

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission**



ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

**MEETING AGENDA PACKET
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION:
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL, FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM,
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.**

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL, FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM,
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.**

The West Hollywood Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples.

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) will be available for check out at the meeting; If you require special assistance to participate in this meeting, (e.g., a signer for the hearing impaired), you must call or submit your request in writing to the Office of the City Clerk at (323) 848-6800 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The City TDD line for the hearing impaired is (323) 848-6496.

Special meeting related accommodations (e.g., transportation) may be provided upon written request to the Office of the City Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. For information on public transportation, 323.GO.COMMUTE (323/466-3876) or go to www.metro.net.

STATEMENT OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESPECT: During public meetings, community gatherings, interactions with the public, and with one another, the City endeavors for all participants and attendees to conduct City business and treat others with respect, a core value of the City. This includes being polite, professional, and thoughtful when interacting with others. Our collective commitment to West Hollywood requires intention, cooperation, courtesy, consideration, tolerance, forgiveness, acceptance, inclusiveness, kindness, compassion, and patience. Our respect is expressed not only in the words we choose, but also in our tone, our demeanor, and our actions toward one another.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING: To provide public comment, email or call the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission Secretary at ACACPublicComment@weho.org or 323-848-6351 by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 26, 2026, to be added to the Public Speaker List. If you want to speak by phone, you must also email a speaker request to the same address by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. For both in-person and phone comments, include your name, city, and the agenda item you want to speak about. Your comments will become part of the official record. To keep your address private, simply leave it out.

Written materials distributed to the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission within 72 hours of the meeting are available for public inspection immediately upon distribution in the Arts Division at City Hall, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, California, during normal business hours. They will also be available for inspection during the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting at the staff liaison's table. For a complete listing of arts and cultural programs, events and opportunities, please visit www.weho.org/arts, or follow @WeHoArts on social media.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
 - A. Land Acknowledgement

- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Roll Call
- D. Approval of the Agenda
- E. Approval of the January 22, 2026 Meeting Minutes
- F. Public Comment

The public is given the opportunity to address the Commission on any item within its responsibility. At the discretion of the Commission, speakers may be limited to two minutes each. If you would like to present a public comment at the meeting, please see the section titled "TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING" on the first page of this Meeting Agenda.

2. ARTS MANAGER'S UPDATE

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following routine matters can be acted upon by one motion. Individual items may be removed by the Commission for separate discussion. Items removed for separate discussion will be heard following New Business items.

A. Posting of the Agenda

The agenda was posted per proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Urban Art Subcommittee Report (Page. 10)

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will receive a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held February 5, 2026, and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Approve the Subcommittee's recommendation to direct staff to consult with city staff regarding landscaping maintenance and future Metro transportation plans, as well as the original landscape architect in relation to *En Passant* by Barbara McCarren, and report back with updates.
- 2) Approve design three of the Urban Art Guidelines Overview with specified language changes for production and circulation.

B. Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report (Page. 11)

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will receive a report from the Art on the Outside Subcommittee on its meeting held February 12, 2026, and consider ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Receive and file the Art on the Outside Current, Upcoming, and Potential Project Calendar.

- 2) Approve *Streamlined: Belterra, Amazônia / Alberta, Michigan* by Clarissa Tossin at 8501 Sunset Boulevard (SunCienega), *Hand Shapes and Scene Numbers* by Alison O'Daniel at 8730 Sunset Boulevard (The Whorl) and *Harbinger by Monroe Isenberg* at 9157 Sunset Boulevard (Streamlined Arbor) for exhibition from June 1 – September 30, 2026.
- 3) Approve the Subcommittee's request for the final version of *JAZZ 2* by Nikita Gale at 8901 Sunset (The Whisky) to return to the Subcommittee for review and approval prior to exhibition.

C. Library Cultural Programming Committee Report (Page. 12)

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will receive a report from Library Cultural Programming Committee (LCPC) and make recommendations as follows.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Receive and file the LCPC report including:

- 1) Approval and co-sponsorship of the April 2026 National Poetry Month slate of programming.
- 2) Approval of the 2026-2029 West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Application and RFQ.
- 3) Approval of upcoming library exhibitions as follows:
 - i. Approve loan fee and contract extension with Jay Lynn Gomez/Charlie James Gallery for the painting West Hollywood Park until 2034 with option to cancel contract with 14-day notice.
 - ii. Approval of loan extension for Angel of Compassion and Cacti.
 - iii. Approval of Laura Brody's Banned Book Paper Costume exhibition.
 - iv. Approval of final artworks for Vojislav Radovanovic's Bird Circuit exhibition.
 - v. Approve development of an open call for mural for Children's Library Area.

5. NEW BUSINESS None.

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

The public is given the opportunity to address the Subcommittee on any item within its responsibility. At the discretion of the Commission, speakers may be limited to two minutes each. If you would like to present a public comment at the meeting, please see the section titled "TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PUBLIC MEETING" at the top of the first page of this Meeting Agenda.

8. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

9. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

10. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

The Commission will advise staff on the development of the agenda for the next meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will adjourn to its **meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.** to be held at the West Hollywood City Hall Community Meeting Room located at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.
WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL, FIRST FLOOR COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM,
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Gunther at 5:00 p.m.

A. Land Acknowledgement: Chair Gunther read the Land Acknowledgement.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Gunther led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call:

Present: Commission Chair Sigourney Gunther
Commissioner Heather Allyn
Commissioner Mito Aviles
Commissioner Dan Faltz
Commissioner Martin Gantman
Commissioner Dawn Moreno-Freedman

Absent: Commission Vice Chair Catherine Lee

Also Present: Director of Economic Development Laura Biery
Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann
Arts Specialist/Acting Recording Secretary Joy Tribble
Public Art Administrator Marcus Mitchell
Arts Coordinator Michael Che
Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff

D. Approval of the Agenda:

ACTION: Approval of the January 22, 2026 agenda was **motioned by Commissioner Allyn, seconded by Commissioner Faltz, and approved unanimously.**

E. Approval of the November 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes with amended comment.

ACTION: Approval of the November 20, 2025 was **motioned by Commissioner Allyn, seconded by Chair Gunther and approved unanimously.**

F. Public Comment None.

II. ARTS MANAGER'S UPDATE

Arts Manager Rebecca Ehemann provided several updates. She shared that City Council was presented with information regarding activities planned for the 2026 World Cup, including Disco Foot. City Council also received a presentation highlighting key events

from 2025 within the Economic Development Department, along with a look ahead to 2026. Rebecca also outlined upcoming Arts Division opportunities, including the following: the RFP for Free Theatre in the Parks 2026, with a submission deadline of February 2, 2026; three open Route 66 calls, including RFPs for a temporary public 3D artwork, a light pole vinyl installation, and a building façade vinyl installation, all with a deadline of February 23, 2026; the WeHo Sounds Musicians and Performers Roster, with a deadline of February 28, 2026; and the Muralist Roster, with a deadline of March 1, 2026. She concluded her report by sharing an overview of the three-year creative plan and a brief list of arts programs scheduled for the first half of 2026.

III. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following routine matter was acted upon by one motion. Approval of the Consent Calendar was **motioned by Commissioner Allyn, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman and approved unanimously.**

A. **Posting of the Agenda**

The agenda was posted with proper noticing procedures at City Hall, Plummer Park, West Hollywood Library and West Hollywood Sheriff's Station.

ACTION: Received and filed. **Approved as part of the Consent Calendar.**

IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **Art on the Outside Subcommittee Report**

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission received a report from Commissioner Faltz on the Art on the Outside Subcommittee for its meeting held January 8, 2026 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS:

- 1) Receive and file the Art on the Outside Current, Upcoming, and Potential Project Calendar. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Allyn and approved unanimously.**
- 2) Received and filed a final report regarding the *Art in Odd Places: VOICE* public and performance art festival which occurred from July 25-27, 2025 at Plummer Park, West Hollywood Park, and Sunset Boulevard. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Allyn and approved unanimously.**
- 3) The Commission approved the final artworks *Sunset Garden* by Alexandre Arrechea for exhibition 8497 Sunset Boulevard (The NOW) and *The True Story of Edges: Sunset Blvd.* by Jessica Wimbley for exhibition at 8775 Sunset Boulevard (Sunset Spectacular) from February 1, 2026 – May 31, 2026. **Motioned by Commissioner Allyn, seconded by Commissioner Gantman and approved unanimously.**
- 4) The Commission approved the Subcommittee's recommendation to conclude the exhibition *Los Cuidadores (The Caretakers)*, 2013, a mural by artist Jay Lynn Gomez and explore using the wall for a future art display location.

Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Moreno-Freedman and approved noting the no vote from Commissioner Aviles.

B. Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee Report

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission received a report from Commissioner Allyn on the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee for its meeting held January 8, 2026 and considered ratifying recommendations proposed by the Subcommittee.

