



Ocala

Municipal Arts Commission

Minutes

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

4:00 PM

1. Call To Order

a. Roll Call

Present: Arnold Barbaro
Pedro "Tito" A. Comas
Brooke Hutto
Natalie McComb
Darian Mosley
David Reutter
Greg Thompson

Excused: Emily Andrews
Jaye Baillie
Jean Floten
Leslie Hammond

2. Proof of Publication

The Public Notice for the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission was posted on May 27, 2025.

3. Election of Officers

a. Chairman

The committee nominated Jay Baillie for Chairman.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Greg Thompson

SECONDER: Pedro "Tito" A. Comas

AYE: Barbaro, Comas, Hutto, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and
Thompson

EXCUSED: Andrews, Baillie, Floten and Hammond

b. Vice Chairman

The committee nominated Darian Mosley for Vice Chairman.

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote. The motion failed by the following vote.

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: Brooke Hutto

SECONDER: Natalie McComb

AYE: Barbaro, Comas, Hutto, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and Thompson

EXCUSED: Andrews, Baillie, Floten and Hammond

4. Approval of Minutes

a. April 2, 2025

Attachments: [OMAC 4.2.25 Mins Draft](#)

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: David Reutter

SECONDER: Arnold Barbaro

AYE: Barbaro, Comas, Hutto, McComb, Mosley, Reutter and Thompson

EXCUSED: Andrews, Baillie, Floten and Hammond

5. Grants/Applications

a. Reilly Arts Center, Ocala Symphony Orchestra Scholarships, Grant Report

Attachments: [1. Ocala Symphony Grant Report-2025](#)

Cultural Arts Supervisor Emily Parkman provided the final report for the Ocala Symphony Orchestra Community Music Conservatory scholarship, funded by the fiscal year 2024 Ocala Municipal Arts Commission (OMAC) grant. Ms. Parkman stated that three students ages 6 years old to 17 years old received weekly one on one musical instruction from professional musicians and educators affiliated with the Ocala Symphony Orchestra. Each student received 20 lessons totaling 20 hours of instruction. The \$3,600 grant covered part of the \$1,344 cost per student, with additional funding from other sponsors. The OMAC Grant did not fully cover the scholarship costs, and additional funding was provided by sponsors and donors.

b. Ocala Civic Theatre, The Academy West, Grant Report

Attachments: [OCT Macabaret flyer](#)
[OCT James Peach 31](#)
[OCT James Peach 40](#)
[OCT James Peach 41](#)
[OCT-JP-8.5x11-5](#)
[Student Performance - James 1](#)
[Student Performance - James 2](#)
[Student Performance - James 3](#)
[Student Performance - James 4](#)
[Academy West - Class Breakdown](#)
[Grant Recipient Report 2025 fillable](#)
[jpeach post](#)
[Mac IG](#)
[Macabaret 1](#)
[Macabaret 2](#)
[Macabaret 3](#)
[Macabaret program front](#)

Ms. Parkman gave an update on the Ocala Civic Theatre's Academy West program which was funded by a \$2,500 OMAC grant. The program expanded theater classes to the Mary C. Rich Community Center. The grant supported six classes and two productions, Macabaret and James and the Giant Peach. A total of 15 artists, 11 teachers, and 6 staff members provided 232 hours of instruction. There were 41 participants, ages 6 to 55+, including 24 adults and 17 youth. The grant helped cover teacher salaries and production costs.

c. Ocala Main Street, Window Murals Grant Update

Attachments: [3. Ocala Main Street Grant Update](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the Ocala Main Street, Window Murals Grant Update. OMAC awarded \$1,000 to Ocala Main Street on December 4, 2024, contingent on a revised timeline for vacant storefront activation. The project aims to feature murals in vacant storefronts, but no additional funding has been secured. With current funds, only one site may be activated, potentially involving multiple artists. Ocala Main Street is exploring additional funding sources. A clearer update is expected at the August OMAC 2025 meeting.

6. Project Updates

a. Levitt Amp Ocala MCA Awning Project Update

Attachments: [4. Project Update - MCA awning panels](#)

Ms. Parkman shared information on The Levitt AMP Marion Cultural Alliance (MCA) awning project which featured 10 painted panels by five commissioned artists, each representing a music genre tied to the concert series. Artists included Arianna Leon Burt (Mexican Folk, Reggae), George Tripp (New Americana, Punk Rock), Jordan Jones (Funk, Gospel), Lillian Hart (Afro-Cuban Jazz, Blues), and Tracie Thompson (Country,

Venezuelan Joropo/Appalachian Folk). An artist meet and greet will be held on Friday, July 11, 2025 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at MCA, and installation is scheduled for Monday, July 14, 2025.

7. Other Business

a. Current OMAC Grant Balance 6.4.25

Attachments: [5. Other Business - Current Grant Balance](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the Current OMAC Grant Balance. The current OMAC grant balance is \$10,585.72, with \$1,000 pending from the Ocala Main Street grant, bringing the adjusted total to \$9,585.72. While only \$4,400 was budgeted for additional grant distribution this year, up to \$6,000 more can be awarded without requiring Council approval.

b. Public Art Roster Open Call Proposal

Attachments: [6. Other Business - Public Art Roster 2025](#)

Ms. Parkman discussed reopening the public artist roster in 2025 to include a wider range of artists, such as muralists, sculptors, and local painters. The last call was in 2020, and there is interest in establishing a regular update schedule, possibly every few years. A rolling application option for local artists was also proposed, with submissions reviewed and approved by OMAC annually. Further discussion and a vote will be needed before issuing the call and finalizing criteria.

8. Public Comments

N/A

9. Staff Comments

Ms. Parkman reported that the graphic designer is leaving, temporarily pausing OMAC projects. The position has been posted, and the Public Information Officer will begin interviews soon. Plans to promote OMAC are on hold until the position is filled. Discussion of future promotional efforts, including potential printing in 2026, will resume later. Staff also noted ongoing discussions about building a public art maintenance fund with the community foundation.

10. Board Comments

The Board discussed the various events being hosted by their organizations.

11. Next Meeting Date: August 6, 2025

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.