



Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County 1025 Escobar Street, 4th Floor, Martinez, CA 94553
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FY 21-22 Work Plan

The Arts and Commission of Contra Costa County is determined to deliver signature programs, initiatives, and grant opportunities as we adjust to the pandemic. For July 2021- July 2022, the *FY21-22 Work Plan* prioritizes the following grants, programs, and initiatives:

1. *Measure X*
2. *Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County* (Venture Capital Rebudget and Arts and Cultural Organizations General Operating Relief CAC grant)
3. *Impact Projects* (CAC grant)
4. *Jump StArts* (CAC grant)
5. *ABOUTFACE*
6. *Poetry Out Loud*
7. *Youth Advisor*
8. *Art Passages*

Executive Summary:

- The *FY21-22 Work Plan* features two estimates with charts: timelines and budget.
- *Measure X* and *Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County* will be top FY21-22 priority in securing staff, stabilizing programs, and new initiatives.
- The pandemic and funding will determine the final outcome of grants, programs, and initiatives.

Mission: The Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County is dedicated to advancing the arts in a way that promotes communication, education, appreciation and collaboration throughout Contra Costa County so that we may grow creatively as a community that preserves and celebrates our diverse cultural expression.

Guiding Principles

1. Increase Engagement: We envision our signature programs and initiatives identify the needs of the diverse and vibrant population from each Contra Costa County district.

2. Increase Outreach: Our signature programs and initiatives utilize new and innovative artistic practices to tap into the diversity of our cultures.

3. Increase Community Awareness: Our signature programs and initiatives enhance the Arts and Culture Commission's visibility as art advocates and highlight the importance of a better understanding of all communities.

4. Increase Community Awareness of County Arts Resources: Residents will be made aware of the cultural resources that the Arts and Culture Commission provides through announcements, social media, and public awareness along with partnerships with art museums, centers, and organizations.

5. Conduct a Community Evaluation: The arts encourage a healthy environment in which communities become participants in the process. The goal is to engage in strategic discourse to hear the needs of the community and provide the support necessary to embrace the creative process. Intersectionality is the awareness of our differences and seeking to achieve a common purpose.

Descriptions

1. **Measure X:** Measure X is a new Contra Costa County sales tax in which a resident board will be making spending recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Contra Costa County has the 3rd largest population in the Bay Area with the lowest arts budget. On July 28th, the Arts and Culture Commission presented a \$625,000 ask to secure staff and signature programs (examples below) including transformational ideas such as *District Public Art Program*, *Youth Advisor* in each District, *Arts Connection*, *Community Art Fund*, *AIRS* (Artist-in-Residency in the School) pilot program, and *Build Structures*.
2. **Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County (Venture Capital Rebudget and Arts and Cultural Organizations General Operating Relief CAC grant):** Calls for racial equity and social justice in a time of a historical pandemic, highlight the need to recalibrate our focus. Requests for district art projects along with Contra County County government and organization collaborations have increased. In order to succeed, uplift, and meet the needs of all communities, we must garner sustained policy support through example. Our new request shifts to a community action plan highlighting the value of art by creating an updated *Arts & Culture Prospectus for Contra Costa County* that identifies a district art project.
3. **Impact Projects (CAC grant):** With California Arts Council support, the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County seeks an *Impact Projects* grant for an Utility Box Art Program. Artists partner with local organizations to create a design highlighting systemic/structural racism, education, poverty, cultural/social justice, or environmental sustainability in response to COVID-19.
4. **Jump StArts (CAC grant):** With support from the California Arts Council, the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County will develop an art project in partnership with Juvenile Hall and the Office of Reentry & Justice to serve justice-involved youth. Two community workshops and public presentation will identify a strategy, actions, and timeline.
5. **ABOUTFACE:** In 2015, the California Arts Council, the Arts and Culture Commission, and the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Service at Veterans Affairs Health Care developed *ABOUTFACE* for the purpose of addressing the needs of veterans and improving their lives through art programming. It is based on the belief that individuals have the capacity to heal themselves.
6. **Poetry Out Loud:** *Poetry Out Loud* is a national arts education program that encourages the study of poetry by offering free educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition for high school students across the country. This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about literary history and contemporary life. Poetry Out Loud provides free curriculum materials—all available online—including a poetry anthology, a comprehensive teacher's guide, videos of student performances, lesson plans, and promotional and media resources. All Contra Costa County High School students, grades 9-12, are invited to enter *Poetry Out Loud*. School winners advance to the County competition each February, then the State competition in March, and ultimately to the National Finals. Every Contra Costa County high school (public, private, parochial, independent, alternative, continuation, court, charter and home schools), non-profit organizations, and libraries are encouraged to participate. Students don't enter the POL competition directly, but through their high schools or a school POL liaison such as a teacher, librarian, school staff, or organization member.
7. **Youth Advisor:**
The Commission will also include two non-voting Youth Advisor members. Each Youth Advisor will be a high school or college student. Each Youth Advisor will be interviewed and recommended by the Commission for appointment by the Board of Supervisors for a one-year term. Each Youth Advisor will perform a Commission-approved service project during their