ACTIONS:

- 1) The Commission approved the 2027 Arts Grant Program grant guidelines for the following five categories: 1) 2027-2028 Special Arts Project; 2) Community Arts; 3) Filmmakers; 4) Transgender, Gender Diverse, Intersex Art (TGI+); and 5) WeHo Artist Grants. **Motioned by Commissioner Faltz, seconded by Chair Gunther and approved unanimously.**

- 2) The Commission approved the proposal from Dance Resource for the 2026 Jewish American Heritage Month Arts Programming. **Motioned by Commissioner Gantman, seconded by Commissioner Allyn and approved unanimously.**

V. NEW BUSINESS None.

VI. EXCLUDED CONSENT None.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT None.

VIII. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Chair Gunther inquired about maintenance for the *Parallel Perpendicular* urban art project at West Hollywood Park.

Commissioner Allyn shared information about an upcoming Rogue Machine performance.

Commissioner Aviles inquired about City processes, expressed interest in increasing the minimum grant award, expressed interest in continuing a conversation related to artificial intelligence, and inquired about the internal use of the 8501 Sunset Boulevard.

Commissioner Faltz shared his experience hosting the California Creative Economy Town Hall at the Huntington Beach Arts Center and announced dates for upcoming arts-related events in Los Angeles.

Commissioner Gantman shared his recent experience visiting the Getty Museum.

Commissioner Moreno-Freedman spoke about her arts experience at the Artist Tree.

IX. ITEMS FROM THE STAFF

Arts Coordinator Michael Che shared data highlights from the Holiday Poetry Hotline, hosted by Poet Laureate Jen Cheng, noting that 248 participants called in to receive custom poems during the project. He shared information on upcoming events including Drag Story Hour on February 7, 2026. He shared that one of the artists, Michael Osbourne, in the Heart of WeHo library exhibit has a solo show opening at Circus of Books on February 11 which will feature paintings of traditionally queer spaces. He also reported that the 2025 WeHo Reads series has received approximately 40,000 views on YouTube and a final report will be presented at the next PACA meeting. The next WeHo Reads event is on February 18, 2026.

Grants Coordinator Eva Angeloff shared that 12 grantees received City arts grants of more than \$9,000 last year and noted that grantee feedback consistently reflects that the City's process is notably easier compared to other municipalities. She also reported that the Arts Grant Guidelines will be presented to City Council in February for final approval and shared that the Artists Roundtable series will focus on professional development.

Arts Specialist Joy Tribble announced that the Winter Sounds concert series begins on Saturday January 24 at Live at the Sun Rose, starting at 7:00 PM.

Director of Economic Development Laura Biery responded to Commissioner Aviles' questions regarding City processes and the use of the 8501 Sunset Boulevard. She also announced that David Wilson has officially retired and that Jackie Rocco has been appointed as the new City Manager.

X. DEVELOPMENT OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Commissioner Gunther requested that an item be agendized for the Art on the Outside Subcommittee to discuss the addition of signage to the Rebecca Lowry *Regard* project. **Motioned by Chair Gunther, seconded by Commissioner Gantman and approved unanimously.**

Commissioner Aviles requested that an item be agendized for the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee to discuss artificial intelligence. **Motioned by Chair Gunther, seconded by Commissioner Allyn and approved unanimously.**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission adjourned in memory of fashion designer Valentino at 6:02 p.m. to its meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. to be held at the West Hollywood City Hall Community Meeting Room located at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
ON THIS 26th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.

SIGOURNEY GUNTHER
COMMISSION CHAIR

ATTEST:

DENNICE OCEGUERA,
RECORDING SECRETARY

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission may refer to the Urban Art Subcommittee Agenda to discuss item 4.A.

The **Urban Art Subcommittee Agenda** is available for viewing and download at this URL:

[Click Here](#)

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission may refer to the Art on the Outside Subcommittee Agenda to discuss item 4.B.

The **Art on the Outside Subcommittee Agenda** is available for viewing and download at this URL:

[Click Here](#)

ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

FEBRUARY 26, 2026

SUBJECT: **LIBRARY CULTURAL PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPORT**

INITIATED BY: **ARTS DIVISION**

Rebecca Ehemann, Arts Manager

Mike Che, Arts Coordinator

STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT:

The Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission will receive the report from the Library Cultural Programming Committee (LCPC) and make recommendations as follows.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Receive and file the LCPC report including:
 - a. Approval and co-sponsorship of the April 2026 National Poetry Month slate of programming.
 - b. Approval of the 2026-2029 West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Application and RFQ
 - c. Approval of upcoming library exhibitions as follows:
 - i. Approve loan fee and contract extension with Jay Lynn Gomez/Charlie James Gallery for the painting West Hollywood Park until 2034 with option to cancel contract with 14-day notice.
 - ii. Approval of loan extension for Angel of Compassion and Cacti.
 - iii. Approval of Laura Brody's Banned Book Paper Costume exhibition.
 - iv. Approval of final artworks for Vojislav Radovanovic's Bird Circuit exhibition.
 - v. Approve development of an open call for mural for Children's Library Area.

BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS:

In 2011, the City and Library formed the Library Cultural Programming Committee (the 'LCPC') to support programming requests from the public for the West Hollywood Library. The LCPC serves as a cross-communication and collaboration between the City of West Hollywood and LA County Library agency. The purview of the Committee is to receive proposals through an open application process and review and approve requests from the public to present events, programs, art exhibits and other projects at the West Hollywood Library. Both agencies involved are also allowed to approve and conduct their own programming.

The LCPC is managed by the City's Arts Division and is comprised of representatives from the City's Arts Division, Recreation Services Division, and Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission; the West Hollywood Library (LA County Library), and the Friends of the West Hollywood Library.

On February 10, 2026, the LCPC convened for an online meeting, discussed upcoming planned programming, received updates from committee members, and reviewed new proposals, new and current exhibitions, and the application and Request for Qualifications for the 2026-29 West Hollywood City Poet Laureate.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – 2026 February Library Cultural Programming Committee Meeting Draft Minutes

Attachment B – 2026 February Library Cultural Programming Committee Full Agenda Packet

Library Cultural Programming Committee (LCPC)

Meeting Agenda Minutes

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2026, 2-3pm

Location: Online on MS Teams

In Attendance:

Mike Che, Arts Coordinator, City of West Hollywood
Arpine Eloyan, West Hollywood Library Manager, LA County Library
Dan Faltz, Arts Commissioner, City of West Hollywood
Leah Gordon, Friends of the West Hollywood Library
Dennice Ocegueda, Recording Secretary, City of West Hollywood (left at 2:30pm)
Yina Ruan, Arts Intern, City of West Hollywood (acting Recording Secretary 2:30pm-3pm)

Absent:

Natalie Mignon, Recreation Services, City of West Hollywood

Note: Standing Abbreviations in this Agenda are as follows:

ACAC = City of West Hollywood's Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission
CC = City of West Hollywood's City Council
FOL = Friends of the West Hollywood Library
LCPC = Library Cultural Programming Committee
PACA = City of West Hollywood's Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Updates from Committee**
 - a. LA County Library**
 - i. Eloyan shared that the LA County Library Writers Summit is tentatively scheduled to take place in October 2026 at the West Hollywood location. (The inaugural one also took place in West Hollywood Library in October 2025.)
 - ii. The West Hollywood Library is celebrating its 15th anniversary in October 2026 as well and the Library is talking with FOL about celebration plans.
 - iii. Arpine ended her updates by stating the different programs that took place at the library.
 - b. Friends of the Library**
 - i. Gordon shared that the WeHo Stories book is available at the FOL Bookstore for a minimum donation of \$25 to support programming at the West Hollywood Library. She made a request for assistance in promoting the availability of the book. More info on the book is available at:
<https://lacountylibrary.org/weho-stories/>

c. City – Recreation Services Division

- i. Didn't attend meeting.

d. City - Arts Commission and Arts Division

- i. Commissioner Faltz provided updates on all the application opportunities from the Arts Division available for artists including Route 66 public art and soon to be available Grants.
- ii. Che provided updates on upcoming events including Winter Sounds, Black History Month, and WeHo Reads (www.weho.org/wehoreads) as follows:
 - 1. February 18, 2026, online
 - a. **WeHo Reads: Telling Family Secrets** features four dynamic writers who explore how telling family secrets can be a powerful and vulnerable creative act. Participating writers will include: Toni Ann Johnson, Aimee Liu, Juanita E. Mantz (JEM), and Hannah Sward.
 - 2. March 11, 2026, online
 - a. **WeHo Reads: Writing Together - Pomodoros, Marinara, and Friendship.** Writing a book is often imagined as a solitary act: thousands of quiet hours, alone with a blinking cursor. But for five friends—Jade Chang, Angela Flournoy, Aja Gabel, Jean Chen Ho, and Xuan Juliana Wang—that myth unraveled in a corner booth at Little Dom's, an Italian American restaurant in Los Feliz where they gathered week after week to write together.
 - 3. April 15, 2026 online
 - a. **Poet Laureates Lee Herrick and Jen Cheng in Conversation**

3. Review and Approval of April 2026 Poetry Month Combined Slate of Programming

ACTION: Approval and co-sponsorship of the April 2026 National Poetry Month slate of programming was **motioned by Gordon, seconded by Eloyan, and approved unanimously.**

Poetry Month Proclamation

Monday, April 6, 6pm; City Council Chambers

At its regular meeting, the West Hollywood City Council will declare April as National Poetry Month. West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Jen Cheng will read a new, original poem celebrating West Hollywood, and during the month of April street pole banners will celebrate living poets including this year's two new honorees **Kemi Alabi** and **Kai Cheng Thom**.

