

**CIVIC ARTS
COMMISSION AGENDA**

**Monday, October 6, 2014
7:00 P.M.**

City Council Chamber, 200 Old Bernal Avenue

CALL TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

MINUTES

1. Minutes of the September 23, 2014 meeting will be considered at the next Civic Arts Commission meeting.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

2. Introductions/Awards/Recognitions/Presentations
3. Public Comment from the audience regarding items not listed on the agenda. *Speakers are encouraged to limit comments to 3 minutes.*

MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMISSION

If necessary to assure completion of the following items, the Chairperson may establish time limits for the presentations by individual speakers.

4. Approve Appointments for Two (2) Teen Poet Laureate Positions

COMMUNICATIONS

COMMISSION REPORTS: Brief reports on any meetings, conferences, and/or seminars attended by the Commission members.

Committee Meetings:

- a. Public Art Selection Sub-Committee
- b. Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan Oversight Committee
- c. Alviso Adobe Task Force

COMMISSION COMMENTS

STAFF COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: November 3, 2014

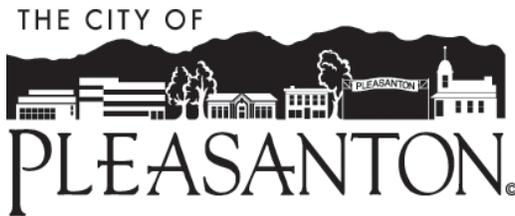
UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS: Community Grant Program Sub-Committee
Project Paint Box- Artist Design Review

Notice

Under Government Code §54957.5, any writings/documents regarding an open session item on this agenda provided to a majority of the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Community Services Department, 200 Old Bernal Avenue, Pleasanton.

Accessible Public Meetings

The City of Pleasanton will provide special assistance for citizens with disabilities to participate in public meetings upon advance notice. If you need an auxiliary hearing aid or sign language assistance at least two working days advanced notice is necessary. Please contact the Community Services Department, PO Box 520, Pleasanton, CA 94566 or (925) 931-5340.



Civic Arts Commission Agenda Report

October 6, 2014
Item 4

SUBJECT: APPROVE APPOINTMENTS FOR TWO (2) TEEN POET LAUREATE POSITIONS

SUMMARY

In August 2012, the City started the formal process to recruit and officially appoint Teen Poet Laureates. The primary role of the City's Teen Poet Laureates is to provide appropriate poetry at civic events, and promote the appreciation of the literary arts in the community during the current school year. This past summer, staff began the recruitment process for the Teen Poet Laureate position for the 2014/2015 school year.

As a result, the City received five (5) applications for the Teen Poet Laureate position. Due to the high level of qualified applicants for the Teen Poet Laureate positions and the desire to reach a broader range of youth through poetry, it has been recommended that the Civic Art Commission appoint two (2) Teen Poet Laureates; one (1) student from Amador High School and one (1) student from Foothill High School.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Civic Arts Commission approve the appointments of Nicole Tsuno as the Teen Poet Laureate representing Amador High School for one (1) school year term; and Maya Lyubomirsky as the Teen Poet Laureate representing Foothill High School for one (1) school year term.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The City Poet Laureate receives no remuneration. Any expenses related to the Poet Laureate program, i.e. supplies for workshops, poetry readings, etc., are allocated within the Community Services Department's operating budget, and total approximately \$2,000.

BACKGROUND

On November 17, 1998, the City Council approved the Civic Arts Commission's recommendation to create the position of Pleasanton Poet Laureate. The primary role of the Poet Laureate is to provide appropriate poetry at civic events, and promote the appreciation of the literary arts in the community.

These individuals have established a wonderful tradition of Poetry readings at the Century House, while using their unique styles in developing new programs for the community. Some of these include television broadcasts and the establishment of the Poetry, Prose and Arts Festival. In 2001, the City's Poet Laureate Program also won an award from the National Conference of Mayors.

Past Poet Laureates include:

- Charlene Villella (1999 – 2001)
- Jim Ott (2001 – 2003)
- Kirk Ridgeway (2003 – 2005)
- Cynthia Bryant (2005 – 2007)
- Martha Meltzer (2007 – 2009)
- Deborah Grossman (2009 – 2011)
- Cynthia Bryant (2011-2012)
- Sandra Harrison Kay (2013 -)

Past Teen Poet Laureates include:

- Arany Uthayakumar (2012-2013)
- Diana Fu (2012-2013) & (2013-2014)
- Nive Raghavan (2013-2014)

In August 2012, the City started the formal process to recruit and officially appoint a Teen Poet Laureate. In January 2013, the first two (2) students, one from each high school, were appointed to serve as the City's Teen Poet Laureates for the remaining duration of the 2012/2013 school year. Recruitment for the Teen Poet Laureate position for the 2014/2015 school year began this past summer. As part of the process, the City established a Poet Laureate Selection Committee to review submitted materials, interview candidates, and recommend candidates for the Teen Poet Laureate position. The Selection Committee was comprised of the following representatives:

- John Loll -Civic Arts Commissioner
- Sandra Harrison-Kay- Current Adult Poet Laureate
- Keely Parrack - Poet/Community Member

- Genevieve Fuller - Community-At-Large
- Julie Finegan – Visual and Literary Art Coordinator

The screening committee interviewed the five (5) applicants for the Teen Poet Laureate position. Due to the high level of qualified applicants for the Teen Poet Laureate position and the desire to reach a broader range of youth through poetry, the screening committee is recommending that the Civic Art Commission appoint two (2) Teen Poet Laureates; one (1) student from Amador High School and one (1) student from Foothill High School as indicated below:

- Nicole Tsuno – Amador High School
- Maya Lyubomirsky– Foothill High School

The Teen Poets will serve from October 2014 through May 2015 and are asked to hold, partner and participate in a variety of literary events in the Tri-Valley.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION

Any other action as determined by the Civic Arts Commission.

Submitted by:



Michele Crose
Community Services Manager