



Ocala Municipal Arts Commission Agenda - Final Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Meeting Information

Location

Ocala City Hall
110 SE Watula Avenue
Second Floor - Council Chambers
Ocala, Florida

<https://www.ocalafl.gov/meetings>

Time

4:00 PM

Board Members

Emily Andrews
Jaye Baillie
Arnold Barbaro
Pedro "Tito" Comas
Jean Floten
Dr. Leslie Hammond
Brooke Hutto
Natalie McComb
Darian Mosley
David Reutter
Greg Thompson

Staff:

Emily Parkman
Cultural Arts Supervisor
Growth Management Department

Jeff Shrum, AICP
Director
Growth Management Department

Aubrey Hale
Planning Director
Growth Management Department

William Spinney
Community Outreach Manager
Growth Management Department

Yiovanni Santiago
Committee Secretary

WELCOME!

All members of the public are invited to attend. If reasonable accommodations are needed for you to participate in this meeting, please call 629-8287 forty-eight (48) hours in advance so that arrangements can be made.

APPEALS

Any person who desires to appeal any decision at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and for this purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made that includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made.

1. Call To Order
 - a. Roll Call
 2. Proof of Publication

The Public Notice for the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission was posted on July 30, 2025.
 3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. June 4, 2025
 4. Grants / Applications
 - a. [Approve Public Education Foundation of Marion County Grant Application for \\$3,500 for the 2025 Ocala Film Derby Application](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 - b. [Approve Nehyssa Turenne Grant Application for \\$3,000 for her LEAP Through Dance program](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 5. Project Updates
 - a. [Review updates for approved Ocala Main Street vacant storefront mural program](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 6. Other Business
 - a. [Review current license plate grant fund and available funding for fiscal year 2025](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 - b. [Approve to accession “Music on Broadway” to the City of Ocala’s permanent public art collection](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 - c. [Approve to accession “Double Helix” into the City’s permanent public art collection](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 - d. [Review guidelines and process for OMAC’s role in the new East Ocala CRA mural grant program](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 - e. [Approve revised Ocala Public Art Roster open call](#)
Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman
 7. Public Comments
 8. Staff Comments
-

- a. [Approve next OMAC meeting location to Growth Management Training Room on October 1, 2025](#)

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

9. Board Comments
10. Next Meeting: October 1, 2025
11. Adjournment



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1713

Agenda Item #: a.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Motion Ready):

Approve Public Education Foundation of Marion County Grant Application for \$3,500 for the 2025 Ocala Film Derby Application

BACKGROUND:

The Public Education Foundation of Marion County presents the Ocala Film Derby for a third year. The Ocala Film Derby (OFD) is dedicated to fostering creativity, collaboration, and artistic expression through the art of filmmaking. This event brings together teachers, mentors, producers, organizers, and sponsors in a five-day immersion of education and celebration. The OFD creates a platform that empowers and inspires educators, mentors, and students alike to explore the limitless possibilities of filmmaking. Through hands-on workshops, and interaction with industry professionals at all levels and from diverse backgrounds, OFD strives to create a supportive and innovative environment that nurtures artistic growth, storytelling, and technical proficiency. All workshops lead to the “main event” of the OFD, a fast-paced, real world, student film-making competition. Eight teams with eight mentors, and nine hours, will produce eight short films! These student teams will see their films on the big screen, win big awards, and have the opportunity to be a scholarship recipients.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Ocala Cultural Arts received the OMAC grant application for the Ocala Film Derby requesting \$3,500 on June 20, 2025. The \$3,500 funding is the Equipment Pack Sponsorship providing film industry specific equipment for one of the eight competing teams. There are additional funding sources and sponsors including Neighborhood Storage, Lilac Foundation, Angie Lewis State Farm, All About You Realty, and others. This event can proceed with partial funding. The Public Education Foundation of Marion County is a registered 501c3 organization and provided proof of this status. The organization has not received an OMAC grant in the last 12 months or ever. Organization, participants, and events are in Marion County. Funding will be used for allowable expenditures within the grant requirements. The OMAC grant fund has \$4,400 available to spend this fiscal year. Staff recommends approval of grant request.

ALTERNATIVE:

- Approve with Changes
- Table
- Deny



Ocala Municipal Arts Commission Grant Program

OMAC GRANT APPLICATION

Applicant Information:

Applicant Name (Organization or Individual Artist): Public Education Foundation of Marion County

Name of individual to receive correspondence: Meghan Magamoll & Laurie W. Zink

Applicant Mailing Address: Thelma Parker Center 1239 NW 4th Street

City: Ocala State: FL Zip Code: 34475

Phone Number: (352) 671-4167

Email Address: meghan.magamoll@marion.k12.fl.us / lz@zgroup1.com

Application Type:

- ☐ Arts Organization
- ☐ Attached 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt certificate.
 - ☐ Employer Identification Number (EIN): _____
- ☒ Educational Institution
- ☐ Attached IRS or tax-exempt certificate.
 - ☐ Employer Identification Number (EIN): 59-2949915
- ☐ Individual Artist
- ☐ Social Security Number (SSN): _____

Project Information:

Project or Program Name: Ocala Film Derby

Grant Amount Requested: \$ 3,500 Equipment Pack

Can proposed project/program continue with partial funding from OMAC? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Does this project/program have other funding sources? (If yes, please provide details.) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Additional Funding Sources: Neighborhood Storage, Lilac Foundation, Angie Lewis State Farm, All About You Realty + more!

- ☐ Attach itemized budget for proposed project/program. (Can submit own budget sheet or utilize and edit provided budget template. Template provided at end of the application.)



Ocala Municipal Arts Commission Grant Program

OMAC GRANT APPLICATION

Project Description:

****Provide any additional attachments necessary to elaborate on proposed project/program.****

Project/Program Category:

- ☐ Performing Arts (i.e., music, dance, drama, etc.)
- ☒ Visual Arts
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Other: _____

Provide description of proposed program/project.

The Ocala Film Derby (OFD) is dedicated to fostering creativity, collaboration, and artistic expression through the art of filmmaking. This event brings together teachers, mentors, producers, organizers, and sponsors in a five-day immersion of education and celebration. The OFD creates a platform that empowers and inspires educators, mentors and students alike to explore the limitless possibilities of filmmaking.

Through hands-on workshops, and interaction with industry professionals at all levels and from diverse backgrounds, OFD strives to create a supportive and innovative environment that nurtures artistic growth, storytelling, and technical proficiency. All workshops lead to the “main event” of the OFD, a fast-paced, real world, student film-making competition. Eight teams with eight mentors, and nine hours, will produce eight short films! These student teams will see their films on the big screen, win big awards, and have the opportunity to be a scholarship recipients.

Describe anticipated benefits of proposed project/program in Ocala and/or Marion County.

Your support provides essential film making tools to our students with a comprehensive equipment package that aligns with the current industry standard.

Please see the attached sponsorship packet for more information.

Previous OMAC Grant Funding:

Provide details of last project/program funded by OMAC regardless of time. (If applicable.)

Date of funding: _____

Grant amount awarded: \$_____

Name of Project/Program: _____



Tick box if applicant (Arts Organization, Educational Institution, or Individual Artist) received OMAC funding in the last 12 months.

