

# Community Services Commission Meeting

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Documents Received After  
Published Agenda

# Emailed Public Comments

## Community Services Commission Meeting, Wednesday, March 16, 2022

### Public Comments – Email Submission

#### Public Comment #1

**From:** angelina dela cruz  
**Sent:** Friday, March 4, 2022 11:03 AM  
**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>  
**Subject:** SAVE SUN GALLERY

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I'm messaging to save SUN GALLERY!! I love visiting there and I've always wanted to display artwork. Please save it!!!! It is beautiful. Please get back to me and let me know what I can do to help.

-angie dela cruz

#### Public Comment #2

**From:** Claudia Schwalm  
**Sent:** Monday, March 7, 2022 8:43 AM  
**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Attn: Carol Lee Re: The Sun Gallery

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I am writing to request that the grant funding for the Sun Gallery be restored so that it may continue providing its rich array of art services to the community. I have been a member of the Sun Gallery for fifteen years, and an attendee at its functions for more than 20 years. During my elementary teaching career in the surrounding communities of San Leandro, Oakland and Newark, I appreciated the resources that the Sun Gallery had to offer educators, parents and children. The fact that the gallery staff has been able to provide six shows throughout the year, as well as a summer arts program for youth, is a testament to this continuing dedication to provide quality art experiences for the community. Other irreplaceable services include the free Saturday art program, artist visits to the elementary schools, and class field trips to the gallery.

One community outreach event that the Sun Gallery hosted in 2013, remains as a vivid memory of friendship between two countries. The Sado Exchange Program, was a student exchange conducted between Hayward High and Sado High, Japan, that thrived from 1971 to 1983. In 2013, students from Sado High came for a two week visit. As one of the coordinators for the stay, I asked the staff at the Sun Gallery if we could have a welcome luncheon on the gallery's patio. There was no hesitation, and the result was a joyous reunion of friendships, from original members of the Sado Exchange, to bonds being created among the new members of this unique group.

## Public Comment #2 (continued)

I have been a member of several art organizations, including those in surrounding cities, i.e. San Leandro, Oakland and Fremont. I have also been a member of artist groups located in Sacramento, Amador and Calaveras Counties. I can say without reservation that I have not encountered another art gallery that comes close to providing the numerous in-house art programs as well as the community outreach events that the Sun Gallery of Hayward has hosted.

Please restore funding to the Sun Gallery, so that it may continue with its 50 year journey of providing arts education for all.

Thank you, Claudia Schwalm

## Public Comment #3

**From:** j kerpel

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022 5:21 PM

**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Funding program

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Carol Lee and city council members, I urgently ask that you restore the grant funding to pre pandemic amount, for the Sun Gallery .I am a long standing artist and member of the Sun Gallery and without our gallery we no longer can exhibit our creations. While this might sound trivial, exposure to the arts for the community is the the backbone to culture within the community. Because of the pandemic, venues for artists are disappearing at an alarming rate. Please don't add to the avalanche -Without your help the Sun Gallery gallery wont survive - please make your cuts ElseWare - thank you for your attention and listening to my concern -Jon Kerpel, Artist

## Public Comment #4

-----Original Message-----

From: vkfujii@gmail.com

Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2022 11:07 AM

To: List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

Subject: Funding for Hayward Arts Council

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Halliday, City Council Members and City Manager Lee, My name is Victor Fujii. I am a lifelong resident of Hayward, It was brought to my attention that a cut in funding the Hayward Arts Council was on the table.

I would like to encourage you to reconsider this.

The Hayward Arts Council has promoted programs incorporating ethic and cultural diversity. They have reached out to people of all backgrounds to have a well balanced representation in their programs.

In addition, they have encouraged younger people to participate in programs linking people of all ages.

By doing so, they are creating a bond with Haywards past and it's future.

I am sure you are faced with difficult decisions regarding the costs of running a city. But please consider the importance of honoring our cultural and social backgrounds in today's world.

Thank you for time and attention with this concern.

Sincerely, Victor Fujii

## Public Comment #5

**From:** mscantua

**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 1:05 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Cc:** Hayward Arts Council <hac@haywardartscouncil.org>

**Subject:** funding for the ARTS

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

As a member of the Hayward Arts Council I believe a city the size of Hayward should support the ARTS for the benefit of our citizens. I realize that funding dollars are in short supply, but art and creativity must be encouraged. Please consider funding this important organization at previous funding levels.

Thank you,

Laura Mattos



## Public Comment #6

**From:** Yahoo

**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 1:25 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Hayward Arts Council

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Dear Mayor Halliday and Hayward City Council,

I am writing to you in support of the Hayward Arts Council. When I tell people that I live in Hayward, they are rarely impressed. What makes the news? The shooting last week on A Street. Not the upcoming "Lit Hop," or the newly rebuilt Heritage Plaza.