Poetry as Mapping Kinship and Collective Cultures: A Poetry Reading with Writing Exercises

Saturday, April 11, 2 – 4pm; Community Meeting Room

Join a trio of poets laureate as they discuss the ways collective cultures shape the ways they read, write, and understand the world. They will share their poetry on the extended family as a map for seeking understanding and survival. The first half is a poetry reading and the second half will offer attendees writing exercises. Hosted by West Hollywood Poet Laureate Jen Cheng with co-presenters Anaheim Poet Laureate Camille Hernandez and San Diego Poet Laureate Emeritus Jason Magabo Perez.

WeHo Reads: Poet Laureates Lee Herrick and Jen Cheng in Conversation

Wednesday, April 15, 6:30pm, online

Join us for a fascinating literary reading and conversation between California Poet Laureate Lee Herrick and West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Jen Cheng.

Life Lines: An Autobiographical Poetry Writing Workshop

Saturday, April 25, 1 – 4 pm; Community Meeting Room

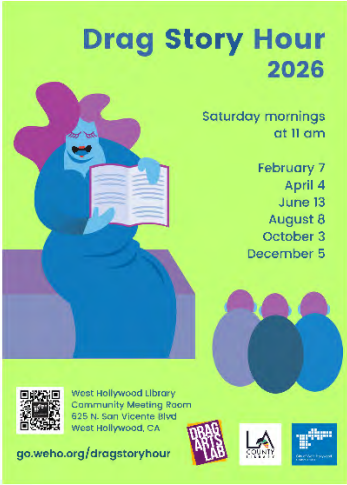
Join us for a one-day workshop focused on autobiographical writing taught by City of West Hollywood Inaugural Poet Laureate Steven Reigns.

4. Review and Approval of 2026-2029 West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Application and RFQ

ACTION: Approval and co-sponsorship of the April 2026 National Poetry Month slate of programming was **motioned by Gordon, seconded by Eloyan, and approved unanimously.**

5. Follow-up on Past Proposals

This section is to follow up with updates/progress on previously reviewed proposals.

Project	Reviewed Date	Notes and/or Updates
<p>a. Drag Story Hour (DSH) – Drag Arts Lab / Pickle</p>  <p>The poster for Drag Story Hour 2026 features a vibrant green background. At the top, it says 'Drag Story Hour 2026' in bold blue and yellow text. Below this, it lists 'Saturday mornings at 11 am' and provides a schedule: February 7, April 4, June 13, August 8, October 3, and December 5. The central illustration shows a drag queen with large purple hair and a blue dress reading a book. At the bottom, there is a QR code, the West Hollywood Library logo, and the website 'go.weho.org/dragstoryhour'. Logos for 'DRAG ARTS LAB', 'LA COUNTY', and 'CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD' are also present.</p>	<p>Approved at October 23, 2024 meeting, ratified by ACAC on October 24, 2025 for 2 years 2025-2027.</p>	<p>2026 dates and flyer to left.</p> <p>Commissioner Faltz reported that the February 7 event was wonderful.</p> <p>Che shared that WeHo TV wishes to cover DSH in April.</p>
<p>b. Steven Reigns - LGBTQ+ Book Club Discussing <i>Outliving Michael</i> by Steven Reigns with author Q&A</p>	<p>Approved at Sept. 16, 2025 meeting</p>	<p>Was approved by committee to allow for promotion through City channels. Took place in October 2025.</p>

6. Review of New Proposals

The LCPC reviewed new applications received since the last meeting.

Application Name	About the Program
<p>Erica Stewart / Rockelle Royal Afronisian Live Event</p>	<p><i>AFRESH: The Afronisian Cultural Program is an immersive arts and heritage experience designed to celebrate the rhythm, identity, and creative brilliance of Afronisian culture through a multidisciplinary approach. The program integrates dance, music, culinary storytelling, fashion, and visual arts into a unified cultural narrative presented through live performances, curated exhibits, and community engagement activities. Rooted in the theme “Paradise of Rhythm & Heritage,” the program highlights the “DNA of Talent”—the generational movement, artistry, and</i></p>

cultural memory that shape Afronisian identity. Requesting \$10,000 and anticipating audience of 200.

ACTION: This application was continued to the next meeting pending Library internal review. In the meantime, Che will inform the applicant of City Arts Grants and potential other arts opportunities.

7. **Library Exhibits Schedule Update and Review**

The LCPC reviewed currently installed and approved exhibitions, and new exhibition applications.

a. **ACTION:** Approval of loan fee and contract extension with Jay Lynn Gomez/Charlie James Gallery for the painting West Hollywood Park until 2034 with option to cancel contract with 14-day notice **motioned by Gordon, second by Faltz, and approved unanimously.**

a. **Discuss and approve extension of loan for Angel of Compassion and Cacti**

ACTION: Approval of loan extension for Angel of Compassion and Cacti **motioned by Eloyan, second by Faltz, and approved unanimously.**

b. **Review and recommend approval of Laura Brody's Banned Book Paper Costume.**

ACTION: Approval of Laura Brody's Banned Book Paper Costume exhibition **motioned by Faltz, second by Gordon, and approved unanimously.**

c. **Review and recommend approval of final artworks for Vojislav Radovanovic's Bird Circuit**

ACTION: Approval of final artworks for Vojislav Radovanovic's Bird Circuit exhibition **motioned by Faltz, second by Eloyan, and approved unanimously.**

d. **Recommend development of an open call for mural for Children's Library Area**

e. **ACTION:** Approve development of an open call for mural for Children's Library Area **motioned by Gordon, second by Faltz and Eloyan, and approved unanimously.**

8. Scheduling of next meeting date and development of next agenda.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2-3pm

DRAFT MINUTES

Library Cultural Programming Committee (LCPC)

Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2026, 2-3pm

Location: Online on MS Teams

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PACA = City of West Hollywood's Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee

1. **Welcome**
2. **Updates from Committee**
 - a. **LA County Library**
 - i. General Updates
 - b. **Friends of the Library**
 - c. **City – Recreation Services Division**
 - d. **City - Arts Commission and Arts Division**
 - i. General Updates from Commission
 - ii. WeHo Reads (www.weho.org/wehoreads)
 1. February 18, 2026, online
 - a. **WeHo Reads: Telling Family Secrets** features four dynamic writers who explore how telling family secrets can be a powerful and vulnerable creative act. Participating writers will include: Toni Ann Johnson, Aimee Liu, Juanita E. Mantz (JEM), and Hannah Sward.
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 3. April 15, 2026 online

a. Poet Laureates Lee Herrick and Jen Cheng in Conversation

iii. Other

3. Review and Approval of April 2026 Poetry Month Combined Slate of Programming

Poetry Month Proclamation

Monday, April 6, 6pm; City Council Chambers

At its regular meeting, the West Hollywood City Council will declare April as National Poetry Month. West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Jen Cheng will read a new, original poem celebrating West Hollywood, and during the month of April street pole banners will celebrate living poets including this year's two new honorees **Kemi Alabi** and **Kai Cheng Thom**.

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Life Lines: An Autobiographical Poetry Writing Workshop

Saturday, April 25, 1 – 4 pm; Community Meeting Room

Join us for a one-day workshop focused on autobiographical writing taught by City of West Hollywood Inaugural Poet Laureate Steven Reigns.


4. Review and Approval of 2026-2029 West Hollywood City Poet Laureate Application and RFQ

Recommend review and approval of application and RFQ.

See Attachment A

5. Follow-up on Past Proposals

This section is to follow up with updates/progress on previously reviewed proposals.

Project	Reviewed Date	Notes and/or Updates
<p>a. Drag Story Hour – Drag Arts Lab / Pickle</p>  <p>The poster for Drag Story Hour 2026 features a blue drag queen character with pink hair reading a book. The text on the poster includes: 'Drag Story Hour 2026', 'Saturday mornings at 11 am', and a list of dates: February 7, April 4, June 13, August 8, October 3, and December 5. At the bottom, it provides the West Hollywood Library Community Meeting Room address (223 N. San Vicente Blvd, West Hollywood, CA), a QR code, the website go.weho.org/dragstoryhour, and logos for West Hollywood Library, Drag Arts Lab, and Pickle.</p>	<p>Approved at October 23, 2024 meeting, ratified by ACAC on October 24, 2025 for 2 years 2025-2027.</p>	<p>2026 dates and flyer to left.</p> <p>WeHo TV wishes to cover DSH in April.</p>
<p>b. MICHAEL R BARNARD PRODUCTIONS -The Twink Murders Script Reading</p>	<p>May 15, 2025 Meeting</p>	<p>5/15/25 - Library staff proposed no-cost partnership with the organization and will follow up with them regarding next steps. Timing for a no-cost partnership still takes months, so the program would have to take place later in the year.</p>

c. Write Out Proud - the LGBTQ+ writing workshop	May 15, 2025 Meeting	5/15/25 - Library staff will reach out to applicant regarding scheduling, and the Friends of the Library Board will consider funding the project.
d. The Lighthouse - Pagecraft	May 15, 2025 Meeting	5/15/25 - Library staff will follow up with the applicant to see if they are open to a one-time trial class, and if so a funding request will be considered by the Friends of the Library Board.
e. Steven Reigns - LGBTQ+ Book Club Discussing <i>Outliving Michael</i> by Steven Reigns with author Q&A	Sept. 16, 2025 meeting	This program is already sponsored by the LA County Library. Was approved by committee to allow for promotion through City channels.