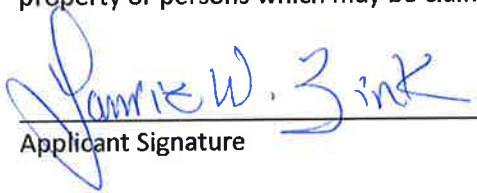


Ocala Municipal Arts Commission Grant Program

OMAC GRANT APPLICATION

Recipient, individual, or authorized agent of the designated organization warrants and guarantees to the City of Ocala that the funds will be used only for the purpose herein specified, at and on the time, dates and location as herein specified, or, if not so used, will be returned to the City of Ocala.

Recipient also agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless, the City of Ocala and all officers and employees of the City of Ocala from and against loss, damage, demand, liability or expense by reason of any damage or injury to property or persons which may be claimed to have arisen as a result of or in connection with these services.


Applicant Signature

Laurie W. Zink, Ocala Film Derby
Applicant Name (Organization or Individual Artist)

Meghan Magamoll, Executive Director of the Public Education Foundation

Organization Contact Name & Title

June 13, 2025

Date

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Received: 4/20/2025

Received previous OMAC funding? ☐ Yes

☒ No

☒ In the last 12 months?

OMAC Action:

☐ Approved

Date: _____

Amount: _____

☐ Not Approved

Invoice Received Date: _____

Invoice Processed Date: _____

Invoice #: _____

Final Report Received Date: _____

Ocala Film Derby Budget 2025

Budget Amount	\$57,255.00
Expenses	\$0.00
Revenue	
Balance	\$57,255.00

Category	Projected Budget	Actual
Awards	\$1,230.00	
Catering	\$7,200.00	
Promotion/Marketing	\$6,700.00	
Equipment	\$24,500.00	
Scholarships	\$15,000.00	
Travel	\$2,100.00	
Meetings	\$350.00	
Miscellaneous	\$175.00	
Total	\$57,255.00	\$0.00

Awards			Scholarships		
	Projected	Actual		Projected	Actual
Judges Choice Award (8)	\$800.00		1	\$6,000.00	
Audience Choice Award (8)	\$800.00		2	\$3,000.00	
Best B-Roll Award (1)	\$100.00		3	\$3,000.00	
Mentors Appreciation (7)	\$1,050.00		4	\$1,500.00	
Photographer Appreciation (2)	\$300.00		5	\$1,500.00	
Judges Appreciation	\$250.00		Total	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Workshop Mentor Appreciation (12)	\$480.00		Travel		
Best Use of Character (8)	\$100.00			Projected	Actual
Best Use of Location (8)	\$300.00		Featured Guest Flight	\$600.00	
Line of Dialog Award	\$100.00		Featured Guest Hotel	\$1,000.00	
Total	\$1,230.00	\$0.00	Additional Guest Costs	\$500.00	
Catering/Facilities			Total	\$2,100.00	\$0.00
	Projected	Actual	Meetings		
Meal Catering	\$5,000.00			Projected	Actual
Pizza Friday Night (Flying Boat)	\$200.00		Meals	\$300.00	
Venue Rental (IHMC)	\$2,000.00		Paper Goods	\$50.00	
Total	\$7,200.00	\$0.00	Total	\$350.00	\$0.00
Promotion/Marketing			Miscellaneous		
	Projected	Actual		Projected	Actual
Website & Social Media - Little Black Mask	\$2,000.00		Supplies	\$175.00	
Graifto - T-shirts, Lanyards, Stickers, Window Clings	\$4,000.00				
Sponsorship Packet Printing	\$400.00				
Flyers	\$300.00				
Total	\$6,700.00	\$0.00			
Equipment					
	Projected	Actual			
Equipment Packs (7 at \$3,500 each)	\$24,500.00				
Total	\$24,500.00	\$0.00	Total	\$175.00	\$0.00



Consumer's Certificate of Exemption

Issued Pursuant to Chapter 212, Florida Statutes

DR-14
R. 01/18

85-8012707622C-8	06/30/2021	06/30/2026	501(C)(3) ORGANIZATION
Certificate Number	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Exemption Category

This certifies that

PUBLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF
MARION COUNTY INC
1239 NW 4TH ST RM 1
OCALA FL 34475-6444

is exempt from the payment of Florida sales and use tax on real property rented, transient rental property rented, tangible personal property purchased or rented, or services purchased.



Important Information for Exempt Organizations

DR-14
R. 01/18

1. You must provide all vendors and suppliers with an exemption certificate before making tax-exempt purchases. See Rule 12A-1.038, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).
2. Your *Consumer's Certificate of Exemption* is to be used solely by your organization for your organization's customary nonprofit activities.
3. Purchases made by an individual on behalf of the organization are taxable, even if the individual will be reimbursed by the organization.
4. This exemption applies only to purchases your organization makes. The sale or lease to others of tangible personal property, sleeping accommodations, or other real property is taxable. Your organization must register, and collect and remit sales and use tax on such taxable transactions. Note: Churches are exempt from this requirement except when they are the lessor of real property (Rule 12A-1.070, F.A.C.).
5. It is a criminal offense to fraudulently present this certificate to evade the payment of sales tax. Under no circumstances should this certificate be used for the personal benefit of any individual. Violators will be liable for payment of the sales tax plus a penalty of 200% of the tax, and may be subject to conviction of a third-degree felony. Any violation will require the revocation of this certificate.
6. If you have questions about your exemption certificate, please call Taxpayer Services at 850-488-6800. The mailing address is PO Box 6480, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6480.



2025 SPONSORSHIP PACKET

www.ocalafilmderby.org



OCALA FILM DERBY

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION: CHAMPION OUR FUTURE FILMMAKERS!

Welcome to the 3rd Annual Ocala Film Derby!
This event brings together creativity,
innovation, and local community support.

We invite you to support your future
employees – filmmakers, digital media,
marketing, and video technology students.
This industry is currently the leading employer.

Support the next generation of storytellers!

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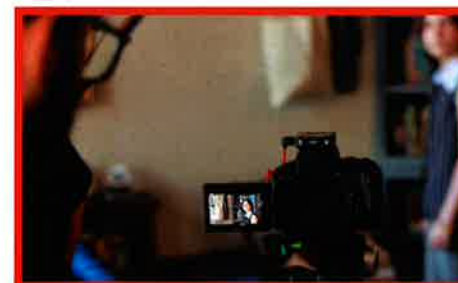


OCALA FILM DERBY

WHAT IS THE OCALA FILM DERBY?

The Ocala Film Derby (OFD) is dedicated to fostering creativity, collaboration, and artistic expression through the art of filmmaking. This event brings together teachers, mentors, producers, organizers, and sponsors in a **five-day immersion** of education and celebration. The OFD creates a platform that **empowers and inspires** educators, mentors and students alike to explore the **limitless possibilities** of filmmaking.

Through **hands-on workshops**, and interaction with **industry professionals** at all levels and from diverse backgrounds, OFD strives to create a supportive and innovative environment that nurtures artistic growth, storytelling, and **technical proficiency**. All workshops lead to the “**main event**” of the OFD, a fast-paced, real world, student film-making competition. Eight teams with eight mentors, and nine hours, will produce eight short films! These student teams will see their films on the big screen, win big awards, and have the opportunity to be a **scholarship** recipients. Join us at the Ocala Film Derby, to be part of an unforgettable experience, where the magic of filmmaking **unites, educators, mentors, and students**, inspiring a new generation of artists to shape the future of filmmaking and the many **career paths** that support storytelling of all kinds.