But the Hayward Arts Council has done a great job to make Hayward a place where the arts are valued, expressed, and made available to the community. I currently have art on the Hayward Chamber of Commerce walls and in a HAC virtual exhibit. In addition, there are five other galleries, including the John O'Lague Galleria at Hayward City Hall. These galleries feature everything from quilting to vintage photos, and are free to the public.

Hayward Arts Council has made music accessible to many students by purchasing instruments. In addition, HAC has funded music scholarships, and has facilitated Band and Orchestra concerts both online and on stage. HAC funds scholarships, and many students have gotten a jump-start on their college degrees with their help.

HAC's web site logs hundreds of visitors-- nearly 200 on a single day. So the community can go online to find virtual art shows, check out community-wide events, meet local artists, view student exhibits, attend art workshops, participate in online auctions, and read the monthly newsletter.

But all these events require a budget. Please continue to fund Hayward Arts Council. It's one of the organizations that makes Hayward a great place to live.

Patricia Doyne

President, A.R.T., Inc.

## Public Comment #7

**From:** Rita Sklar

**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 1:24 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <[List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Support for work of Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

During the pandemic, the HAC has continued to support the work of artists and to help the community enjoy art. Now that the pandemic is receding, hopefully, it's important to continue this important work of supporting artists young and old and of getting art into the community.

Thank you for your support of HAC.

Rita Sklar

See my paintings at "<http://www.ritasklar.com>"

## Public Comment #8

**From:** Kimberly Ladewig

**Sent:** Thursday, March 10, 2022 8:41 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <[List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov)>; Carol Lee <[Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Upcoming Budget Allocations

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Mayor Halliday, council members, and city staff Carol Lee,

Thank you for taking time to read my email. I am writing as an artist, art tutor, violin instructor, and someone who has exhibited with Hayward Arts Council.

It has recently come to my attention that the upcoming budget allocated for Hayward Arts Council is under jeopardy of being reduced dramatically. Instead of going into all the benefits to humans on a neurological and community aspect I will relay one experience.

I meet weekly with a elderly woman, who is a part of the Hayward Community, to paint with watercolor. We sit and learn new skills, work on our projects, the time flies by, and she is refreshed. She says she

makes it a point to come every week because it keeps her brain active and able to practice mindfulness. Why does she see this as important? Since the beginning of the year, alone, she has made multiple trips to the emergency room which have included hospital stays, and four of her close relatives have died back to back. She makes it a point to attend community events multiple times a week, saying that it is keeping her active and allows her to not be alone with her thoughts for too long. When she told me her concerns about having times she would not be able to keep herself busy, I was able to provide her with art material to take home so she could get into a mindful state on her own. The appreciation she showed for this simple act was touching. She wonders how others that don't have opportunities, such as this, are coping with everything that is going on in the world.

With everything that has happened in the past two years and continues to happen in the news and economy it would be my hope that not only the budget not be slashed but to find new ways to integrate art and music opportunities in the community.

Thank you for taking the time to take everything into consideration for the health and wellbeing of Hayward's community.

Kimberly Ladewig

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[Kimberly Ladewig](#)

[Cypress Blue Designs - owner/designer](#)

[cypressbluedesigns.com](http://cypressbluedesigns.com)

[cypressbluedesigns@gmail.com](mailto:cypressbluedesigns@gmail.com)



## Public Comment #9

**From:** Heather Reyes

**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2022 10:58 AM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Thank you for taking a moment

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

The arts are crucial and reflect the diversity of Hayward. Art allows viewers to see someone's truth visually, even when words may be difficult to come by. I believe that visual and performing arts benefits both children and adults alike. My first experience with the Arts Council was stumbling into a free gallery showcasing the art of Hayward Students and was excited that the school district had the support of the City of Hayward.

It has been an honor to be the president of Hayward Arts Council for the past several years. Over the past several years, the Board of Directors for Hayward Arts Council has begun to reflect the diversity of Hayward. Under the expertise of our executive director, Winda Shimzu, we have continued to grow and help contribute to various projects throughout the Hayward community and could not have done it without her.

As we approach the 2 year anniversary of shelter in place due to COVID, many during this time had to pivot. Individuals chose to re-engage with their artistic side to cope with the stress of being locked down. Hayward Arts Council was immediately able to pivot and through hard work, took in person galleries and changed to virtual galleries without missing a beat and continued to engage the Hayward community. We then were able to take it even further and had our first international exhibit. We are proud of offering all families the chance to either showcase their pieces, or to enjoy the different galleries free of charge.

The Art community should not be the first to lose funding. As experience has shown us, when art funding is cut it is a battle to come back.

We respectfully request that reconsideration be given to the funding for art organizations, especially since Hayward is boasting a bright fiscal forecast for the next several years. I believe if the funding is revisited and re-evaluated, it will show the residents of Hayward and beyond, the belief that the City has in the creativeness of its residents.