respective term. The Youth Advisors will be expected to attend all Commission meetings and other Commission activities as needed.

8. *Art Passages:*

Art Passages is a changing exhibition program at the new County Administration Building (1025 Escobar Street, Martinez) highlighting the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County's signature programs and initiatives. Exhibitions showcase artists, arts organizations, and diverse creative expressions representative of Contra Costa County.

Timeline

Program	July 21	Aug. 21	Sept. 21	Oct. 21	Nov. 21	Dec. 21	Jan. 22	Feb. 22	March 22	April 22	May 22	June 22	Notes:
Measure X	Measure X Presentation	Community Advocacy and Letters	Measure X Board Recommendation to Board of Supervisors	Board of Supervisors, Community Advocacy, and Implementation Timeline Draft	Implementation Timeline	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	
Arts and Culture Prospectus	Research and identify cultural stakeholders. ACP Subcommittee and Managing Director create a database.	Confirm workshop stakeholders.	Work with Art Builds Community by providing information and data.	Art Builds Community holds interviews and plans public workshops.	Art Builds Community attends Commission meeting and shares updates.	Work with Art Builds Community by providing information and data.	Art Builds Community attends Commission meeting and shares updates.	Board of Supervisors presentation and approval of <i>Arts & Culture Prospectus for Contra Costa County and District Art Project</i> funding through June 2022	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	
Impact Projects					Artists and Organizations check in, timeline, and information meeting. Artists collaborate with partner organizations for design through February 2022	Design workshops.		Artists submit final designs.	Artists assigned utility box assignments.		Utility boxes prepared for artists.	Artists start painting utility boxes.	July: Water repellent sealer/varnish and anti-graffiti coating application on Utility Boxes. Aug.: Artist and Community Organization Virtual Reception and Town Hall. Oct.: Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors Artist and Community Organization Recognition.
Jump StArts				Outreach to participating youth, artists, community leaders, partners, advocates, and commissioners. Set workshop dates and locations (virtual or onsite).		JUMP StArts workshop #1 and #2		Workshops draft summary	Workshops summary and Board of Supervisors presentation.		JUMP StArts art project and/or program draft.		July: JUMP StArts art project and/or program final proposal. Aug.: JUMP StArts art project and/or program public presentation. Sept.: JUMP StArts art project and/or program securing partners, funding, and creating a timeline for implementation.
ABOUTFACE				Oct.-Dec: Preparation, timeline coordination, lesson plans, and workshop format.		Dec-April: Website and social media.	Jan.-Feb.: Communication, Veteran outreach, marketing, and organization presentations.	Workshop #1 supplies order, prep and delivery.	Workshop #1 (3 Saturdays), Workshop #2 supplies order, prep and delivery.	Workshop #2 (3 Saturdays) Participant surveys.	May-July: ABOUTFACE exhibition		
Poetry Out Loud				Oct.-Nov: Preparation, timeline coordination, and program/screening format. Website and social media.		Dec.-Jan.: Schools and organizations offer POL to students. POL student coaching outreach. Friends of AC5 funding requests and prizes coordination.	Jan.-Feb.: POL coaching sessions available upon request. Completion of High School competitions and judging (scoring and tabulations). Paperwork finalized and deadline for County competition. Schools opt-in and CAG POL sent the final participation list. Graphics, script created for Arts and Culture Commission virtual county-level screening and award ceremony. Website and social media.	Arts and Culture Commission virtual county-level screening and award ceremony. Awards coordination and delivery. POL coaching sessions for State competition available upon request. Website and social media.	State Finals and Board of Supervisors presentation, paperwork, and delivery of certificates. Website and social media.	National Finals.			
Youth Advisor	Feb.-June 22: Carolyn Considine appointed first Youth Advisor. Commissioner Beverly Kumar is her mentor.	June-Aug.: Youth Advisor application marketing process (online creation) and coordination.	Sept.-Oct.: Youth Advisor open-call and application reviews (including ad-hoc interview subcommittee)	Oct.-Nov: Youth Advisor selection, mentor identification, and training.	Fall 21-22: New Youth Advisor appointment period including project coordination.				March 22-June 22: Youth Advisor marketing and application coordination process.				
Art Passages	ABOUTFACE till Dec. 3, 2021					Art of the African Diaspora Dec. 14, 2021 - Feb. 28, 2022.			Cesar Chavez exhibit March 14, 2022 - June 13, 2022			Marsh Creek exhibit July 1, 2022 - Sept. 30, 2022.	