6. Review of New Proposals

This section is for review of new applications received since the last meeting.

Recommendation: Review applications and forward approval to any related approval boards or commissions.

Application Name	About the Program
Erica Stewart / Rockelle Royal Afronisian Live Event	<i>AFRESH: The Afronisian Cultural Program is an immersive arts and heritage experience designed to celebrate the rhythm, identity, and creative brilliance of Afronisian culture through a</i>

See Attachment B

multidisciplinary approach. The program integrates dance, music, culinary storytelling, fashion, and visual arts into a unified cultural narrative presented through live performances, curated exhibits, and community engagement activities. Rooted in the theme "Paradise of Rhythm & Heritage," the program highlights the "DNA of Talent"—the generational movement, artistry, and cultural memory that shape Afronisian identity. See Attachment B


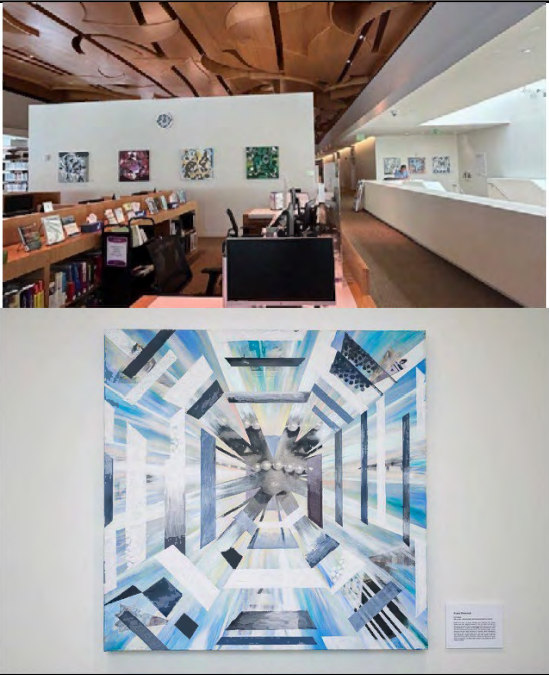
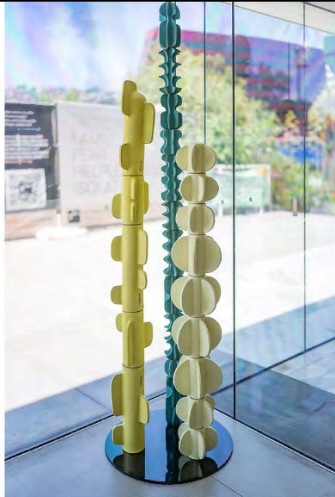
7. Library Exhibits Schedule Update and Review

This section is an update on currently installed and approved exhibitions, and review of any new exhibitions.

Recommendations:

- a. Approve extension of contract with Jay Lynn Gomez/Charlie James Gallery for the painting West Hollywood Park until 2034 with option to cancel contract with 14 day notice.
- b. Discuss and approve extension of loan for Angel of Compassion and Cacti
- c. Review and recommend approval of Laura Brody's Banned Book Paper Costume. Attachment C
- d. Review and recommend approval of final artworks for Vojislav Radovanovic's Bird Circuit Attachment D
- e. Recommend development of an open call for mural for Children's Library Area

Library Exhibits		Status
Heart of WeHo		Installed: October 2025 Reception: October 24, 2025 Deinstall: May 2026
Jay Lynn Gomez West Hollywood Park		On extended loan until March 15, 2026. Recommendation to extend long-term loan to 2034

<p>Historical Images from Jay Jennings' book Remembering Beverly Park</p>		<p>Open-ended, he is interested in follow up event.</p>
<p>S P Harper Angel of Compassion</p>		<p>Was Approved</p> <p>Installed</p> <p>Upstairs July 2025 to October 2025</p> <p>First Floor until May 2026</p> <p>Extend until late summer 2026?</p>
<p>Dustin Gimbel Cacti Trio</p>		<p>Was Approved</p> <p>Installed near front entrance.</p> <p>On view: June 2025 to June 2026</p> <p>Extend until late summer 2026?</p>




Formal proposal submitted.

Laura Brody
Banned
Books Paper
Sculptures



Install in time for
Banned Books
Week in October
2026



<p>Vojislav Radovanovic</p> <p>Bird Circuit</p>		<p>Was Conditionally Approved, Final Artworks submitted</p> <p>Proposed Installation Summer 2026 upstairs</p>
<p>Tierra Del Sol</p> <p>Group Exhibition</p>		<p>Was Approved</p> <p>Expected Installation Late Summer or Fall 2028</p>
<p>Enrique Castrejon</p> <p>Measure of Man</p>		<p>Was Approved</p> <p>Exhibit On Hold</p>

8. Scheduling of next meeting date and development of next agenda.



City of West Hollywood
California 1984

ARTS DIVISION

@ WEHOARTS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

I SING THE BODY WEST HOLLYWOOD

Lights twinkling, swanky, wrinkled penthouse delirium embedded in cactus hills,
high heels ablaze, steam from heated motel pools rising to kiss the night air,
I sing the body West Hollywood where I met my moonlight, my calm, waiting for me
here all along walking the Boulevard lined with fierce boys, transgender trailblazers,
warrior women, rainbow logos on cop cars, sun glowing through the canyons,
hugging the curves of Route 66 all before breakfast. West Hollywood you count
the beats of my heart. Poker nights and speedo-clad future husbands meet in warm
rooms bet on happily ever-afters, and for the first time I don't feel different. Drinking
Michelob at the 4Star - Don't Ask Don't Tell - nights you took the trolley home,
shoe scuffs moist, how did I get from the Sunset Strip to Westwood without losing

My sanity or my clothes, sounds of memories being made to forget outside my
window. Boom, pulse of the city where I come to search for zebras, sift through racks
of dusty fluorescent vintage gowns, where everyone I know doesn't fit anywhere
but here where Pee-Wee Herman threw Tootsie Rolls at the audience at the Roxy,
body West Hollywood where my voice can be heard, drunk on books, palm trees, art,
comedy, food, blood of other freaks like me. "I Will Survive." I used to wonder
why I couldn't find myself then I realized I was never lost - one city, one pride,
vogueurs, drag queens piling into the street, swimming through a pool of books
as David Hockney stands near by with a towel, air lighter here, where Paul
McCartney stopped traffic at Book Soup happily signing anything handed to him

Departing The Hudson with Michelle, teetering on stilettos, reveling in our fresh
freedom, 7-Eleven bums gawking as we clear out the entire stock of Lunchables,
20-somethings cloaked in the velvet glow of the west as the hairy guy rides his bike
down Santa Monica wearing only a lime green thong, yes, Tower Records my church,
Gold Coast my karaoke paradise, work is time to play, I feel home, I feel safe, place
park, hang, tacos years before the big blue whale. Fire at Micky's, poets lines ablaze
just sayin' I'm reppin' my gayborhood, headlights lining the boulevard like iced lace,
will always remember when, and can never forget now: Orange Grove, chain-
smoking with a German I met in Malaysia, flowered pants, manic stocking capped
dog walkers, I sing the body West Hollywood because it lets me color

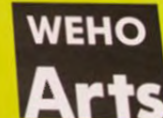
Outside the lines, my Russian neighbor is my friend, air sweet with imagination,
dreams grow on trees, penguins, reindeer, candy and sausage, found a rock
in Plummer Park a creation living inside, we sing as gas lamps burn . . . there's a fog
upon L.A. and my friends have lost their way while at the top of my house, the rain is
loud, sweeps the roof in waves, strong, then soft, then strong. Rain was the
soundtrack of my life. Where I'm from, it rains. Rain there is like sunshine here. The
sky would be bright blue, clear all the way to forever, then rain. I loved it. Still do.
West Hollywood its hills, skinny sidewalks, cafes, seniors, heroes, sightseers,
freedom seekers, treasures, my city with a small town feel. I sing the body
West Hollywood: my past, present & future.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED LINES TO MAKE THIS POEM POSSIBLE!