Thank you for the consideration

Heather Reyes

President, Hayward Arts Council

## Public Comment #10

**From:** Mangewala, Mina

**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2022 2:06 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Support for the Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

I am writing in support of the Hayward Arts Council. Recently it has come to my attention that the city of Hayward cut financial support to the Arts Council by 50%. This news is devastating. The Hayward Arts Council was a major supporter and contributor to the Hayward Unified Visual & Performing Arts Master Plan. The Arts Council is Hayward USD's Arts Now Community Partner and the reason why HUSD students have the opportunity to have their work showcased around the city. The Arts Council curates and supports the annual Art Is Education show in March, the new upcoming Art in the Middle show at the library, the Band & Orchestra festival, and supports up & coming artists with the HAC Student of the Month, among other opportunities to showcase student work. In addition, the Arts Council provides support for individual teachers seeking materials, resources, and connections to artists and venues for supporting students. It is because of the strong partnership between HAC & HUSD that the city of Hayward is recognized in statewide organizations, such as CREATECA, as being a place where arts education is supported by the community.

As a resident of Hayward, I have appreciated the numerous art installations at city hall, the library, and before the pandemic, at the Hayward Adult School. There is nothing more exciting than to learn more about Hayward by going to exhibits and learning about my community through art.

Now, more than ever, our community needs art. We need art to heal, to remain connected, and to create spaces in our city where we can see artwork of our fellow Hayward community members and the students of our Hayward schools. Please reconsider the cut in funding for this amazing organization.

Sincerely,

Mina Mangewala

VAPA TOSA

Pronouns she/her/hers

Hayward Unified School District

**HUSD VAPA Website** [www.husd.us](http://www.husd.us)

## Public Comment #11

**From:** Allison Murdach

**Sent:** Saturday, March 12, 2022 4:59 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:**This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear mayor, city council members, and staff: please reconsider fully funding the Hayward Arts Council in the upcoming budget. I know times are tough but the council has provided excellent and ongoing coverage of art events and experiences throughout the local area for some time and would like to continue providing such services. It will be impossible if the budget is cut by 50%. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Al Murdach, Hayward Arts Council board

## Public Comment #12

**From:** Carol Markos

**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2022 9:05 AM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:**This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Mayor Halliday and City Council,

Despite these challenging times, Hayward Arts Council keeps true to its mission—encouraging **all** groups in the community to participate in the arts. Since our beginning in 1983, we have consistently supported community arts with many different programs.

In recent years our Executive Director expanded the ways we reach out to everyone in the Hayward Area. When the COH encouraged nonprofits to work together, our Executive Director reached out to many different groups. Just a few of them were these these:

- **HUSD**—giving local students more ways to create and display their art.
- **VAPA**—spending many hours helping to develop the program.
- **South Hayward Youth and Family Center**—making Hayward Arts Council an active part of planning the project.
- **Heritage Plaza**—serving as active member of the Japanese American Committee in the installation of the public art.
- **City Poster & Writing Contest**—providing judges and promoting the contest.
- **Hayward Public Library**—supporting library staff with unique displays, artist talks, and workshops in addition to our rotating exhibitions throughout the year.
- **Chamber of Commerce**—sharing with the Leadership Class the rich legacy of public art and murals in Hayward.

One of the recent projects created for COH is the **Hayward Youth Poet Laureate**, inspired by the Hayward Poet Laureate (and HAC Board Member) and executed by the HAC Executive Director Winda Shimizu. This was a very time-consuming project—gaining the support of local teachers, advertising the project, reaching student poets, finding an appropriate judge, collecting and processing entries.

## Public Comment #12 (continued)

The Hayward Arts Council works hard to gain donations from members, supporters, and grant sources. But it relies on its long relationship with the City of Hayward to provide financial support so that it can continue to support the COH goals. Please maintain that level of funding to show your commitment to the arts in Hayward.

Carol Markos, Former President, Hayward Arts Council

## Public Comment #13

**From:** Doyle Wegner

**Sent:** Sunday, March 13, 2022 6:07 PM

**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Hayward Arts Council

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**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

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Dear Ms. Lee and Council Members,

I am very concerned about the cuts in funding for the Hayward Arts Council. On a personal level, the Arts Council has provided me opportunities to share my art with the public. Beyond the benefits the council have provided to me personally by providing gallery space, the service to the community is outstanding. The support and scholarships for students in music and the arts helps to stimulate and encourage the culture of our community.

I really hope the Hayward Arts Council can continue to do it's important work for our community.

Sincerely,

Doyle Wegner

## Public Comment #14

**From:** Vanita Lee-Tatum

**Sent:** Friday, March 11, 2022 11:46 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Fully Fund the Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Thank you for your consideration of the recent requests from community members in support to fully fund the Hayward Arts Council.

Art is healing and the HAC makes the arts easily accessible to the Hayward community.

I had the opportunity to sit down with HAC Executive Director Winda Shimizu to discuss details about the inspiration behind my own artwork, which was featured in the "Celebrate Black History Month" and the "Go Abstract" art exhibitions at the New 21st Century Library and the John O'Lague Galleria inside City Hall in Downtown Hayward, respectively.

