

#### Members

Heide Fernandez-Llamazares, Chair  
Jes Takla, Vice Chair  
Connie Behe  
Jasmine Brown  
Erica Chang  
Katie Dean  
Hannah-Clarke Gilmore  
Sarah Jane Hoppe  
Michael Kula  
Vernon Ng  
Derek Nunn  
Ean Olsen  
Jeanette Sanchez  
Kenya Shakoor  
Jamika Scott, City Council Liaison  
Olgy Diaz, City Council Liaison Alternate

#### Staff

Daniel Garcia, Community Programs Specialist  
Marissa Laubscher, Public Art Program Manager  
Rebecca Solverson, Division Manager  
Naomi Strom-Avila, Funding & Cultural Programs Manager

# Summary Minutes

## Tacoma Arts Commission

Arts & Cultural Vitality Division

Community & Economic Development Dept.



### Special Meeting

**Date:** May 3, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 am

**Location:** Virtual and UWT Tacoma, Cherry Parkes, Room 325

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#### *Commission Members in Attendance:*

Heide Fernandez-Llamazares, Chair  
Jes Takla, Vice Chair  
Connie Behe  
Jasmine Brown  
Hannah-Clarke Gilmore  
Sarah Jane Hoppe  
Michael Kula  
Derek Nunn  
Jeanette Sanchez  
Kenya Shakoor

#### *City Staff Present:*

Daniel Garcia  
Marissa Laubscher  
Rebecca Solverson  
Naomi Strom-Avila

#### *Commission Members Excused Absence:*

Erica Chang  
Katie Dean  
Vernon Ng  
Ean Olsen

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### 1. Call to Order

10:14 am

Chair Fernandez-Llamazares called the meeting to order.

Chair Fernandez-Llamazares recognized that the meeting was held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people.

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb čəł txʷəl tiit ʔa čəł ʔal tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiit puyaləpabš dxʷəstəłlils gʷəl ʔutxʷəlšucidəbs həlgʷəʔ.

“We gratefully acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.”

**2. Consent Agenda** **10:15 am**

Commissioners Chang, Dean, Ng, and Olsen had an excused absence.

Vice Chair Takla asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda for the May 3 meeting.

There was a motion: "I move to approve the consent agenda."

Motion: Commissioner Gilmore

Seconded: Commissioner Behe

Carried

**3. Public Comment on Agenda Items** **10:15 am**

There were no public comments on agenda items.

**4. Creative Share Out** **10:16 am**

Commissioner and staff took turns introducing themselves and sharing an arts, culture, heritage, science, or community-minded passion they have.

**5. PechaKucha**

**a. Overview of ACV** **10:55 am**

Staff presented a brief overview of the Arts & Cultural Vitality Division including the Arts Funding, Community Programming, and Public Art branches of their work.

**b. JEDIS Reintroduction** **11:35 am**

Chair Fernandez-Llamazares, Vice Chair Takla, and Commissioner Gilmore presented a brief overview of the JEDIS subcommittee's work including an overview of the themes that came out of the one-on-one meetings that the JEDIS subcommittee had with each commission member. Themes include:

- Data-Informed Equity & Inclusion
- Public Awareness & Accessibility
- Financial and Other Support for Artists & Community Sustainability
- Community Building and Collaboration Opportunities
- TAC Effectiveness & Expansive Opportunities

Commissioners looked at a draft framework that can be used to see how aligned programs and projects are with the core values of the Commission. Commissioners asked questions and provided comments.

**6. Lunch Break** **12:00 pm**

**7. Break Out Session 1: JEDIS Framework** **12:14 pm**

Commissioners and staff looked at Council advocacy items and tested them to see how the fit within the draft framework. Council advocacy items include:

- Tacoma Creates Reauthorization
- Arts Funding Budget
- Tacoma Public Utilities' participation in the 1% for Arts program

Some items Commissioners discussed included:

- Providing specific data to support why the Council advocacy items are worth supporting and the economic and social impact they have locally

- Developing a visually artistic version of the finalized framework
- Building networks, resources, and plans to collectively support and advocate for artists who may be targeted for their work
- Need for space – including the City theaters and commercial spaces – to support the creation and performance of creative work
- Developing a list of privately and publicly owned spaces that are available for creatives to use
- Bringing together a variety of siloed voices to have conversations that affect the larger community

## 8. Adjourn

1:08 pm

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### MEETING FREQUENCY

Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 pm. All meetings of the Tacoma Arts Commission are open to the public.



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