OCALA FILM DERBY

WHY BECOME A SPONSOR?



Your support provides the resources necessary for interactive workshops with qualified professionals, leadership development, team building, scholarships, and industry standard equipment. Inspire the next generation of community leaders with this impactful event.

- **Support Education:** Give students and teachers a hands-on experience outside of the classroom allowing them to collaborate with each other along with local and national industry professionals, strengthening classroom instruction.
- **Strengthen the Community:** Become part of a vibrant local arts initiative and invest in our future workforce.
- **Exposure for Your Business:** Gain visibility and recognition as a supporter of local students and the arts.



OCALA FILM DERBY

SPONSORSHIP CATEGORIES

1. Event Sponsor

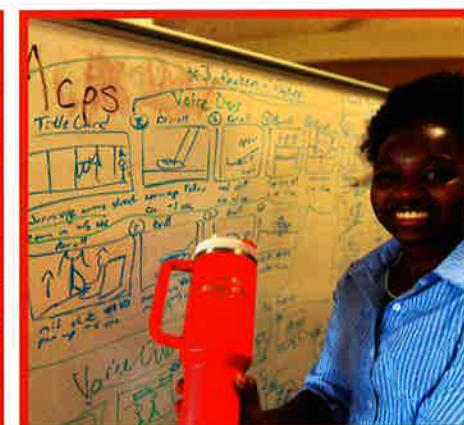
You are essential in making the Ocala Film Derby a memorable and educational experience for all participants as they move forward into their chosen career paths. You play a critical role in ensuring that quality workshops are provided and industry recognized guests are able to attend. Learn more on page 5.

2. Scholarship Sponsor

Provide scholarships to our graduating seniors, enabling them to continue their education and/or pursuit in a related field. You can choose to sponsor one or more scholarships at varying levels. These scholarships must be used for continued education at a trade school or college. Learn more on page 6.

3. Equipment Pack Sponsor

Equipment Pack Sponsors provide essential filmmaking tools to our students. Each sponsor supports one of the filmmaking teams with a comprehensive equipment package that aligns with the current industry standard. Learn more on page 8.



OCALA FILM DERBY

EVENT SPONSORS

Producer (1) - \$7,500

- Digital Video students will create a 30-60 second branded promotional video for your business or personal use.
- Social Media & Website Promotion: Acknowledgment as an Event Sponsor with posts and recognition on our website and social media platforms.
- Swag bags will be provided to participants with your logo.
- Film Credits Recognition: Your business name or logo prominently featured in the credits of all films created.
- Your business will be recognized from the podium at the awards.
- VIP Seating: Reserved seating at the film screening and awards ceremony.
- Backstage Pass to all OFD events and downtown filming.

Director (2) - \$5,000

- Film students will create a 15-30 second branded promotional video for your business or personal use.
- Social Media & Website Promotion: Acknowledgment as an Event Sponsor with posts and recognition on our website and social media platforms.
- Film Credits Recognition: Your business name or logo prominently featured in the credits of all films created.
- Your business will be recognized from the podium at the awards.
- Opportunity to provide a promo item for swag bags.
- VIP Seating: Reserved seating at the film screening and awards ceremony.
- Backstage Pass to all OFD events and downtown filming.

Cinematographer (3) - \$3,000

- Social Media & Website Promotion: Acknowledgment as an Event Sponsor with posts and recognition on our website and social media platforms.
- Opportunity to provide a promo item for swag bags.
- 4 tickets to the film screening and awards ceremony.
- Backstage Pass to all OFD events and downtown filming.

Editors' Cut - \$1,500

- Website Promotion: Acknowledgment as an Event Sponsor on our website.
- Opportunity to provide a promo item for swag bags.
- 2 tickets to the film screening and awards ceremony.

OCALA FILM DERBY

SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

Provide scholarships to select graduating seniors, enabling them to continue their education in a related field.

All scholarships are processed through the Public Education Foundation and must adhere to the Ocala Film Derby objectives:

- Leadership
- Creative Talent/Skill Set
- Employability

2025 Scholarships

OFD will award \$15,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors in the following amounts:

\$6,000 | \$3,000 | \$3,000 | \$1,500 | \$1,500

Benefits for Scholarship Sponsors:

- The scholarship's name will be your choice. (I.e. your business, family name, etc.)
- Your name or logo will be prominently displayed during the award ceremony as a scholarship sponsor.
- Personalized Award Presentation to your recipient with time at the podium.
- Social Media & Website Promotion: Acknowledgment as a Scholarship Sponsor with posts and recognition on our website and social media platforms.
- Opportunity to provide a promo item for swag bags.
- VIP Seating: Reserved seating at the film screening and awards ceremony.
- Backstage Pass to all OFD events and downtown filming.

2024 Scholarship Sponsors:



Lilac Foundation - \$1,000



All About You Real Estate - \$1,500



Angle Lewis State Farm - \$3,000



A Friend of Film - \$6,000

OCALA FILM DERBY

WHAT IS IN THE EQUIPMENT PACK?



OCALA FILM DERBY

EQUIPMENT PACK SPONSORS

\$3,500 per Team

Equipment Pack Sponsors provide standard filmmaking tools to each student filmmaking team with a comprehensive equipment package that allows the students to work with industry specific equipment.

Benefits for Equipment Pack Sponsors:

- **Film Credits Recognition:** Your business name or logo prominently featured in the film credits of the team you sponsor.
- **Business Promotion:**
 - Acknowledgment as a Equipment Pack Sponsor with posts and recognition on our website and social media platforms.
 - Logo will be prominently displayed in the editing station and on the equipment pack of the team you sponsor. This pack will travel with the team during filming in Downtown Ocala.
 - Opportunity to provide a promo item for swag bags.
- **Social Media Shoutout:** Posts thanking you for your generous support with logo and photo of team you sponsor.
- **VIP Seating:** Reserved seating at the film screening and awards ceremony.
- **Your business will be recognized from the podium at the awards.**
- **Backstage Pass** to all OFD events and downtown filming.



OCALA FILM DERBY

HOW TO BECOME A SPONSOR:

To champion our future film makers and support the 3rd Annual Ocala Film Derby. Please fill out the sponsorship form and return it to:

Laurie W. Zink
lz@zgroup1.com
(352) 817-4155

We thank you and look forward to having you join us
September 24 -28, 2025.

We'll see you at the movies!



WE'RE HONORED TO SUPPORT AN EVENT THAT
NURTURES THE NEXT GENERATION OF **STORYTELLERS**
AND CAN'T WAIT TO CONTINUE **MENTORING** AND
COLLABORATING IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Dave Miller + Meagan Gumpert, Mentors

I DEVELOPED **TEAMWORK** SKILLS AND TO THINK
OUTSIDE THE BOX. THIS HAS MADE ME MORE **CREATIVE**
WITH MY FILMS.