[https://www.instagram.com/tv/CabQ6f4rsiV/?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/tv/CabQ6f4rsiV/?utm_medium=copy_link)

We've continued to thrive and adjust in the face of a global pandemic.

Please see the attachment below which highlights our accomplishments during this unprecedented period.

~Vanita Lee-Tatum

Hayward resident & Hayward Arts Council member



## Public Comment #15

**From:** vickistadelman

**Sent:** Saturday, March 12, 2022 3:32 AM

**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** funding of the Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Lee,

It has been brought to my attention that the City of Hayward is potentially deciding whether or not to cut the funding to the Hayward Council of the Arts in the year ahead. I hope you reconsider the POSITIVE power of the arts during these turbulent times and recommend full funding of the arts programs in the community moving forward.

The rise of the quality of art in Hayward during recent years has been impressive. Those of us who drive through town down Jackson Street LOVE the beautiful, historic murals and the stories of Hayward that they tell. Outstanding exhibits in the Sun Gallery, City Hall, and Hayward Library bring visitors to your town. Art programs and contests for children district-wide spark creative self-expression and confidence in developing youth. My husband and I were fortunate enough to participate as judges for one of these contests. It was heart-warming to meet the winners and their families at the culminating City Hall celebration and enjoy a great evening for individuals and families.

We have been members of the Hayward Arts Council for many years now and see the very humane personal and social benefits of the programs. I would like to urge you at this time to fully fund the HAC going forward. Art is healing and brings joy. There is no better time to support the GOOD in the world!

Thank you,

~Vicki Stadelman

## Public Comment #16

**From:** Ann Maloney-Mason

**Sent:** Saturday, March 12, 2022 2:30 PM

**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Please fully fund Hayward Arts Council

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**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

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Dear Ms. Lee,

I hope this finds you well.

I am writing to urge the City of Hayward to fully fund Hayward Arts Council.

During the pandemic HAC stayed engaged with the community.

They continued with online exhibitions and other programs that were of unmeasurable benefit to our very diverse community during a very stressful and unprecedented time.

Winda Shmizu puts her heart and soul into HAC, not for her own benefit, but for the welfare of artists, young and old. She is passionate in her commitment and spends many many hours reaching out and encouraging local artists.

It is essential to fully fund HAC so that the community can continue to benefit from the fantastic work that HAC does. It would be a disservice to the community to cut one penny from the budget.

The art community is often the first group to feel the sting of budget cuts.

The budget apportioned to HAC is most likely a drop in the bucket for Hayward City, yet it is of extraordinary benefit to so many people.

The galleries that HAC maintains give opportunities to many struggling artists who have been greatly affected by the pandemic, (and even before the pandemic).

I hope you will take my request under consideration.

Sincerely,

Ann Maloney-Mason

Artist

## Public Comment #17

**From:** Elani Scott

**Sent:** Sunday, March 13, 2022 5:44 PM

**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>; List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Urgent Request

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello,

I hope this email finds you well.

My name is Elani Scott. I hear that funding for the Sun Gallery is potentially going to be cut. I understand how essential it is to adjust finances, but this specifically is such an important community for children, adults, and seniors alike. Working with the Sun Gallery has changed my life, as my world has expanded as a young artist. People who work for the Sun Gallery were also planning to continue a summer camp for kids, which I was hoping to be a part of. The Sun Gallery means so much not only to artists like me, but our friends and families too. Additionally, I've met amazing people through it. I respectfully ask that funding isn't taken away from such an amazing organization.

Thank you for your time. Do not hesitate to reach out if I could be of any help.



## Public Comment #18

**From:** Landreau, Geoffrey

**Sent:** Monday, March 14, 2022 11:22 AM

**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Sun Gallery

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Halliday and members of the city council-

The Sun Gallery has been an important part of the city for 46 years. This gallery has been a vital part of the connection between schools and the community. Dorsi Diaz has made a huge difference at the Sun Gallery and with her came the ongoing work we have done collaborating with teachers and the schools.

My students have participated in various exhibitions over the years, including more than 8 "Build a Better Birdhouse" battles, and shows such as the environmental show and the children's illustrators shows. Dorsi has made sure to be inclusive with students, waiving all costs to participate and commissions that the gallery would usually charge adult artists.

When organizations have areas of their budget to cut, why is it that the Arts are always the first to go? The arts are one of the unspoken heroes of the pandemic that have helped a lot of children and adults get through difficult times. We need the arts and we should actually be increasing funding for the arts at this time, not decreasing.

Please reconsider your funding with the Sun Gallery and please return to full funding of their programs as you have done in the past. It is a vital community resource that we can't afford to lose.