- Martin Aguilera
- Molly Ash
- Midge Barnett
- Sofia Bartolone
- Charles Becker
- Candice Beroukhim
- Merion Bright
- Stephanie Berger
- Eric Bumatey
- Cristina Buzlacu
- Andrew Campbell
- Amanda Carlson
- R. Carvalho
- Antonio Castillo
- Mike Che
- Kody Christensen
- Elvis Cole
- Francisco Contreras
- John D'Amico
- Robert DeHart
- Ryan Delst
- Dallas Dishman
- Vincent Doraz
- Gareth Dutton
- Alex Espinoza
- Karen Eyres
- Abigail Fitz
- Dr. John Fo
- Vic Geram
- Mikel Ger
- Joan Giar
- William G
- Dan Gra
- Lisa Gra
- Ron Gu
- Therese
- Debb
- Barb
- Sien
- Joh

I Sing the Body West Hollywood, an homage to Walt Whitman, is a collaborative poem using lines from residents of and visitors to West Hollywood, sewed together by West Hollywood City Poet Laureate, Kim Dover. www.kimdoverpoetry.com

For more info on the West Hollywood City Poet Laureate program, managed through WeHo Arts, please visit: <http://bit.ly/wehocitypoet>



@WeHoArts

Image: City of West Hollywood Collaborative Poem
(photograph by Tony Coelho, courtesy of the City of West Hollywood)

2026 - 2029 WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY POET LAUREATE

DATE RELEASED: XXXXXX
DEADLINE TO APPLY: XXXXX (5:00PM, PT)

INTRODUCTION AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The City of West Hollywood's Arts Division is accepting nominations for its sixth West Hollywood City Poet Laureate. The City of West Hollywood Poet Laureate serves as the official ambassador of West Hollywood's vibrant literary culture, using the position as a platform to both promote poetry in West Hollywood, and promote West Hollywood through the artform of poetry.

The West Hollywood City Poet Laureate will serve for a term of three years from October 2026-October 2029. The West Hollywood City Poet Laureate program was established in 2014. For more info on the City Poet Laureate program visit: <http://weho.org/residents/arts-and-culture/literary-arts/city-poet>. Previous West Hollywood City Poets include Steven Reigns (inaugural West Hollywood City Poet Laureate, October 2014-2016), Kim Dower (October 2016- 2018), Charles Flowers (October 2018-2020), Brian Sonia-Wallace (October 2020-2023), Jen Cheng (October 2023-2026).



The honorary role of the West Hollywood City Poet Laureate will serve as an ambassador to:

- Enhance the presence and appreciation of poetry and the literary arts in West Hollywood;
- Raise awareness of the power of literature, poetry, and spoken word art in West Hollywood;
- Celebrate the spirit and the special qualities of West Hollywood through the literary arts and, over a period of time, create a new body of literary works that commemorate the diversity and vibrancy of the City.
- Promote partnerships with the West Hollywood Library;

- Provide a forum for "cross pollination" of art forms; and
- Inspire an emerging generation of literary artists.

The City of West Hollywood City Poet Laureate serves for three years and works with the City's Arts Division, along with other community partners, to carry out the West Hollywood City Poet Laureate duties.

Specific duties include:

1. Attend an Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission meeting, which will also serve as the official City Poet Laureate installation ceremony.
2. Participate in a media training with the City's Communication Department at the beginning of the term. This training will only take place in the first year of the agreement.
3. Attend the annual AB1234 training.
4. Attend the Library Cultural Programming Committee Meeting.
5. Contribute to the West Hollywood National Poetry Month program by proposing two living poets annually to be honored on street-pole banners to be unveiled in April during National Poetry Month.
6. Create an original poem celebrating West Hollywood, which will be featured on the West Hollywood City website and other CITY materials and channels.
7. Organize one poetry writing workshop (in coordination with and subject to approval by the West Hollywood Library) or poetry reading event (in coordination with and subject to approval by WeHo Reads).
8. Serve as an ambassador for the City of West Hollywood by attending a minimum of three (3) and up to fifteen (15) events or meetings to read poems and/or conduct a writing workshop. Events may include City events (such as WeHo Reads, WeHo Pride, the Russian-speaking Community Cultural Festival, Women's History Month, Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, Disabilities Awareness Month, Black History Month, Transgender Awareness Month, Children's Roundtable, City art openings, Artists Roundtable, City Council meetings, Mayoral Installation event, and Board and Commission meetings), City co-sponsored events, events at West Hollywood schools or the West Hollywood Library, or others as assigned. Appearances must be pre-approved, in writing, by Arts Division Staff, and will be scheduled in close coordination with the City Poet Laureate.
9. Submit a brief annual summary report outlining the official activities.
10. Assist in the selection of next West Hollywood City Poet Laureate.

HONORARIUM

The West Hollywood City Poet Laureate receives a \$15,000 honorarium each year. Please

review the contract in Attachment A for details on duties, reimbursement and insurance requirements.

In addition, each year, the West Hollywood City Poet Laureate may serve as an Ambassador at up to one (1) event that takes place outside of City limits. An event could look like a presentation at a conference, participation in a cross-city collaboration related to the Laureate position, or something similar that aligns with the goals of the City Poet Laureate position. All travel requests are subject to the City Travel Administrative Regulation and must comply with the City's employee reimbursement policy. Travel requests must be pre-approved by staff in advance of the event. Travel expenses will be reimbursed upon CITY's receipt of a completed City Travel Expense Report and receipts for pre-approved travel and may not exceed \$5,000 per fiscal year.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Poets interested in serving as the West Hollywood City Poet Laureate are asked to self-nominate themselves by completing this online application and submitting it by the deadline.

Applications must be submitted online: [xxxxxxx](#)

Applications are reviewed by the West Hollywood Library Cultural Programming Committee which includes representatives from City of West Hollywood staff, the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, West Hollywood branch of the LA County Public Library, Friends of the West Hollywood Library, and the current and former West Hollywood City Poet Laureates.

The Library Cultural Programming Committee will forward its recommendation for West Hollywood City Poet Laureate to the City Council for final approval.

Evaluation criteria for the selection of the City Poet Laureate includes:

- The literary excellence of the writer's work, including published work;
- The impact of the poet on other writers and/or on West Hollywood literature;
- The poet's proposed public engagement projects and the ability of the poet to conduct these projects;
- The broader reputation of the writer and the writer's work locally, regionally, nationally; and
- Writer's connection to the City of West Hollywood.

ONLY poets with a significant connection to the City of West Hollywood will be

considered. Such connections may be that the poet lives in the City, works in the City, has volunteered on a regular basis for community programs that deliver services in the City, and/or has organized or participated in multiple literary events that were co-sponsored by and/or took place in the City of West Hollywood. Please refer to www.weho.org/streets to confirm that your residence, work address and/or the activities in which you took part in are actually in the City of West Hollywood.

SCHEDULE

The following dates represent the schedule that will be followed. The City reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to adjust this schedule, as it deems necessary.

xxxxx	RFQ released
xxxxx	Deadline to Apply. RFQ closes
XXXX 2026	Review of applications
XXX 2026	Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission review
XXX 2026	City Council review and approval
August 2026	Contracting and orientation/planning meeting with City
October 2026	City Poet Laureate is sworn in
October 2029	City Poet Laureate term ends

CULTURAL EQUITY STATEMENT

The City of West Hollywood's Arts Division and Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission believe that arts and culture have the power to enhance inclusion, engagement, and diversity, and we aspire to ensure cultural equity in all arts policies and practices. We invite and encourage artists and organizations representing diverse populations and diverse artistic disciplines to apply. Read the Cultural Equity Statement in its entirety at <https://www.weho.org/community/arts-and-culture/cultural-equity-statement>.

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

The City of West Hollywood, known as the "Creative City," was incorporated in 1984. It is 1.9 square miles in area and is bounded by Beverly Hills to the west, Hollywood to the

east, and Los Angeles to the north and south. West Hollywood serves many diverse communities and cultural traditions. Its audiences include older immigrants from repressive political environments, children, families, singles and a large LGBTQ population. The City is home to approximately 37,000 residents and over 3,500 businesses. Approximately 40% of the City's residents identify as LGBTQ, 10% are Russian-speaking immigrants, and close to 20% are senior citizens.

The City of West Hollywood delivers a broad array of arts programs including: Art on the Outside (temporary public art), Summer Sounds, Winter Sounds, WeHo Reads, Free Theatre in the Parks, Arts Grants for Nonprofit Arts Organizations and Individual Artists, Library Exhibits, WeHo Pride Arts Festival, and Urban Art Program (permanent public art). www.weho.org/arts (@wehoarts). For more information on other Arts Division programs, please visit www.facebook.com/WeHoArts, and www.instagram.com/WeHoArts.

QUESTIONS

For all questions related to this RFQ contact Mike Che, Arts Coordinator, mche@weho.org or 323-848-6377

The City of West Hollywood reserves the right to cancel or postpone this RFQ at any time.



Image: Kim Dower reading at the 2017 event Sunset Strip through the Eyes of Poets (photograph by Tony Coelho, courtesy of the City of West Hollywood)



Image: Jen Cheng interacting with public to create custom poems at 2025 Holiday Poetry Hotline workshop (photograph by Jonathan Moore, courtesy of the City of West Hollywood)

Erica Stewart

info@smartpaynetwork.com

Submission Date	Dec 5, 2025 9:01 PM
Applicant Name	Rockelle Royal
Contact Person Full Name	Erica Stewart
E-mail	[REDACTED]
Organization / Artist website	www.lndl.com
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] Los Angeles, Ca, 90025
Proposed Location	Library Shared Exhibition Spaces
Title of Program	Afronisian Live Event
Please describe your program in detail.	AFRESH: The Afronisian Cultural Program is an immersive arts and heritage experience designed to celebrate the rhythm, identity, and creative brilliance of Afronisian culture through a multidisciplinary approach. The program integrates dance, music, culinary storytelling, fashion, and visual arts into a unified cultural narrative presented through live performances, curated exhibits, and community engagement activities. Rooted in the theme “Paradise of Rhythm & Heritage,” the program highlights the “DNA of Talent”—the generational movement, artistry, and cultural memory that shape Afronisian identity.
Who is the target audience for your program?	Our primary audience consists of young adults ages 18–40, diaspora communities
Anticipated Audience Size	200
How do you plan to reach out to potential audiences? (List type of outreach and potential audience from each source; i.e.,	We will reach potential audiences through a combined outreach strategy that includes Instagram (4,500 followers), Facebook (1,200 followers plus 5,000–8,000 boosted reach), TikTok (3,000+ viewers), YouTube (1,000–2,500 viewers), our email list (350+ subscribers), partner mailing lists

Facebook: 1000 fans, Email list: 250 people) (2,000+ reach), community partners and cultural organizations (2,000–3,500 residents), youth and college outreach (1,000–1,500 students), local businesses and storefronts (2,000 impressions), and direct street-team engagement reaching an additional 2,000–3,000 people.

