth biennial joint exhibition with the Chaffey Community Museum of Art (CCMA). The title of the exhibition is *The Art of Healing*. Both museums have collaborated to celebrate the rich history and artistic talents of the Inland Empire and Southern California regions by presenting exhibitions focusing on a single theme. This year the institutions will explore their interpretation of the "art of healing" and how artists explore diverse healing approaches through their artwork while presenting their communities with designed resources for art as a healing method.

The Ontario Museum of History & Arts exhibition will be titled, *The Art of Healing: Holistic Expressions*. We are thrilled to showcase various art forms in the exhibition, including immersive installations, photography, vibrant digital art, and participatory art

commissions. Works will be featured by talented contemporary artists Amabelle Aguiluz, Flora Kao, Denise Silva, Melissa Watkins, and Caylin Yorba-Ruiz and will offer unique and inspiring perspectives.

The exhibition opens on Thursday, June 27, and closes on November 17, 2024. The museums will hold a community reception on Sunday, June 30, from 2 PM to 4 PM. Light snacks and refreshments will be served. The following programs will be available throughout the exhibition: an Artist Discussion and Gallery Walkthrough, Artist-Led Workshops, the city's quarterly Art Walk, and a spoken word poetry workshop.

Collections

The Collections team has continued working on inventory at the offsite storage and the main collections room. The inventory of the Biane box collection is 97% complete, the inventory of the General Electric Iron collection has started, and 17 boxes in the main storage have been completed. Currently, 1061 items have been fully inventoried, and the division is predicting by the end of the month to reach 1200 items fully inventoried. Last month the division toured the University of La Verne's Archives and Cultural & Natural History Collections. The University's archivist and curatorial staff are open to collaborating with the Museum on future exhibitions and programs. The team is working on pulling items for June's *In the Vault* program which will be taking place during the Museum's *Noche de los Ninos* event. This *In the Vault* will focus on the toys the Museum has in its collection.

Education

Public Programs: Programming during the month of March highlighted exhibiting artists from *Conduit*, including a First Thursday program with artist Noé Montes and professor Catherine Gudis and a Saturday program with artist Gerald Clarke and guest curator Debra Scacco about water rights, American Indian stereotypes, and the role water plays in indigenous culture.

On March 23rd, our Inland California Creative Corps grant-funded Creative Strategist, Danielle Guidici Wallis hosted two cyanotype workshops for the community using pressed California Native Plants, photography, digital negatives of water resources, and archival imagery. The prints will be used to create a zine for the *Built on Water* exhibit to further the learning goals of the exhibit.

In April, we hosted an Emerging Artists workshop where visitors practiced color theory by choosing and crafting color to achieve a color they wanted. Lorene Sisquoc, another featured artist from *Conduit*, hosted a basket making workshop. On April 20th we hosted an Earth Day celebration in partnership with Public Works' Integrated Waste Department. Activities focused on learning about regional resources and how to reuse and repurpose items to create something new. Integrated Waste presented a composting demonstration and provided a free mulch giveaway to community members. The museum hosted three different artists to provide insight, art-making, and hands-on activities for our community. There was an exhibition walkthrough of *Conduit* with Christy Roberts Berkowitz, paper-making out of invasive plants with Danielle Guidici-Wallis, and junk journaling with Cellibacello (journal making using junk mail and found

paper goods). In addition, representatives from PBS SoCal were onsite to promote their new documentary, "Earth's Focus" and pass out "seed balls" as a giveaway containing native California plant seeds." The Museum Associates sponsored a snack booth.

Outreach: Last month, the Ontario Museum of History & Art staff participated and presented at the California Association of Museum's Annual Conference in Long Beach. The Curator of Education, former Exhibitions Curator, and Exhibition Designer Principal presented on the development of the *Built on Water* exhibition and shared their learnings. The team also hosted a creative station highlighting our *Water Keepers* application and the virtual reality experience.

In March, both Creative Strategists, Danielle Guidici Wallis and Denise Silva visited the Malki Museum with the Curator of Education to learn more about California Native plants and native uses to further investigate and create programming content for the Museum's California Native Plant Garden. Denise Silva is working in partnership with the Malki Museum to host a garden tour with one of their Cahuilla residents.

On April 10, our Education team went to Mariposa Elementary during their Annual Open House Night, the team promoted upcoming spring programs like our Earth Day Event and Culture Fest.