Lilla Smith, 8th Grade Student

OCALA FILM DERBY IS BRINGING TOGETHER DIGITAL
VIDEO **EDUCATORS** ACROSS THE DISTRICT. THIS TYPE
OF COLLABORATION CAN ONLY **ELEVATE** THE QUALITY
OF TEACHING AND PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH MORE
DIVERSE **LEARNING** EXPERIENCES.

Marcia Duabenmire, Teacher



www.ocalafilmderbby.org



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1717

Agenda Item #: b.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Motion Ready):

Approve Nehyssa Turenne Grant Application for \$3,000 for her LEAP Through Dance program

BACKGROUND:

Nehyssa Turenne is a local competitive dancer, current Miss Northeast Florida Teen, Third Runner Up at Miss Florida Teen 2025, and performing arts accessibility advocate. Nehyssa is committed to providing accessible dance programming to Marion County youth. Nehyssa created LEAP (Launching Equal Access to the Performing Arts) as a community initiative to offer free dance workshops and mentorship opportunities to children struggling with accessibility or intellectual disability.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Ocala Cultural Arts received the OMAC grant application for Nehyssa Turenne's LEAP Through Dance program requesting \$3,000 on July 23, 2025. Old grant application form with proposal and budget breakdown of \$3,000 funding request for choreography fees, dance costumes, dance shoes and gear, competition entry fees, studio rehearsal rental and coaching, and community dance outreach marketing materials and other supplies. No other funding sources listed. The applicant has not received an OMAC grant in the last 12 months or ever. Staff missing the following information:

- Timeline of program
- Clarification of budget expenses to identify eligibility
- Budget difference of \$2,000 dance-focused only budget versus full \$3,000 budget breakdown
- Location of workshops, program, dance competitions, conventions, pageants funded by grant
- Confirmation of program continuation without full grant funding

This information will assist staff to investigate eligibility for the grant program including permitted allowable expenditures pursuant to Sec. 320.08058 Florida Statutes in order to recommend for approval.

ALTERNATIVE:

- Approve with Changes
- Table
- Deny

Project Proposal: LEAP through Dance – Expanding Access to Dance in Marion County

Submitted by:

Judith Carasco

Parent of Nehyssa Turenne

Marion County Resident

Phone: 352-214-5656 | Email: nehyssaturenne@gmail.com

Date: 07/15/2025

Project Title:

LEAP Through Dance: Empowering Youth and Investing in a Future Choreographer and Dance Studio Owner

Background & Purpose

This proposal seeks funding for \$3,000 to support Nehyssa Turenne, a competitive dancer, current Miss Northeast Florida's Teen, 3rd Runner Up at Miss Florida's Teen 2025, and dedicated arts advocate, as she advances her dance career while giving back to her Marion County community and neighbors.

Nehyssa has been dancing competitively for over 4 years and aspires to become a professional choreographer and dance studio owner. Through dance, she has found discipline, confidence, and a voice. Now she's committed to helping other youth experience the same. Her community initiative, LEAP (Launching Equal Access to the Performing Arts), focuses on offering free dance workshops, mentorship, and inspiration to children, the intellectually challenged, who may not otherwise have access to the arts.

This proposal is not simply about sponsoring a dancer. It's about investing in a young woman who is already impacting her community through dance, and who is driven to build a future where art is accessible to all.

Project Objectives

1. Support Nehyssa's Growth as a Dancer and Future Choreographer: Fund training, costumes, and choreography needs are essential to her advancement in competitive dance and public performances.
2. Enable Community Dance Outreach Through LEAP: Provide materials and support for free workshops and classes targeting under-resourced youth in Marion County.
3. Use Dance as a Vehicle for Leadership, Advocacy, and Mentorship: Support her as a youth leader using dance to empower others and advocate for equal access to arts education.
- 4.

Funding Request: \$2,000 (Dance-Focused Budget Only)

Dance-Related Expense	Amount
Choreography Fees (competition & pageant talent)	\$700
Dance Costumes (solo, talent routine, outreach)	\$450
Dance Shoes & Gear (jazz, lyrical, hip-hop, sneakers)	\$400
Competition Entry Fees (solo + conventions)	\$650
Studio Rehearsal Rental & Coaching	\$550
Community Dance Outreach (workshop supplies, music, fliers)	\$250
Total	<u>\$3,000</u>

Impact on the Community

- Offer 5 to 6 free community dance workshops for youth in underserved areas.
- Engage over 100 local children and teens through LEAP programs by the end of the year
- Provide inspiration and mentorship for young dancers, including those with ADHD or financial barriers
- Position Nehyssa as a positive role model and emerging leader in both the dance world and her local community

Recognition for Sponsors

Sponsors contributing \$200 or more will be:

- Publicly acknowledged on Nehyssa's Instagram (@nehyssa.turenne) and at community dance events
- Listed on all printed materials related to LEAP outreach and LEAP platform @leapforthearts
- Sent a personalized thank-you letter with photos and updates from her dance journey
- Invited to attend a LEAP event or performance.

Conclusion

Dance is more than movement; it's a path to purpose, leadership, and community impact. Nehyssa Turenne is proof of that. She is not only striving to become a professional choreographer, but she's already using dance to uplift others through her LEAP initiative.

Your support will help her continue competing, training, and, most importantly, giving back through dance. We are grateful for your consideration and welcome you as a partner in her journey.

Warm regards,



Judith Carasco

On behalf of Nehyssa Turenne, Miss Northeast Florida's Teen, 3rd Runner up at Miss Florida Teen 2025.

GRANT APPLICATION

Name of Arts or Educational Organization or Individual Artist: Nehyssa J Turenne
Name of Program or Project: Leaf Through Dance - Expanding Access to
Dance in Marion County
Grant Amount Requested \$ 3,000.00

Application for:

- ☐ Arts Organization Must provide copy of IRS letter or Tax Exempt Certificate.
☐ Educational Institution Must provide copy of IRS letter or Tax Exempt Certificate.
☒ Individual Artists Must provide Social Security # _____.

Has the Art Organization, Educational Institution, or Individual Artist previously received funds from the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission? If so, provide the below listed information regarding the last project/program for which funding was received from the Arts Commission.

Date: _____ Amount \$ _____

Name of Program/Project: NA

Address: 4900 SW 46th Ct Apt 1605
Ocala FL 34474

Telephone: 352-214 5656 Email: Carasco1377@gmail.com

Contact Person: Judith Carasco

Discipline Category: ☒ Performing Arts (i.e., dance/drama)
☐ Visual Arts
☐ Literature
☐ Music
☐ Other _____

Recipient, individual or authorized agent of the designated organization warrants and guarantees to the City of Ocala that the funds will be used only for the purpose herein specified, at and on the time, dates and location as herein specified, or, if not so used, will be returned to the City of Ocala.

Recipient also agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless, the City of Ocala and all officers and employees of the City of Ocala from and against loss, damage, demand, liability or expense by reason of any damage or injury to property or persons which may be claimed to have arisen as a result of or in connection with these services.