What is the time frame for starting and completing the project or program? May 9 2026 3pm 6pm

Are you requesting funding to present the program? Yes

If yes, how much are you requesting? 10,000

If you are requesting money, what is the money being used for? (list each expense and the amount for each. i.e., Artist fee: \$400, Advertising: \$50, Insurance: \$300, etc.) The \$10,000 budget for the AFRESH Cultural Event will cover the essential components needed to produce a high-quality, small-scale cultural experience rooted in Afronisian arts and heritage. Funds will support a modest venue rental with basic setup needs, a simplified stage, sound, and lighting package, and fair compensation for a select group of performers including dancers, drummers, and a cultural storyteller. The event environment will be enhanced with minimal but meaningful cultural décor aligned with the “Paradise of Rhythm & Heritage” aesthetic

Will there be a fee or ticket cost for people attending? (Charging is generally not allowed for programs on City property, and requires additional approval from another body. City Arts Grant-funded programs and Recreation Classes are allowed to charge and may be better pathways for your project if you wish to charge.) No

Organization History or Artist Bio and Statement AFRONISIAN ROYAL ARTS CULTURE, powered by the Los Angeles National Divisional League, was established to preserve, uplift, and celebrate Afronisian heritage through high-quality arts and cultural programming. The organization brings together leadership experience in event production, culinary arts, music, fashion, and cultural storytelling to create transformative community events that reconnect audiences with ancestral rhythm and identity.

Describe why this program is a good fit for West Hollywood and its library. If this is an exhibit, please address the site-specificity criteria noted towards the end of the application. Rockelle Royal is a cultural creative director, curator, and storyteller dedicated to shaping modern expressions of Afronisian identity. With a background spanning event production, culinary arts, music, and visual culture, her work centers on creating immersive artistic environments that honor ancestral memory while celebrating contemporary talent. As the founder and artistic lead behind AFRESH: The Afronisian Royal Celebration, Rockelle brings a visionary blend of luxury aesthetics, cultural symbolism, and community engagement—elements reflected throughout the event’s artistic structure and thematic direction .

You may upload any supporting documents or pictures that you would like the committee to see here in a single scanned file. If you are proposing an art exhibit you should upload an itemized list (including names and dimensions) and images of all of the artworks you are proposing.

 **Startup Business Plan in Cream Black an... .pdf**
698.4 KB

Afresh Africanian Culture Events

活
Life

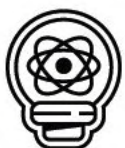
The Way Forward

Starting April
2026



Presented To :
Art & Culture Sponsor

Presented By Rockelle Royal



Powered by: Los Angeles National Divisional League

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Executive Summary



VISION

To preserve, uplift, and celebrate Afronisian heritage through high-quality cultural programming that blends music, movement, cuisine, fashion, and visual arts.

R O C K
THE LORD IS MY ROCK MY
FORTRESS AND MY DELIVERER
PSALM 124



Showcase Event

AFRESH: The Afronisian Royal Celebration is a multi-tier cultural arts event series dedicated to honoring the rhythm, heritage, and artistic identity of Afronisian people. Rooted in the theme “Paradise of Rhythm & Heritage,” AFRESH blends music, dance, culinary experience, visual arts, and cultural event into a world-class experience. The program showcases the “DNA of Talent,” highlighting how Afronisian ancestry, movement, and creativity flow through generations.

The event is designed in three scalable tiers, enabling broad programming throughout the year—from intimate cultural gatherings to large-scale audiences productions. Grants & Gifts support will ensure high-quality execution, professional staging, and meaningful artist compensation.

“AFRESH aims to become the definitive cultural showcase and touring experience for Afronisian culture in the United States and internationally.

Business Description



beauty



Afronisian Royal Arts Culture

The organization combines arts & culture development, cultural arts programming, community engagement, and entertainment production. With established leadership experience across food, arts, and music, the organization brings:

- Event production capacity
- Technical management
- Partnerships in venue operations
- Creative direction & artistic curation
- Administrative and financial management

Purpose For Arts & Culture Events

- Provide a platform for Afronisian artists, dancers, musicians, chefs, and designers.
- Reconnect communities with ancestral rhythm and cultural identity.
- Create sustainable opportunities, partnerships, and paid artistic roles.
- Strengthen cultural pride and global visibility for Afronisian creatives.
- Build an annual flagship cultural celebration with national expansion.

Event Tier Structure



SOUL

AFRESH is built to operate year-round in three scalable formats:

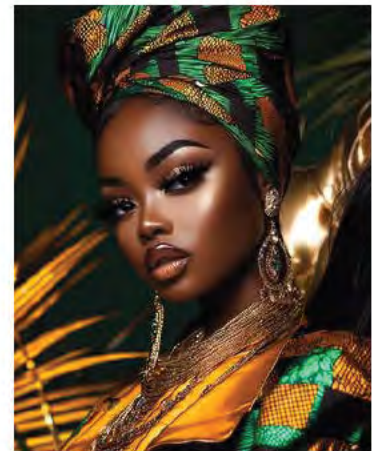
1

Small Cultural Gala (Up to 100 Guests)

Purpose: Intimate, elegant, donor-focused cultural gatherings

Features

- Drum & dance opening (3–5 performers)
- Cultural narration / heritage performance
- Mini culinary experience (traditional bites)
- Acoustic or small-band performance
- Main Performance
- Fashion & visual art display
- VIP networking



\$ 10,000 Event Expenses

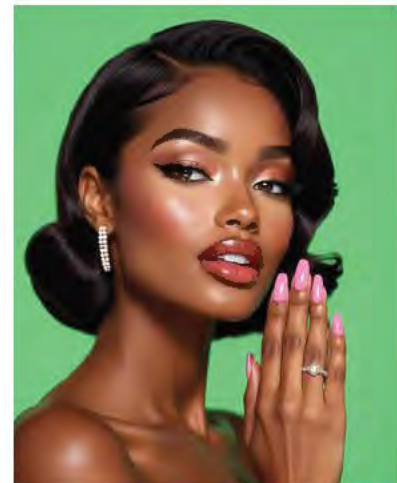
2

Mid-Size Cultural Gala (200–300 Guests)

Purpose: Standard AFRESH experience for general audiences.

Features

- 5-6 dancer opening performance
- One live musical sets
- Cultural interlude dance
- Heritage & DNA talent segment
- Rising Star Awards
- Expanded culinary experience
- Elevated décor (palms, tropical lights)
- Red carpet arrival area



\$ 50,000

WTS | Page 3

Event Tier Structure



LIGHT

AFRESH is built to operate year-round in three scalable formats:

3

Large-Scale Signature Celebration (600–3,000+ Guests)

Purpose: Intimate, elegant, donor-focused cultural gatherings

Features

- Full 10-dancer ensemble opening
- Multi-set live artists + full band
- Fashion showcase
- Tropic-royal stage design
- LED screens & technical production
- Heritage Visuals
- Rising Star Awards (3 artists)
- Afterparty with DJ, lounge, signature drink:
- Media, photography, step-and-repeat
-



4

\$ 200,000 Event Expenses

Large Scale Customized Celebrations (5000 + Guests)

Purpose: Standard AFRESH experience for general audiences.

Features

- 25-dancer opening performance
- Three live musical sets
- Cultural & Art Heritage Visuals
- Heritage & DNA talent segment
- Rising Stars Performance
- Full culinary Experience
- Elevated décor (palms, tropical lights)
- Red carpet arrival area



Program Format

夢

The AFRESH program follows a cultural arc of rhythm, reflection, celebration, and unity.

DREAM

Program Sequence

1. Royal Welcome + Drum & Dance Opening
2. Host Introduction & Cultural Reflection
3. Main Artist Performance – Set One
4. Cultural Interlude Dance
5. Heritage & DNA of Talent Presentation
6. Main Artist Performance – Set Two
7. Rising Star Showcases
8. Red Carpet + Afterparty Experience

This format strengthens community connection while giving spotlight to both featured and emerging talents.