Other: On April 1st, the museum welcomed three new museum assistants to the Education Division. Each of them brings their own unique skills strengths and experiences such as research and archive work, teaching about contemporary art practices, and California native plant gardening and care. The Museum Assistants will contribute to the growth of K-12 experiences at the museum. They will engage with our museum public audiences by supporting the development of museum public programs and conducting outreach in the community.

Since February 28th, the Education team has hosted 10 tours, which include a total of 374 participants.



ONTARIO
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Agenda Report
April 23, 2024

SECTION: STAFF REPORT

Prepared By: Rebecca Ustrell

Action: Report & File

Staff Member Presenting:

Rebecca Ustrell

Approved By: Marissa Kuchek

SUBJECT

Culture Fest 2024

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

The Ontario Museum of History & Art is excited to present Culture Fest: Block Party on May 11, 2024 from 12 PM - 4 PM. The free, family-friendly event is an annual celebration of the different cultural experiences that exist within Ontario's diverse community. This year will highlight the rich ChicanaX diaspora that has called Ontario its home for generations. Participants will enjoy art installations, live music, a classic car show, hands-on art-making activities, food and beverages, live performances that express what it means to be ChicanaX in the Inland Empire and more.

The full lineup includes:

- **Classic Car Show** hosted by Ben Velasquez, aka "colorblindshotz", a local classic car photographer; featuring Ontario Car Club, Red Ribbon Accessories, Southern

- Stilo Car Club, Humildes Car Club, Hot Boyz, A&G Customs, TJ Friends Car Club, Terrones Car Club, Dukes Car Club, Down South Car Club, Get Down Classics
- **Sounds** by Bitter End Gallery with Fernando Perez, Brandon Guzman, Jordan Leon and Mario Pinzon
 - **Food** by Tacos Chicanx, That Funky Michi, Ortiz Ice Cream
 - **DJ set** by DJ Lis Bomb
 - **Art Installations** by Briar Rosa, Jacqueline Valenzuela, Anthony Chacon, Al Espinugui, and The Piñata House
 - **Hands-on activities**
 - Build Your Own Lowrider with Jacqueline Valenzuela
 - Growing Art Ontario with Willis Salomon
 - Design and Build Your Dream Front-Yard Plaza with John Kamp and James Rojas
 - Hand-Carved Stamp Temporary Tattoos with Grafica Nocturna
 - Eloy Torrez Inspired Build Your Crown with The Cheech Center
 - Piñata Bust Art Raffle with Chaffey Community Museum of Art
 - **Old School Mall-Style Glamour Photobooth** by Gilbert G Photography
 - **Visit Museum exhibits:**
 - *Built on Water: Ontario and Inland Southern California* focuses on the history, present and future of water in the Ontario region and the Chino Basin.
 - *Conduit* uncovers how the diversion of water has shaped the way we live through a critical examination of the tension between urban growth and the natural world. .

Culture Fest 2024 will build upon what has occurred over the past few years to honor and highlight the art and community, while also integrating different aspects of culture that can be appreciated by all ages. We hope this event will eventually become a destination event for downtown Ontario, further defining the Ontario Museum of History & Art as a focal point for the Arts District.



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Prepared By: Marissa Kuchek

Action: Report & File

Staff Member Presenting:

Marissa Kuchek

Approved By: Marissa Kuchek

SUBJECT

Museum, Arts & Culture Agency Strategic Objective for Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Every year the Department of Museum, Arts & Culture submits one Agency Strategic Objective (ASO) to the City Manager's office. Last year's ASO focused on beginning the full inventory of the Museum's collections and included key milestones for beginning and sustaining that project. This year, the Department ASO will focus on the revitalization of the Museum's school tour program.

This ASO is currently under development and will include multiple deliverables. Some possible tasks include: hiring and training a team of four Museum Assistants to help augment the growth of our tour program; developing a new tour training program that focuses on best practices for tours in our four exhibition spaces (*Gem of the Foothills*, *Built on Water*, California Native Plant Garden and temporary exhibits); collaboration with the collections and exhibits division on content for the training sessions; working with external specialists to augment the training program with special topics, such as

working with populations with special needs, ESL, etc; enhancing tour experiences with extended learning tools, such as hand-on activities, sketching sessions, audio, and digital technology; increasing tour attendance by strategically growing our engagement with local schools; updating the tour registration process; establishing a visitor services training session for front desk attendants and Securitas guards to ensure all visitors have a welcoming museum experience; and exploring external partnerships for bus funding.

The Museum, Arts & Culture Director will present the ASO to the board for discussion and feedback.