Sincerely,

Geoff Landreau

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Geoff Landreau

Fine Arts Teacher

HUSD Art Lead

Mt. Eden High School

Hayward Unified School District

## Public Comment #19

**From:** Jennifer

**Sent:** Sunday, March 13, 2022 7:42 PM

**To:** Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Cc:** Winda Shimizu <hac@haywardartscouncil.org>

**Subject:** Fully fund the Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor, Hayward City Council, and staff,

My name is Jennifer Koney and I am an active member in the community, former Recreation professional in Oakland and then Hayward, and an active artist. I know the power that art and art making has on changing people and communities for the better. I support full funding of the Hayward Arts Council and their successful and long-term efforts to make art accessible to our community. The Hayward Arts Council has a long history of supporting artists, both young and old, by providing essential exhibition opportunities through their six galleries and their online presentations. They also have a long history of developing art audiences and enriching our community through sharing art. Art makes communities better and gives opportunities for youth, adults, and seniors to share their creative expressions, both visually and musically, which enhances both the artists and art audiences. Art audiences don't just appear - they are cultivated through art viewing and listening opportunities in the immediate community. Now more than ever, we need arts that are accessible and in our neighborhoods to enrich our lives and connect us as a community! The pandemic has shown us how much we need a thriving inner life and connections to others, The successful and ongoing work of the Hayward Arts Council does that! Please fully fund the Hayward Arts Council and continue to support accessible art to the Hayward community.

Thank you.

Jennifer Koney

## Public Comment #20

-----Original Message-----

From: Molly Dolly

Sent: Monday, March 14, 2022 10:06 AM

To: List-Mayor-Council <[List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov)>

Subject: Save the the Arts

CAUTION:This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello Hayward Council:

ART is community!

Please think of the future generations and how they can develop a beautiful , healthier, happier Hayward brought about through new ideas that ART instills in creative minds!

Save the Arts..,

Thank you.

Molly Dolly 🧐 😊 ❤️

## Public Comment #21

-----Original Message-----

From: Molly Dolly

Sent: Monday, March 14, 2022 10:09 AM

To: Carol Lee <[Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov)>

Subject: Save the ARTS

CAUTION:This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello Carol,

Please save the only thing that will help our youth. Their creative minds can build a happy; healthy future for Hayward. A stagnant drab world cannot be the answer to growth.

SAVE the ARTS! Thank you.

Molly Dolly 😊 🙏 🧐

## Public Comment #22

**From:** Jan Rehder

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:34 AM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Request for full funding for Hayward Arts Council

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am a member of the Hayward Arts Council and Art Ink. I appreciate being able to share my artwork with the Hayward/Castro Valley community. Creating art is healing for me and I feel it is healing for those who view our exhibits in local art shows.

Please take a look at our success page to find a summary of our offerings. Art is healing. Please help us

keep the arts alive in the Hayward area.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Janet Rehder

Artist, Castro Valley.



## Public Comment #23

**From:** Winifred Thompson

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 5:15 PM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>; Monica Davis <Monica.Davis@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Hayward Arts Council needs financial support

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor, City Council, Carol Lee, and Monica Davis

As Past Presidents and long-term members of the Hayward Arts Council (HAC), we ask that you be able to help keep HAC alive.

Throughout the pandemic, Winda Shimizu, our Executive Director, has worked tirelessly to keep our programs.

We work hard to fundraise, but our fundraising can not cover her salary combined with our other costs.

Hayward residents will pay the price if we lose Ms. Shimizu.

Please restore funding to the Hayward Arts Council.

Below is a list of programs in which HAC has been involved.

- **HUSD**—giving local students more ways to create and display their art at City Hall John O'Lague Galleria and Hayward Public Library Galleries. Our collaboration with HUSD impacts the lives of 19,000 students. This is an investment in the future of Hayward.
- **VAPA**—spending many hours helping to develop the program. Every year we work toward fulfilling our mission by exhibiting the best works of HUSD students, collaborating with teachers and families by providing art practices where our future voters can heal from trauma and find creative outlets of expression of their identities. Art is education and civic duty and studies show that students participating in the arts are more successful in school.
- **HAC membership**- In 2022-23 we planned 43 exhibitions (7 at city hall and 11 at the Hayward Public Library), 20 art receptions, and 7 community events in addition to 7 free art workshops in collaboration with the Hayward Public library. The visibility all over California we give the City Hall John O'Lague Galleria providing top-notch exhibitions and the incredible enrichment of community life we provide with exhibitions at the Hayward Public Library prove that all funds are put to the use of wellness in our community.