Nehyssa Turenne
Applicant Signature

Print Name: _____
Print Title: _____

Applicant Name: Nehyssa Turenne

Program Name: _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Received _____

If this organization/individual previously received OMAC funding, has all follow-up documentation been received? ☐ Yes ☐ No, Explain _____

OMAC Action:

☐ Approved Date of Approval _____ Amount Approved \$ _____

☐ Not Approved for Funding

Date Paid _____ Check # _____



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1718

Agenda Item #: a.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

Review updates for approved Ocala Main Street vacant storefront mural program

BACKGROUND:

Ocala Main Street (OMS) submitted a grant application and requested \$3,500 toward their Vacant Storefront Activation mural program on December 4, 2024. Ocala Municipal Arts Commission (OMAC) approved partial funding of \$1,000 for the current confirmed building vacancies on December 4, 2024. OMAC requested an updated timeline and additional Fine Arts For Ocala (FAFO) funding from OMS prior to payment. OMS did not receive any additional funding from FAFO for this program. OMS has not provided any additional timeline at this time for the program, including the open call for artists.

OMAC and City staff require a timeline update and number invoice to process payment for the OMS grant request. OMAC grant guidelines permit 12 months for grant approval and payment distribution before expiration.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

N/A



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1720

Agenda Item #: a.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

Review current license plate grant fund and available funding for fiscal year 2025

BACKGROUND:

The City through the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission (OMAC) disburses funding from the state of Florida through the Florida Arts License Plates pursuant to Section 320.08058 (12) for Marion County. The City receives all funds in a designated account 001-334-000-000-09-33718. City Cultural Arts staff update OMAC each meeting on the current balance of this account and available funds designated within the current fiscal year.

The current balance of the account is \$10,385.72. The funds available to spend in Fiscal Year 2025 is \$4,400.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

N/A

Current Balance:

Total: \$11,385.72 with -\$1,000 pending = \$10,385.72 (7/25)

Available to spend FY2025: \$4,400.00 (includes Ocala Main Street \$1,000 pending payment)



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1721

Agenda Item #: b.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Motion Ready):

Approve to accession “Music on Broadway” to the City of Ocala’s permanent public art collection

BACKGROUND:

Ocala Municipal Arts Commission (OMAC) approved Ocala Cultural Arts public art proposal to replace the Marion Cultural Alliance (MCA) mural awning on October 2, 2024. The public art project occurred during the 2025 Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series in March through May 2025. Five artists were selected through an open call to paint two aluminum awning panels at the concerts throughout the series with the help of the public. Each panel highlights a different genre of music featured during the concert series. The panels were completed by June 2025. The title for the ten awning panels is “Music on Broadway.”

A public artist meet-and-greet occurred at the Brick City Center for the Arts located at 23 SW Broadway Street on Friday, July 11 prior to the awning installation on Monday, July 14, 2025.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Each panel was clear coated with an automotive, UV resistant paint by Zeak Technique, Inc. “Music on Broadway” is in excellent condition. The total commission value is \$9,205.

Staff recommends approval to formally accession “Music on Broadway” into the City of Ocala’s permanent public art collection, in line with the City’s Public Art Policy and City Strategic Goal - Quality of Place.

ALTERNATIVE:

- Approve with Changes
- Table
- Deny

Accession Form

Accession Number:	2025.2.1 PA-MUR-020		
Accession Date:	7/14/2025		
Title:	Music on Broadway		
Artist(s):	Arianna Leon Uberti, George Tripp, Jordan Jones, Lillian Hart, Tracie Thompson		
Medium:	Acrylic on aluminum		
Dimensions:	Each panel is 36" x 54", total piece is approximately 370" x 54" broken up in two sets of five panels		
Location:	Front façade of Marion Cultural Alliance at Brick City Center for the Arts, 23 SW Broadway St, Ocala, FL 34471		
Acquisition Method:	<input type="checkbox"/> Purchase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
Donor Details:	N/A – City commission as part of the 2025 Levitt AMP Ocala Music Series		
City Council Approval:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Agenda Item: _____ Date: _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Value:	\$9,205		
Acquisition Price:	\$9,205		
Capital Asset Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Date submitted to Finance: _____ Asset tag#: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Restrictions:	None		

Description of Artwork/Collection (scope and content):

Ten painted aluminum panels (each 36" x 54") curated into two sets of five panels to create a functional awning for front façade of Marion Cultural Alliance at Brick City Center for the Arts. Each painted panel depicts a different genre of music corresponding with a separate concert for the 2025 Levitt AMP Music Series. Genres depicted and curated in order of concerts are Soul/Funk, Afro-Cuban Jazz, Mexican Folk, Bluegrass, Punk/Rock, Blues, Country, Reggae, Llanera, Gospel. Five artists Arianna Leon Uberti, George

Tripp, Jordan Jones, Lillian Hart, Tracie Thompson selected through open call to design and paint two panels during concerts with public assistance/participation.

Condition of acquisition:

☒ Excellent

☐ Good

☐ Fair

☐ Poor

☐ Terrible

☐ Damaged

Other Notes:

Artists were contract exceptions with City. Panels acquired and prepared through Zeak Technique, Inc.

OMAC Review:



mca
miami cultural alliance

ART IN THE ATTIC
YART SALE
ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT
mca

Art Gallery

Gallery Gift Shop

Brick City
Center for the Arts
mca

Art Gallery

Local Artists

23
The Shop
at The Brick

Gift Shop

NO CARTS
BEYOND
THIS
POINT



DO NOT
ENTER

DEALS
PAINTING
ART SUPPLIES
HOME DECOR
UNIQUE FINDS
& MORE!

ART IN THE
YAH SA
ANNUAL FUNDRAIS

FALL
WEEK

Revival





Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1722

Agenda Item #: c.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Motion Ready):

Approve to accession “Double Helix” into the City’s permanent public art collection

BACKGROUND:

Every other year Ocala Cultural Arts presents the Ocala Outdoor Sculpture Competition where ten sculptures are selected through an open call and displayed at Tuscawilla Park and Art Park for a two-year short-term loan. The City seeks to acquire one sculpture through donation or purchase each cycle and add it to the permanent public art collection. “Double Helix” by Hanna Jubran is one of the ten sculptures selected in the 2024-2025 Ocala Outdoor Sculpture Competition. “Double Helix” is a free-standing stainless-steel sculpture of abstracted DNA double helix structure that is encapsulated by the infinite universe unifying macro and microcosms balancing movement, space, and time.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Staff contacted artist Hanna Jubran in June 2025 about availability of “Double Helix” and possible acquisition into the City’s permanent public art collection. On June 20, 2025, the City purchased “Double Helix” from Hanna Jubran to bolster the collection and fulfill the following goals of the Public Art Program:

- Diversify the collection with a new artist - Hanna Jubran
- Diversify the collection with a new sculpture style and concept - abstract, scientific merging of biology and physics
- Include works supporting diverse community and audience interests - Science, educational
- Appropriate site selection - relocate to in front of Discovery Center on empty concrete pad to compliment the center’s pursuit of scientific and learning opportunities to Ocala’s youth
- Ability to withstand Florida’s climate over time - “Double Helix” is in excellent condition
- Minimal maintenance requirements - stainless steel with minimal paint

As a result of these findings and accession form, staff recommends approval to formally accession “Double Helix” into the City of Ocala’s permanent public art collection, in line with the City’s Public Art Policy and City Strategic Goal - Quality of Place.