Creative Theme & Aesthetic Direction

Theme: Paradise of Rhythm & Heritage

The event environment transforms into a luxurious tropical paradise blending:

- Gold palm iconography
- Tropical foliage and flora
- Bamboo, natural textures, and linen
- Warm amber + emerald lighting
- Royal island-inspired decor
- Leopard-and-gold artistic patterns
- Cultural attire highlighting Afronisian fashion

Program Format



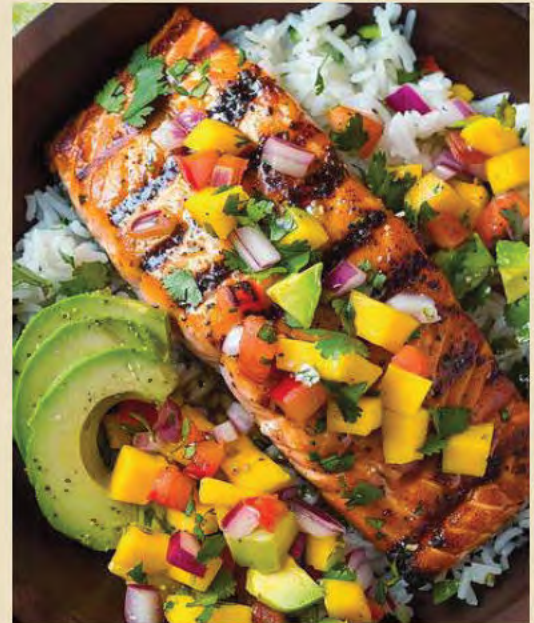
DREAM

The AFRESH program follows a cultural arc of rhythm, reflection, celebration, and unity.

Culinary Experience

Afronisian culinary traditions are central to the event experience.

1. Food Elements
2. Small plates & Traditional plates tasting
3. Regional Afronisian flavors
4. Cultural drink fusions
5. Tropical fruit displays
6. Chef-led tasting experiences
7. Culinary Purpose
8. Honor food customs
9. Connect guests with cultural memory
10. Support Afronisian culinary artists
11. Offer sensory storytelling through cuisine



Event Expensive Proposal Overview

We are actively seeking corporate sponsors, arts supporters, and cultural investors.

Sponsorship Funding Will Support:

- Artist compensation
- Dance & music rehearsals
- Stage/sound/lighting equipment
- Costume design
- Culinary experience supplies
- Venue rental & staffing
- Marketing, radio airtime, digital ads
- Cultural fashion & visual art showcases
- Youth & community engagement programs

Sponsor Benefits

- Brand visibility at a highly anticipated arts event
- Inclusion in promotional materials, banners, media ads
- Opportunity to support cultural programming
- Access to VIP seating & red carpet
- Corporate recognition during the program
- Community impact and DEI-value alignment



Marketing *Plan*



Reaching Up and Out

The Afronisian Afresh Experience is a vibrant cultural celebration showcasing the music, dance, food, and artistic brilliance of the Afronisian people. Designed as a modern, upscale event, Afresh blends live performances, immersive cultural showcases, and curated culinary moments into a dynamic entertainment experience.

This signature event highlights emerging talent, strengthens cultural pride, and delivers a high-energy atmosphere that attracts diverse audiences. Afresh offers sponsors exceptional visibility, community impact, and alignment with a bold, creative cultural movement positioned for national expansion.

The 4Ps of Marketing

This Information is designed to map out full marketing mix	
Marketing Channels the event marketing , its features:	Media Marketing Marketing to local media
Channels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instagram / TikTok / Facebook • Radio ads • Press releases • Email marketing • Partnerships with cultural organizations • Billboards & posters • Influencer partnerships 	Media Components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press night • Red carpet interviews • Photography + videography team • Media lounge • Branded backdrop
Promotion print & broadcast ads, social media, email, search	Place physical stores, website, online marketplace
Marketing Materials Needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Event Logo • Secondary Event Graphic Designs • Graphic Templates & Art Graphics • Event Website • Printed Flyers • Email Marketing Template • Radio Spot Script • Tri-Fold Event Brochure 	Local Businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbershops • Hair salons • Beauty supply stores • Cafés & coffee shops • Restaurants • Retail clothing stores • Grocery stores • Small business storefronts • Local malls & shopping centers

Market *Analysis*



Communication & Community Implementation

Community Impact:

- Paid opportunities for artists
- Youth cultural development
- Celebration of heritage and identity
- Increased representation in arts spaces
- Economic uplift through arts



Marketing Analysts Overview

Market Overview

The Afronisian Afresh Cultural Experience enters a strong and expanding market for cultural entertainment, live events, and arts-based community programming. California and major U.S. cities continue to show increasing demand for multicultural festivals, live performances, and Arts & Culture events that combine entertainment with cultural fusion. Audiences are seeking events that offer authenticity, diversity, immersive performance experiences, and premium-quality production—a fast-growing segment in arts and entertainment.

The Afronisian cultural sector is emerging as a powerful creative movement, fueled by the rising visibility of African and diaspora music, dance, cuisine, and art across mainstream media, social networks, film, and live events. This creates a high-value market opportunity for a signature annual event that can represent Afronisian creativity with luxury appeal and cultural integrity.

Target Audience *Analysis*

Target Audience Analysis



SOUL

The Afronisian Afresh Event serves a broad but well-defined audience:

Primary Audience	Secondary Audience	Strength
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Young adults ages 18-40 seeking cultural, nightlife, and entertainment experiences• Diaspora communities interested in cultural pride and representation• Emerging artists, dancers, musicians, and creative professionals• Trend-conscious consumers looking for premium and Instagram-worthy event	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Families and community groups• Cultural organizations and arts educators• Corporate sponsors focused on DEI, arts, and community engagement• Tourism and travel audiences seeking immersive cultural experiences	<p>Unique Cultural Identity: A distinct Afronisian theme blending music, dance, culinary arts, fashion, and heritage, setting the event apart from other multicultural experiences.</p> <p>High-Quality Production: Luxury tropical-royal atmosphere, curated performances, and immersive storytelling enhance the event's premium value.</p> <p>Strong Community Impact: Promotes cultural pride, youth engagement, and emerging artist development.</p>

Financial *Plan*



Give a brief explanation for the page

DREAM

Capital Requirements

	Value	Percentage
Small Art & Culture Event	\$10,000	20%
Mid Arts & Culture Events	\$50,000	50%
Signature Arts & Culture Events	\$200,000	35%
TOTAL	Determine By Evaluating Event Size	100%

Financial Outlook

REVENUE MODEL

- Ticket sales
- Gifts
- Vendor partnerships
- Sponsor Support
- Grants & foundations

Timeline & Milestones



Describe what the page is about



Milestones

Grants & Sponsor
Outreach
Venue Selections



Milestone

- Artist booking
- Marketing prep



Milestone

- Rehearsals begin
- Culinary & fashion coordination



Milestone

- Final rehearsals
- Press activations

Striving For Excellence

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

Potential partners include:

- Event Management
- Dance Studios
- Venue Partners
- Local & Main Stream Artist
- Fashion Designers & Schools
- Local chefs and culinary schools
- Choreograph Coordinator
- Event Coordinator & Staging

Contact us for
further inquiries

力

POWER



AFRESH is more than an event – it is a cultural movement, a royal celebration of identity, talent, and ancestral beauty. It will uplift communities, inspire creatives, and position Afronisian culture at the forefront of global arts.



**Los Angeles
National
Divisional League**

Contact Rockelle Royal
Phone 725 720-6724
Email: Info@smartpaynetwork.com

Anna Laura Brody

laurabrody@verizon.net

Submission Date Dec 10, 2025 8:24 PM

Applicant Name A. Laura Brody

Contact Person Full Name Anna Laura Brody

E-mail laurabrody@verizon.net

Organization / Artist website <https://www.dreamsbymachine.com>

Phone Number [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]
Monrovia, CA, 91016-2318

Proposed Location **Library Shared Exhibition Spaces**

Title of Program Banned Book Paper Costumes

Please describe your program in detail. For the West Hollywood Public library I will create a paper sculpture of a handmaid from the Handmaid's Tale.

This costume will be built from banned book pages in white with black printing sewn to a backing and supported with cardboard where necessary. A tinge of red at the hem of the dress and sleeves, around the waistline, and at the neckline will help cue visitors that this is the iconic image of a red handmaid's gown. This will be shown on a dress form, situated in the entryway to the library. The classic white bonnet will also be made of printed pages, perhaps including some printouts of pages from the Handmaid's Tale.

I will fortify the paper with cardboard, Pellon, and polyester boning in case small hands might touch it once in while.

Who is the target audience for your program? Library goers, passers by, and anyone who has either seen the television series or read the Handmaid's Tale book.

Anticipated Audience Size 1000

How do you plan to reach out to potential audiences? (List type of outreach and potential audience from each source; i.e., Facebook: 1000 fans, Email list: 250 people)

Instagram: 1500 followers
Substack and email list: 368 followers
Facebook: 1200 followers

What is the time frame for starting and completing the project or program?

Est. late September/early October 2026 install, up through October 2027

Are you requesting funding to present the program?

Yes

If yes, how much are you requesting?

\$1200

If you are requesting money, what is the money being used for? (list each expense and the amount for each. i.e., Artist fee: \$400, Advertising: \$50, Insurance: \$300, etc.)