## Public Comment #23 (continued)

- **Monthly newsletter, website, brochure, flyers, newspaper articles**—all these materials highlight the City of Hayward sponsorship
- **South Hayward Youth and Family Center**—making Hayward Arts Council an active part of planning the project.
- **Heritage Plaza**—serving as an active member of the Japanese American Committee in the installation of public art.
- **City Poster & Writing Contest**—providing judges (HAC members) and promoting the contest.
- **Hayward Public Library**—supporting library staff with unique displays, artist talks, and workshops in addition to our rotating exhibitions throughout the year.
- **Chamber of Commerce**—sharing with the Leadership Class the rich legacy of public art and murals in Hayward. In addition, as a request from City staff Regina Youngblood, ED Winda Shimizu shared her knowledge of the murals and the future public art at the Heritage Plaza
- **Sun Gallery**-presenting and collaborating in an annual climate change exhibition at city hall John O'Lague Galleria
- **Hayward Youth Poet Laureate**-One of the recent projects created for COH is the first Hayward Youth Poet Laureate, inspired by the Hayward Poet Laureate (and HAC Board Member) and executed by the HAC Executive Director Winda Shimizu. This was a very time-consuming project—gaining the support of local teachers, advertising the project, reaching student poets, finding an appropriate judge, collecting and processing entries, conducting meetings with judges, notifying students, and planning future public events where the selected Youth Poet Laureate can participate and represent Hayward.

Winifred and Gerald Thompson

## Public Comment #24

-----Original Message-----

From: Bruce Roberts <shasta7@me.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 10:25 AM

To: List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>;

Monica Davis <Monica.Davis@hayward-ca.gov>

Cc: Winda Shimizu <hac@haywardartscouncil.org>

Subject: Letter to Mayor and City Council

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello, Mayor Halliday and City Council members,

To be the leadership of Hayward, a Bay Area city, is a wonderful thing: Wonderful scenery, great climate, lots of industry, and so many fine, world class attractions that bring about a good life.

To make that life even better though, reinforcing Hayward as a cultural center for the arts is the goal stated in the mission statement of the Hayward Arts Council.

To do that, however, requires money, and this year, Hayward has cut its financial support for H.A.C. nearly by half, even though we hear that Hayward is not short on funds.

To Hayward, the H.A.C. means ongoing art exhibits in local galleries, including shows by Hayward students. It means a band and orchestra festival for kids. It means encouraging literate creativity in teens by selecting a Youth Poet Laureate, as well as many other art-involved programs for the city.

And it means all the work required to make these worthwhile events happen.

That's why, to keep Hayward as a thriving art community, enhancing our quality of life in the beautiful San Francisco Bay Area, the members of the Hayward Arts Council would urge that funding from the City of Hayward be restored.

Public Comment #24 (continued)

Sincerely,

Bruce Roberts

Native of Hayward

Vice-President of Hayward Arts Council

Hayward's First Poet Laureate

Golden Alumnus of Cal-State HAYWARD

27990 Fallbrook Drive

Hayward, California 94542

"Creativity is contagious! Pass it on!" Albert Einstein



## Public Comment #25

**From:** Winda Shimizu

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 1:14 PM

**To:** Monica Davis <[Monica.Davis@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:Monica.Davis@hayward-ca.gov)>

**Subject:** For public comment at today's meeting

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello Monica:

Last Wednesday two board members and myself were taking down the Abstract exhibition and prepping the walls for the upcoming exhibition at City Hall John O'Lague Galleria. Two days later my husband and I and two HUSD teachers installed the twelfth "Art IS Education" exhibition at City Hall. This exhibition features the best works of HUSD students in collaboration with teachers and families. We provide art practices where our future voters can heal from trauma and find creative outlets of expression of their identities. Art is education and a civic duty and studies show that students participating in the arts are more successful in school.

The behind the scene tasks we performed in preparation for the upcoming 43 exhibitions planned for 2022 are many.

The visibility all over California we give the City Hall John O'Lague Galleria providing top-notch exhibitions and the incredible enrichment of community life we provide with exhibitions and special displays at the Hayward Public Library prove that all funds are put to the use of wellness in our community.

We just selected the first Youth Poet Laureate in Hayward and 10 finalists. All these young poets live in Hayward and are excited to represent their city.

We are honored to continue our collaborations with the City but we need your help allocating more funds for HAC to continue our mission to promote Hayward as a cultural center and make the arts easily accessible to everyone in our community.

Thank you,

***Winda I. Shimizu***

Executive Director | Hayward Arts Council

2018 Alameda County Women Hall of Fame

HUSD Visual & Performing Arts Plan (VAPA) Community Partner | Hayward Arts Now Leader

Commissioner | Member Alameda County Arts Commission



To the Community Services Commission,

A thriving cultural community is as vital to a city as good roads and a strong economy. We all want to keep serving our great city and indeed wish to do more, but we need the city to make more significant support to all of our operations in the coming years. This much is evident in what we have done, continue to do, and the feedback that has already been submitted.

Arts and Culture organizations are essential to the City of Hayward and its surrounding unincorporated communities. These organizations do everything they can to educate all members of the public in alternative ways. We explore new and old ideas, present opportunities to better connect with this area, and provide venues and experiences for both residents and visitors alike. We are often called upon for our expertise, resources, and talents to assist on many projects and ventures throughout the city, and yet the City of Hayward is one of the few cities in the region that does not provide significant budget to its arts and cultural organizations.