ALTERNATIVE:

- Approve with Changes
- Table
- Deny

Accession Form

Accession Number:	2023.53.1 PA-SCU-021		
Accession Date:	6/20/2025		
Title:	Double Helix		
Artist:	Hanna Jubran		
Medium:	Stainless steel, painted sculpture		
Dimensions:	9.6' x 3' x 3'		
Location:	Tuscaawilla Park along Watula Ave. between NE 5 th Street and NE 9 th Street		
Acquisition Method:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Loan		
Donor Details:	N/A – purchased from artist		
City Council Approval:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Agenda Item: _____ Date: _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Value:	\$16,000		
Acquisition Price:	\$16,000		
Capital Asset Acquisition:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes Date submitted to Finance: __6/27/2025__ Asset tag#: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Restrictions:	None		

Description of Artwork/Collection (scope and content):

Free standing steel sculpture of abstracted DNA double helix structure encapsulated by the infinite universe with blue and red painted accent lines and DNA markers/chromosomes unifying macro and microcosms.

Condition of acquisition:

☒ Excellent

☐ Good

☐ Fair

☐ Poor

☐ Terrible

☐ Damaged

Other Notes:

Originally temporary short-term loan sculpture as part of the 2024-2025 Ocala Outdoor Sculpture Competition before permanent acquisition.

OMAC Review:



PUBLIC ART
DO NOT
CLIMB



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1725

Agenda Item #: d.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

Review guidelines and process for OMAC's role in the new East Ocala CRA mural grant program

BACKGROUND:

On February 5, 2025, staff presented a mural project proposal from artist Justin Alsedek for the Neighborhood Storage's façade along Eighth Avenue for review and recommendation to proceed. This project was the first test pilot project to create an approved pathway for the creation of the East Ocala Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) mural grant and define OMAC's responsibility to review and assess artists and projects. OMAC recommended this mural project to the East Ocala CRA. On April 2, 2025, OMAC reviewed and discussed the new East Ocala CRA Mural Grant Guidelines and OMAC's role in this process as an arts advisory committee. On July 15, 2025, the East Ocala CRA approved the Mural Grant Guidelines and application process. Justin Alsedek's Neighborhood Storage CRA mural grant application proceeds with OMAC's recommendation.

Future East Ocala CRA grant applications for murals will utilize the following process:

1. Business and/or property owner submits application to East Ocala CRA Commercial Building Improvement Grant for a mural with approved Mural Guidelines. Cultural Arts Artist Project Detail Sheet and Public Artist Roster materials should be submitted at the same time.
2. Economic Development and Cultural Arts staff review application and submitted materials for eligibility and completeness.
3. Cultural Arts Division presents CRA application and mural project details to OMAC for review and recommendation. Any Public Artist Roster materials will also be presented to OMAC at this time for inclusion on the Roster if applicable.
4. OMAC considers overall project and artist, provides insight and/or concerns, and votes on recommendation to proceed. OMAC must vote to approve artist to Roster if not registered at this time.
5. OMAC's vote and considerations presented to the East Ocala CRA Advisory Committee for recommendation.
6. Successful mural grant application recommendations proceed to the East Ocala CRA Board for final approval and grant award.
7. OMAC will be updated on mural project status.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

N/A



Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

CRA Subarea: East Ocala

Program Summary

Commercial Building Improvement Grant

ELIGIBLE AREA

Designated Gateway Corridors (Major Roadways) in East Ocala Redevelopment Area as shown on attached map.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANT

Property Owner, or business owner with property owner's approval.

ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES

- Taxable ad valorem properties – property taxes must be paid up to date.
- Property must be used for business, i.e., retail, office, and manufacturing.
- Existing businesses must have an active Business Tax Receipt.
- Eligible zoning districts: **B-Business; O-Office; RO – Residential Office, FBC – Form Based Code, SC-Shopping Center, M-Manufacturing.**
- Existing commercial buildings only; not for new construction.

ELIGIBLE & PRIORITY WORK

Work elements in order of priority are:

- Vacant building being converted to active use.
- New signs following design guidelines; including removal of existing inappropriate signs.
- Creative incorporation of public murals on one street frontage.
- Windows, doors, awnings and façade enhancements.
- Security & Safety lighting (Exterior)
- Repainting (Exterior)
- New landscaping areas.
- Parking lot pavement resurfacing or resealing and restriping.

MAXIMUM GRANT

\$50,000 *(Final project costs must be more than \$83,335 to receive maximum amount.)*

REQUIRED MATCH

CRA **(60%)** – Applicant **(40%)**

GUIDELINES – MURALS

Purpose: These guidelines outline the process and requirements for applicants seeking CRA funding for murals, with a focus on defining the responsibilities of both artists and property owners. The program is available to property owners and limited to non-residential and mixed-use buildings within the CRA subarea.

Design and Location Requirements

- A conceptual design for the mural must be submitted for review.
- Murals must be incorporated on one street frontage. Staff will evaluate the proposed location to ensure it is appropriate.
- Per Section 122-968, City of Ocala Code of Ordinances, a no-fee permit is required for any public art and is subject to review for compliance with the City's public art policy.

Maintenance and Quality Standards

- Murals funded by the program must be maintained by the property owner for at least five (5) years.
- The final product must be sealed with an ultraviolet, fade-resistant clear coat.
- The grant application includes an acknowledgment from the property owner regarding the maintenance requirement.

Prohibited Content

- Murals may not include:
 - Advertisements for goods, services, or merchandise associated with adjacent businesses.
 - Alcohol, tobacco, adult entertainment, or any obscene or offensive materials.
- Letters, numerals, logos, emblems, or figures used to promote businesses are not allowed.

Consequences of Non-Compliance

- If the applicant fails to meet the guidelines and criteria for mural installation, the application will not be funded.
- The applicant will be required to remove the mural or photo at their sole expense.

Submission Requirements

- Due to the specialized nature of mural projects, one quote may be provided for this particular work item. Two quotes must be submitted for all other work items.
- The quote must include an itemized list of expenses, such as artist fees, materials, insurance, wall preparation, sealing, scaffolding, etc.
- In addition to the other submittals detailed in the Program Guide, Applicants must provide:
 - Images of color rendering or proposed mural project.

- Images of the site and building where the mural/photo will be placed.

Artist Participation

- All participating artists must be active members of the Public Art Roster.
- Staff maintains a registry of artists for the roster, updated annually through submissions solicited via the City's website, distributed press releases, and promotion on arts platforms such as Americans for the Arts. Admission to the roster is not an endorsement of the artist.

Application Review Process

- All applications must be reviewed at scheduled meetings of the Ocala Municipal Arts Commission (OMAC) before being presented to the CRA Advisory Committee and the CRA Board.
- OMAC members evaluate the conceptual design for the mural and may consider:
 - Size, shape, location, configuration, and use of the building/site.
 - Formal and stylistic elements, materials, and thematic harmony of the project.
 - Feasibility of the project.

OMAC Recommendation

- Staff will seek a recommendation from OMAC for approval or denial based on the considerations stated above.
- Staff may negotiate changes to submissions due to community feedback, space constraints, time limitations, or other factors.