Artist fee/labor: \$900
Transportation: \$200
Backing materials: \$100

Will there be a fee or ticket cost for people attending? (Charging is generally not allowed for programs on City property, and requires additional approval from another body. City Arts Grant-funded programs and Recreation Classes are allowed to charge and may be better pathways for your project if you wish to charge.)

No

Organization History or Artist Bio and Statement

re-imagine mobility scooters, wheelchairs, and walkers as sculptures and turn scrap fabrics and paper into portraits and wearable art. My artworks are exuberant, colorful, detailed, and larger than life. They open up conversations about disability, social justice, sustainability, and waste. I choose materials that are often overlooked and discarded, and transform them into objects that demand attention.

Describe why this program is a good fit for West Hollywood and its library. If this is an exhibit, please address the site-specificity criteria noted towards the end of the application.

There are serious, determined efforts to ban and censor books and educational materials across this country. Denying real history, eliminating access to differing viewpoints, and banning works that do not fit into a fundamentalist/colonial/white supremacist belief system is terrifying. This causes harm both immediately and over time. In the long term, children and young adults across America will not get access to alternative ideas about how the world and its people operate. This is incredibly dangerous and will only breed more hatred and distrust of anything considered to be "other".

Books are a wonderful way for us to discover other cultures, differing points of view, and to expand our minds and spirits. With this sculpture at the entryway to the library, I hope to draw people in who recognize the image from the television show, encourage them to read the book, and to learn more about the issues of book bans.

You may include a link to any supporting documentation here (i.e., a film clip, event program pages, etc.)

Sample of paper costumes:
<https://www.dreamsbymachine.com/wearableart.html>

You may upload any supporting documents or pictures that you would like the committee to see here in a single scanned file. If you are proposing an art exhibit you should upload an itemized list (including names and dimensions) and images of all of the artworks you are proposing.



IMG_20251210_153739003.jpg
344.29 KB

What is the zip code of your primary residence?

91016-2318

How did you learn about this opportunity? (Select all that apply.)

City website

What is your age? (Select one.)

45-60

With which gender(s) do you identify? (Select all that apply.)

Female

Do you identify as LGBTQ+?

Yes

Do you identify as a person with a disability?

Yes

How do you identify? (Select all that apply.)

Sephardic, Ashkenazi Jew

Caucasian, European American, White

What is the highest degree or level of education you have completed?

Graduate school or beyond [like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.]

Have you ever received funding, financial award, or commission from the City of West Hollywood's Arts Division?

No

Bird Circuit 90069
Solo Exhibition by Vojislav Radovanovic
West Hollywood Library
2026



Bird Circuit 90069 brings together a series of smaller to mid-size works on canvas and paper that interweave myth, queer history, and personal narrative. Building on Radovanović's earlier exhibition *Bird Circuit*, this iteration locates the project within the heart of West Hollywood, a place whose cultural and social histories are inseparable from LGBTQ+ life and resistance. Through smaller-format paintings and collages, the artist conjures a poetic aviary where birds become metaphors for both freedom and coded identity.

Several of the works highlight figures such as the **Pink Flamingo, Red Raven, and Blue Parrot**, names of gay clubs that once existed in West Hollywood and Silver Lake. Such clubs offered refuge, joy, and connection during times when queer life best kept out of sight under the weight of social and legal prohibitions. Radovanović's images take inspiration from these hidden sanctuaries by transforming them into surreal portraits of birds with human features, animals infused with memory, and landscapes that shimmer with the layering of history and desire.

Using acrylic, ink, mixed media, and collage, the artist incorporates fragments of printed material and original drawings to create hybrid compositions that feel both tactile and dreamlike. In this way, *Bird Circuit 90069* celebrates queer resilience and imagination, acknowledging a lineage of coded survival while reimagining it as a vibrant myth. The exhibition situates the past within the present, offering a reminder that queer histories are not only to be remembered, but also continually re-enchanted.

<https://www.vojislavradovanovic.com/bird-circuit>



Summer Call
2025
Mixed Media on paper
36"x24"

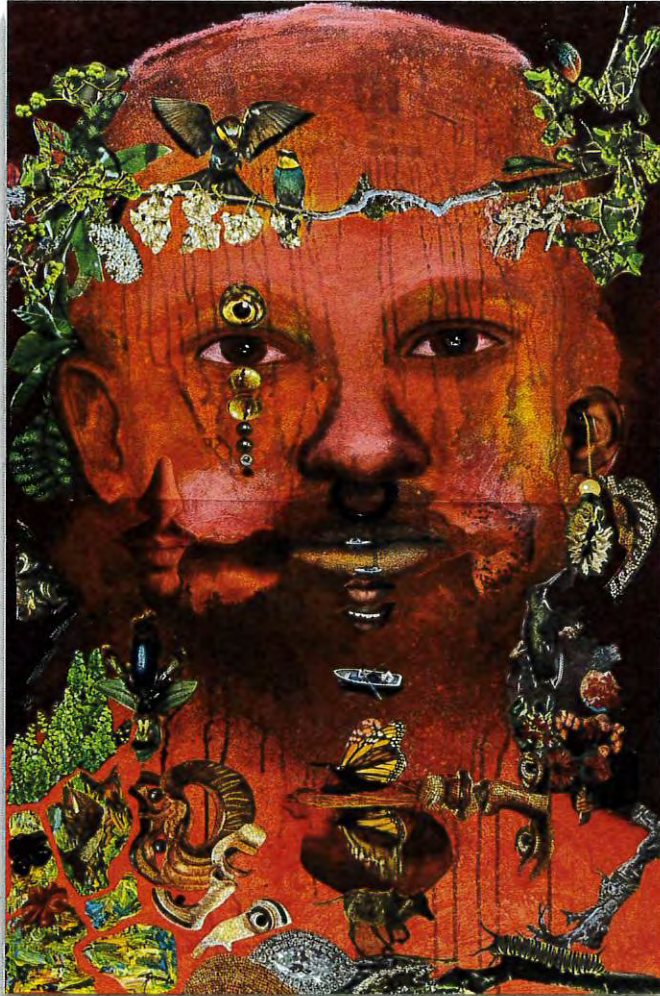


Hummingbirds

2025

Mixed Media on paper

36"x24"



Trills

2025

Mixed Media on paper

36"x24"



Pink Flaming Os

2025

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Blue Parrot

2025

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Little Love Affair

2024

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Keeper of Secrets

2024

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Love Call 01

2025

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Love Call 02

2025

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Ripe Fruit

2024

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Hide and Seek
2024
Mixed Media on paper
24"x18"



Urge to Sing

2024

Mixed Media on paper

24"x18"



Omen (Red Raven)

2022

Mixed media on canvas (acrylic paint, 12 k gold
leafs, black glitter, black metallic leafs, glass beads)

60 x 40 in.



Magician

2025

Mixed media on assembled canvases

48 x 48 x 2 in.



Familiar Feeling (Peacock)

2025

Mixed media, acrylic on canvas

40 x 30 x 2 in.



Glancing, Cruising, Staring II

2025

Acrylic on canvas

40 x 30 x 2 in.



Glancing, Cruising, Staring III

2025
Acrylic on canvas
40 x 30 x 2 in.



Bejeweled Finch

2025
mixed media on light reflector
Diameter 42 in.



The Bearded Nest

2025

Acrylic on canvas

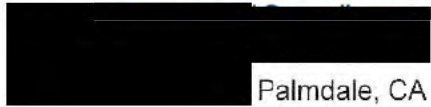
36 x 48 x 2 in.

Vojislav Radovanović (pronounced: Voice-love; Ra-d-ovan-o-vich) is a Yugoslavian-born, Serbian artist and curator based in Los Angeles, California since 2017. Born in 1982 in the city of Valjevo, he came of age during a period of political unrest and war in the Balkans, an experience that profoundly shaped his artistic voice and conceptual practice. His work engages with themes of beauty, environmentalism, mental health, decolonization, and societal transformation.

As a non-medium-specific artist, Radovanović works across painting, drawing, installation, video, and performance. His practice explores the complexity of human nature, the immigrant experience, LGBTQ+ identity and gender fluidity, while also engaging with interrupted cultural narratives, collective memory, and the fragile relationship between humans and the natural world. In his paintings, birds and wild plants, particularly weeds, often appear as recurring motifs. He employs them as metaphors for resilience, adaptation, and the spirit of borderless migration. Within this symbolism, the weeds become embodiments of human endurance, queerness, and displacement, offering a poetic reflection on the cycles of survival and transformation shaped by both nature and history.

Since his first solo exhibition at the National Museum of Valjevo at the age of fifteen, Radovanović has presented his work in numerous solo and group exhibitions across the U.S. and Europe. His work has been featured at institutions including the Lancaster Museum of Art and History, Bakersfield Museum of Art, Torrance Art Museum, Ronald H. Silverman Fine Arts Gallery, Angels Gate Cultural Center, Diana Berger Gallery, Brea Art Gallery, and Huntington Beach Art Center in California, USA; Mall Galleries in London, UK; UNESCO Headquarters and The Swedish Institute in Paris, France; Centre of Contemporary Art in Toruń, Poland; The Círculo de Bellas Artes in Madrid, Spain; as well as the Belgrade City Museum and the Museum of Yugoslavia in Serbia.

vojislavradovanovic.com



Palmdale, CA 93552