While we all appreciate what support we do receive, that support is achieved through competition for a fixed pool of funding. Splitting \$82,000 among eight entities only means that a small fraction of funding is a possibility, and does not come with the safety of a guarantee. While we understand this particular grant was not designed to cover a significant portion of operating costs and that the intent is to fund specific projects within our overall scopes, the city does little else to help these vital organizations continue their important work, or help secure our collective existence. Yes, we all seek funding and in-kind support from other sources, but there are a lot of us competing for support from a small pool of potential donors.

I strongly encourage the commissioners to reach out to the various arts and culture organizations to learn more about what we do, how we have managed these recent trying years, and what we aim to accomplish in the future. While we do not provide food or shelter as other area non-profits, we do take care of the mind and heart of the community. Please help us continue our good work into the future.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Diane Curry'.

Diane Curry  
Executive Director  
Hayward Area Historical Society

## Public Comment #27

**From:** Mrs. Elidia Tafoya

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 12:46 PM

**To:** Barbara Halliday <[Barbara.Halliday@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:Barbara.Halliday@hayward-ca.gov)>

**Cc:** Dustin Claussen <[Dustin.Claussen@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:Dustin.Claussen@hayward-ca.gov)>; community <[community@hayward-ca.gov](mailto:community@hayward-ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Keep the Sun Gallery Funding

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Barbara Halliday,

I am writing to express my opinion on restoring funding for the Sun Gallery in Hayward. My family and I had the pleasure of visiting the Sun Gallery this weekend for a free, family painting event, and we cannot wait to complete more of these activities in the coming weeks, now that COVID seems dormant in our area. I have three younger children under 6, so I am always interested in attending events in our neighborhood where it is a win-win for them, me, and becoming productive members of our society. However, I was devastated to learn about the slash in funding to restore the gallery from our budget. The building has so much potential, and I only learned about their membership programs recently. Art has become a therapeutic endeavor and refuge for my 6 year old, and I am hoping to have my neighbors become active members to assist the facility with their operations cost. I am disappointed to hear that this place could lose out on city funding, and I am hoping there is an opportunity to secure funding now in order for them to offer more family programming down the line, e.g. ceramics, etc...

Best Regards,

Elidia Tafoya

## Public Comment #28

**From:** Jay Singh

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 10:38 AM

**To:** List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** HAC funding.

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Hello, Honorable Mayor and City Council Members,

I am a very junior board member of the Hayward Art Council. The council is diligently involved in promoting art and culture among residents of Hayward. The recent plan to cut back the grant to the HAC will immensely impact our work to promote and maintain the cultural fabric of the community in Hayward. We are actively involved in raising funds to aid the program. The grant which has been in existence for several years is now being cut back will lesson our participation at the John O'Lague Galleria, Library Galleries at the Hayward Public, 808 A Street Senior Residence, the Hayward Chamber of Commerce, the Sunset Gallery, and the Hayward Area Senior Center.

The City of Hayward has not yet published any shortfall in their budget, so the question is, why cut funding to the HAC which is actively involved in promoting the image of our beautiful blue-collar City in the center of San Francisco bay area.

Finally, I humbly request the City to reconsider your decision and wholeheartedly allow the grant to the HAC.

Thanking you,

Jayendra Singh

Broad Member HAC.

## Public Comment #29

**From:** Ed Keller

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 11:00 AM

**To:** Monica Davis <Monica.Davis@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>; List-Mayor-Council <List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on Item 1 of CSC meeting --support for HAC

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Halliday, Monica Davis, Carol Lee, and members of the Hayward City Council

I am writing in support of additional funding for the Hayward Arts Council and further efforts to expand the total available funding for music and the arts.

Since I have served on the HAC Board for over 25 years and have been Board Treasurer for the past five years, I have had considerable experience with the finances of HAC and the level of support from the City of Hayward.

Over the past decade I've observed the gradual decrease in City of Hayward funding for HAC. Also, I have seen how the contributions that HAC makes to the City have increased tremendously since Winda Shimizu became our Executive Director around five years ago. It is this contrast between greater service to the people of Hayward and decreasing financial support from the City that is so disturbing.

Until about 10 years ago, HAC was looking at annual COH support in the \$20,000 range, with an additional \$7000 for the Band and Orchestra Festival. Then there followed a number of years when HAC's *net* grant, after deducting the fiscal sponsor fee, was about \$16,500 (with a net of around \$7000 for the Band and Orchestra Festival). The 2020 HAC grant of \$20,000 was a welcome exception, but HAC amounts in the other years were consistently in the \$16,000 range.

Starting in 2021, the CSC's tables still showed \$16,000 for HAC operating expenses and a separate grant for the B&O Festival. However, the table didn't show that HAC's net amount had actually dropped to \$14,400 after deducting the fiscal sponsor fee.

Finally, in the Committee's recommendation for 2023, the HAC operating expense and the B&O Festival have been collapsed into one proposed grant of \$13,500, of which \$1350 will go to our fiscal sponsor. Of course, had we known that HAC would be getting less than \$15,000, we would not have needed a fiscal sponsor and could have saved the fiscal sponsor fee.