7/28/25

Mus 7 25/1

**CITY OF OCALA EAST OCALA REDEVELOPMENT AREA
COMMERCIAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENT GRANT
APPLICATION**

(Completed application and all required attachments must be submitted)

PROJECT INFORMATION

Business / Project Name: NSC 8th Ave, LLC
Project Address: 1525 NE 8th Ave Ocala FL 34470
Parcel Number: 2600-028-000

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant's Name: NSC 8th Ave, LLC
Name of person to receive all correspondence if different from applicant:
Veronica Bass
Applicant's Business Name (if applicable): Neighborhood Storage
Type of business: self storage / workspace
Applicant's Mailing Address: 1525 NE 8th Ave
City: Ocala State: FL Zip: 34470
Phone number: 352-414-1645 Fax: _____
E-mail address: Storage1@NeighborhoodStorage.com
Applicant is the ☒ Property Owner ☐ Business Owner/Tenant
How long has the business been at the current location? 2008
If renter, when does your current lease expire? _____

PROPERTY OWNER INFORMATION (if different from applicant)

Property Owner's Name: NSC 8th Ave, LLC
Property Owner's Business Name (if applicable): Neighborhood Storage
Property Owner's Mailing Address: 1525 NE 8th Ave
City: Ocala State: FL Zip: 34470
Phone number: 352-414-1645 Fax: _____
E-mail address: Storage 1 @ Neighborhood Storage .com

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

If necessary, attach additional sheets addressing the following

Describe the existing or proposed business. Multitude of businesses
and neighborhood storage

Explain the purpose of and need for the proposed improvements. _____
see attached

Would the proposed improvements be made without the assistance of the grant program? If not, please explain. no

Number and types of jobs being created. n/a

What will be the business hours of operation? 9-5

For projects with residential component - number and types of units being created. n/a

PROJECT COSTS & SCHEDULE

Estimated cost of project based on attached submitted low bid(s). \$22,660

Required -- Attach itemized bid sheets. ☒

How much funding assistance are you requesting? \$13,500

Anticipated start date: Oct

Anticipated completion date: January

SCOPE OF WORK CHECKLIST

(Check all that apply)

East Ocala CRA

- ☐ Vacant building being converted to active use;
- ☐ New signs following design guidelines; including removal of existing inappropriate signs
- ☐ New landscape area – reimbursement to be made 90 days after installation
- ☐ Exterior painting – colors must be approved by Committee
- ☐ Awnings
- ☐ Windows, doors
- ☐ Parking lot pavement sealing & striping
- ☐ Exterior security & safety lighting

☒ mural

Applicant

I, NSC 8th Ave., LLC, business owner/tenant of the building at
1521 NE 8th Avenue, have read and understand the terms and
conditions of the Program and agree to the general conditions and terms outlined in the application
process and guidelines of the Program.

Signature [Signature] Date 7/24/25

Owner Approval for Tenant Applicant

I, NSC 8th Ave., LLC, owner of the building at
1521 NE 8th Ave., LLC, have read and understand the terms and
conditions of the Program and agree to the general conditions and terms outlined in the application
process and guidelines of the Program. I give my consent to the applicant to move forward with
improvements on the building as outlined in the Scope of Work section of this
application.

Signature [Signature] Date 7/24/25

Property Information – For staff use only

Is the property assessed Marion County property taxes?	Y / N
Are property taxes paid up to date?	Y / N
Is the property in condemnation or receivership?	Y / N
Is there an active City code enforcement case on the property?	Y / N
Is the building on the National Register of Historic Places	Y / N

Purpose of Proposed Mural

The proposed mural at 1521 NE 8th Avenue aligns closely with the goals of the East Ocala CRA by advancing beautification, place-making, and economic revitalization efforts in the district. Featuring vivid imagery of local wildlife, native flora, and symbolic elements of growth and community, the mural is designed to celebrate East Ocala's cultural and environmental identity. Positioned on a small business center along a visible corridor, the mural will transform a plain façade into a point of pride that encourages foot traffic, supports existing businesses, and enhances the visual appeal of the neighborhood. By promoting public art and improving the aesthetic character of the built environment, this project supports the CRA's broader mission to foster community engagement, attract investment, and stimulate economic activity in East Ocala.



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1726

Agenda Item #: e.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Motion Ready):
Approve revised Ocala Public Art Roster open call

BACKGROUND:

On December 4, 2024, staff presented and proposed a new open call for the Artist Roster, a directory of visual artists around the country approved by OMAC to be shortlisted for public art projects, both city and private initiatives. OMAC directed staff to create new written call for consideration. Staff presented a draft of the Artist Roster open call on June 4, 2025, and discussed a possible timeline for the call and application review. OMAC tabled motion recommending edits and other city examples.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

Staff updated the Ocala Artist Roster open call with the following information:

- Application Requirements
 - 8-10 images of separate works
 - Artwork information for each image/artwork to include project budget, project timeline, and description of concept
 - Removal of short descriptive statement document as included in artwork information request
 - Artist statement to include artist focus, preferred medium and project types, and capability to meet project timelines and budgets
- Selection Process
 - Update criteria by removing “Professional Workmanship” and incorporating it into “Experience” category with capability to complete a project for a total of 15 points.
- Duration of Artist Roster listing for 4-5 years, until the next open call cycle
- Option for artists to not renew listing
- Incorporation of informal rolling application for local artists with biannual OMAC approval for CRA mural grant applications

Staff recommends approval of revised Ocala Public Art Roster open call and process pending any additional changes for implementation in January 2026.

ALTERNATIVE:

- Approve with Changes
- Table
- Deny

Program Overview

The City of Ocala Public Artist Roster is a pre-qualified list of professional visual artists that serves as a resource for public art selection and commission at the City and as a reference for external organizations and private entities. The Roster may be used in combination with an open call, invitational or as the sole resource for identifying appropriate artists/teams for select projects based on an expedited selection process, need for specific skillset, or a curated opportunity. For each project, the qualifications of the artists will be reviewed by the Ocala Municipal Art Commission (OMAC) and recommended for final approval by City staff.

Applications to the call are reviewed on the artist's experience and portfolio. Previously accepted roster artists do not need to reapply but may update their portfolio materials as they see fit.

There is no application fee.

Eligibility Criteria

You are eligible to apply to the Ocala Public Artist Roster if you:

- Are a professional visual artist or an artist team/collective. (Teams of up to five artists may apply. Team members cannot apply as individual artists. If submitting as a team, portfolios should include works created by the team and not those of the individuals on the team.)
- Live in the United States or have the legal ability to work in the United States.
- Create public art or artwork well suited for public spaces and have experience creating public art in one of the following categories:
 - **Public Art** – for artists/ teams that create large scale murals or standalone works for the public environment that are permanent or temporary in nature and whose works possess the appropriate durability for the art's lifespan.
 - **Interactive/Media Arts** – for artists/teams that focus on work that is either produced, modified, and/or transmitted by means of digital technologies, such as video/photography, monitor/LED screens, projections, virtual reality, augmented reality, sound installations, and locative media.
 - **Integrated/Infrastructure** – for artist/teams with design practices that can be integrated into a wide range of projects including building design, works integrated into City buildings, Public Works projects, and works incorporated into landscape design.
 - **Creative Placemaking** – for artists/teams that focus on engagement through personal interaction and/or ephemeral artwork which facilitates collaboration between artists, organizations, and communities. This category will serve as a resource for artist-driven community engagement that occurs during events, community building, or community planning events.

Artist Responsibilities

If you apply for the Roster, it means you are willing to:

- Design and propose artworks - Project managers, professional conservators, and local stakeholders all may be involved in the review and approval of your work

- Travel to the project site - You should be prepared to meet with selection committees and project managers up to three times during the proposal and design process (Virtual accommodations will be determined on a case-by-case basis)
- Work within fixed budgets and/or provide basic and final estimates as requested during the contract process
- Work with committees - Committees often include non-arts professionals
- Work on teams with other artists hired for the same project
- Maintain registration as a City of Ocala vendor- You must adhere to relevant City and State permitting and licensing requirements. This includes those relating to sub-contracting and the paying of prevailing wages.
- Enter into contracts with the City of Ocala- You must fulfill contract requirements, including paying applicable taxes and insurance requirements, providing appropriate insurance and warranties as necessary, and providing documents in a timely manner as requested by the Project Manager. Other terms and stipulations of contract will vary based on project.

Application Requirements

- Current contact information
- 8-10 images of separate selections of artworks (.jpg, .jpeg, or .png at 72 dpi minimum, uncompressed)
- Artwork information for each image in .docx or .pdf format (title, date, dimensions, medium, project cost/budget, commissioning agency, project timeline, timespan/life of the work if limited, location of work, and description of artwork concept)
- Artist's Statement .docx or .pdf format (one page including artist focus, preferred medium and project types, and capability to meet project timelines and budgets)
- Artist Resume .docx or .pdf format (two pages maximum)

Selection Process

The Ocala Municipal Arts Commission (OMAC) is an advisory agency to local city and county government as well as local citizens for all artistic and cultural development in Ocala and Marion County. OMAC consists of eleven members appointed by the Ocala City Council who represent local arts and cultural organizations including: College of Central Florida, Fine Arts For Ocala, Marion County School Board, Marion Cultural Alliance, Ocala Civic Theatre, and Ocala Symphony Orchestra. OMAC will review all completed qualifying applications and score entries based on the following criteria:

- Experience (15 points). Evidence of the artist's ability to execute Public Art Projects according to their medium on past projects. There is a demonstrated ability to execute concepts. Capability to complete a project on time and on budget.
- Artistic Excellence (15 points). The body of work shows a strong quality and clear artistic perspective. Demonstrative workmanship and elevated execution. The body of work presents unique perspectives and/or innovative methods.

Applications without all the stated criteria and requirements will not be considered for selection. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Entries with a score of 20 and above will be recommended for the Ocala Artist Roster. Approved artists will remain on the roster for 4-5 years, until the next open call where artists can reapply with updates or not renew. Artists can request removal from the Roster at any time in writing.

Unsuccessful applicants may appeal the decision. We comply with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations concerning civil and human rights. You can review the City of Ocala's policy regarding accessibility, diversity, and nondiscrimination on our City of Ocala website.

Additional Information:

Inclusion on the roster does not guarantee a public art commission or that the artist will be contacted about all available opportunities including open calls. Acceptance of an application from an artist does not constitute any form of contract or agreement for the exhibition.

The City of Ocala reserves the right to request additional information from artists and make changes/clarifications to the call if necessary. Limitations include the right to cancel, amend to alter the call, its contents, or the selection process.

By applying, the applicant warrants and represents the originality of all ideas and statements in the artwork applicant submits to the City for review. Applicant warrants and represents that applicants' artwork submitted to the City for review will not directly or indirectly violate the privacy, right to publicity, copyright, or other legal rights of any person or entity, or commit any libel, slander, of any person or entity. The applicant represents that all copyright holders have consented, in writing, to applicants' submissions of artwork and City's use of the artwork during the review process. By applying, the applicant agrees that their name and contact information can be released by the City to third parties for the purpose of professional artist opportunities in their capacity as an artist.

Applicants agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Ocala, and all of its City Council, boards and commissions, its officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all loss, liabilities, damages, judgments, actions, costs, claims and expenses (including attorney fees) arising out of or resulting from the breach by applicant of the above-mentioned warranties and representations.

All data submitted to the City of Ocala is governed by the State of Florida Sunshine Laws.

Contact:

Emily Parkman, Cultural Arts Supervisor, City of Ocala Cultural Arts at artinfo@ocalafl.gov, 352-629-8447.

ArtsWA 2025 Public Artist Roster Application Worksheet

Use this worksheet to organize your materials before applying on the [Submittable](#) platform. This will allow you to spell-check, confirm word counts, and easily copy and paste into the application.

Tell us about yourself | Limit to 250 words

Please tell us about yourself. You can include details about your life experience, training, education, mentors, teachers, places lived, career milestones, shows, exhibitions, past projects, etc. If there are parts of your identities that inform your experience, please tell us how.

Please proofread your bio carefully. It may be read aloud and/or reviewed in assessing your work.

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Artist's Statement | Limit to 250 words

Describe the focus of your art practice. You can share the materials you like to work with and the concepts, ideas, or experiences that inform your process in creating art.

Please proofread your statement carefully. It may be read aloud and/or reviewed in assessing your work.

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Information for Portfolio Image 1

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	

Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	
About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	

Information for Portfolio Image 2

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	
Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	
About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	

Information for Portfolio Image 3

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	
Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	

About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	
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Information for Portfolio Image 4

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	
Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	
About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	

Information for Portfolio Image 5

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	
Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	
About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	

Information for Portfolio Image 6

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	
Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	
About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	

Information for Portfolio Image 7

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	
Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	
About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	

Information for Portfolio Image 8

Title	
Date Completed	
Materials	
Dimensions	
Commissioned by (if not commissioned, state N/A)	
Installation location (place and/or city)	
Total project cost (design, fabrication, and installation, or if studio work, state N/A)	
Is the artwork temporary, permanent, or studio work?	
Did you work with any collaborators on this project? If so, who and what were their roles?	
About the artwork (describe concepts, symbolism, ideas, context, etc. in 100 words or less)	



Ocala

Legislation Text

110 SE Watula Avenue
Ocala, FL 34471

www.ocalafl.gov

File #: 2025-1728

Agenda Item #: a.

Submitted By: Emily Parkman

Presentation By: Cultural Arts Supervisor, Emily Parkman

Department: Growth Management

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (Motion Ready):

Approve next OMAC meeting location to Growth Management Training Room on October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND:

City Hall second floor renovations will begin in mid-September 2025 and occur for a few weeks. These renovations will interfere with OMAC's October 1 meeting date.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

The Growth Management Training Room located in the Customer Service Building at 201 SE 3rd St, 2nd Floor, Ocala, FL 34471 is available on October 1 for OMAC's meeting. Staff reserved this Training Room for the next meeting to prevent other room bookings. Staff recommends approval to relocate the OMAC October 1 meeting to the Growth Management Training Room.

ALTERNATIVE:

- Approve with Changes
- Table
- Deny

Relocation of OMAC's October 1 meeting to Growth Management

City Hall second floor renovations starting in September and will impact all meetings in Council Chambers. OMAC's meeting can be relocated to:

Customer Service Building, Growth Management Training Room

201 SE 3rd St, 2nd Floor, Ocala, FL 34471

OMAC approves relocation?