With a couple of exceptions, the total amount available for the COH arts and music grants hasn't changed from \$82,000 in quite a long time, while the number of applicants in the Arts and Music category has increased. (The 2022 amount of \$87,000 was an exception, due to the City's decision to add an additional \$5000 for the Russell City Blues Festival and the Juneteenth Celebration.)

## Public Comment #29 (continued)

A few observations::

- 1) Keeping the total pot at \$82,000 for so many years makes it seem that the City is not really serious about supporting the arts. If COH could find an additional \$5000 for 2022, might it be possible to find extra funding for the arts category for 2023 and beyond?
- 2) Could the City drop the professional audit requirement for grants over \$15,000, so that no fiscal sponsor would be needed? Or, if the requirement cannot be dropped, could the cutoff point be raised? After all, if inflation is considered, shouldn't we recognize that the \$15,000 figure, which was set in place at least 7-8 years ago, needs to be considerably higher now?
- 3) HAC has even more ideas for expanding our service to the City and outreach to the community, but they cannot be realized unless we have more funding for Winda's Shimizu's salary.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ed Keller

Treasurer, Hayward Arts Council

## Public Comment #30

**From:** TJ

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 1:18 PM

**To:** Monica Davis <Monica.Davis@hayward-ca.gov>; Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>; Jennifer Ott <Jennifer.Ott@hayward-ca.gov>

**Subject:** ACT 22-027 FY 2023 CSC Final Recommendations for Funding

**CAUTION:** This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Community Services Commissioners and City Staff:

(PLEASE READ THIS COMMENT INTO THE RECORD OF THE 3/16/22 CSC MEETING, IF TIME PERMITS)

I am writing you today to advocate for continued support of our local arts programs that are the heartbeat of our city. And more specifically, I am urging you to recommend restoring the pre-Pandemic grant funding received by our city's half-century old jewel, the Sun Gallery.

The Sun Gallery, an independent nonprofit, has struggled to survive and thrive amidst many assaults to its daily operations, including covid, a major fire, staff layoffs and program cuts. This gallery, leased by HARD for over 30 years, is small but mighty. In its prime, it has hosted a feast for the senses including its Planet Hayward exhibit which celebrated our city's roots, humanitarian efforts such as Prayers for the Planet which convened local faith groups, ukelele

Public Comment #30 (continued)

performances, Folklorico dances, art camps for our youth, the Build A Better Birdhouse auction with creative works from our high school students, painting workshops for adults, and my favorite - shopping handmade arts and crafts at the annual holiday boutiques. There have been so many talented artists and creators who have taken great pride in the origin and display of their masterpieces at the Sun Gallery.

I appreciate the difficult decisions you have had to make where directing funds is concerned. All of the organizations and programs included on your list are worthy causes in their own unique way, but the Sun Gallery is an all-ages, fully inclusive social hub for our community. Without the sustained funding, it will wither and cease to be. And at a time when our mental health and social and emotional well-being are being sorely tested by the daily challenges in our society and our world, it is so important that Hayward residents have outlets to find some comfort and soothe the soul. In the words of Pablo Picasso, "Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life."

So please, reconsider and restore full funding for our beloved Sun Gallery to allow it to be fully operational again. If you search your hearts, you will literally find the ARTS.

Respectfully submitted,  
TJ of HAYWARD CONCERNED CITIZENS

## Public Comment #31

-----Original Message-----

From: Carl Gorringer

Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 3:30 PM

To: Monica Davis <Monica.Davis@hayward-ca.gov>

Cc: Carol Lee <Carol.Lee@hayward-ca.gov>

Subject: Please fully restore funding the Sun Gallery (agenda item 1)

CAUTION: This is an external email. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

Dear CSC:

Over the past 2 years, the Sun Gallery had really been struggling. I've noticed that their budgets have been cut over the past 2 years from the city, during a pandemic shutdown which prevented them from receiving revenue. They also had to deal with vandalism and a fire in 2020! While businesses may have received federal loans (really grants) to help pay existing employees, the Sun Gallery had to cut hours and lay off staff.

Am I correct to point out that the Sun Gallery is really Hayward's only dedicated art gallery and venue space? Sure we have art in the library, city hall, and maybe the colleges, but the library is shared space, and the City Hall rotunda costs a lot to rent out for events. The Sun Gallery is really our only affordable art venue that helps build community here.

Supporting arts and culture in Hayward is really important! One of the top complaints that I hear from residents, besides traffic, is that there isn't enough things to do in Hayward, so they go elsewhere. Is it no wonder so many people wish to live in Oakland, which has over 30+ art venues?

We need to support the few gems that we have. The Sun Gallery is one of those gems! I don't want them to die. And we need more like them!

Please fully fund the Sun Gallery in this round of funding. It's the least we could do.

Thanks,

Carl Gorringer  
Hayward Library Commissioner  
& Downtown resident