Timelines

1. Measure X Timeline:

Activity Period: July 2021-June 2022

Date	Task & Activities
July 2021	Measure X Presentation
August 2021	Community Advocacy and Letters
September 2021	Measure X Board Recommendation to Board of Supervisors
September-October 2021	Board of Supervisors, Community Advocacy, and Implementation Timeline Draft
November 2021	Implementation Timeline
November-December 2021	TBA
January 2022-June 2022	TBA

2. Arts and Culture Prospectus of Contra Costa County Timeline:

Activity Period: July 2021-June 2022

Date	Task & Activities
July-August 2021	Research and identify cultural stakeholders. ACP Subcommittee and Managing Director create a database.
August 2021	Confirm workshop stakeholders.
September 2021	Work with Art Builds Community by providing information and data.
September-October 2021	Art Builds Community holds interviews and plans public workshops.
November 2021	Art Builds Community attends Commission meeting and shares updates.
November-December 2021	Work with Art Builds Community by providing information and data.
January 2022-June 2022	Art Builds Community attends January Commission meeting. Board of Supervisors presentation and approval of <i>Arts & Culture Prospectus for Contra Costa County and District Art Project</i> funding.

3. Impact Projects CAC Grant Timeline:

Grant Activity Period: November 1, 2021-October 31, 2022

Date	Task & Activities
November 2021	Confirm Contra Costa County utility box locations.
November 2021	Artists and Organizations check in, timeline, and information meeting.
December 2021	Design workshops.
November 2021-February 2022	Artists collaborate with partner organizations for design.
February 2022	Artists submit final designs.
March 2022	Artists assigned utility box assignments.
May 2022	Utility boxes prepared for artists.
June 2022	Artists start painting utility boxes.
July 2022	Water repellent sealer/varnish and anti-graffiti coating application on Utility Boxes.
August 2022	Artist and Community Organization Virtual Reception and Town Hall.
October 2022	Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors Artist and Community Organization Recognition.

*Reference: https://arts.ca.gov/grant_program/impact-projects/

4. Jump StArts CAC Grant Timeline: Grant Activity Period: Oct. 2021–Sept. 2022

Date	Task & Activities
October 2021	Outreach to participating youth, artists, community leaders, partners, advocates, and commissioners.
October 2021	Set workshop dates and locations (virtual or onsite).
December 2021	JUMP StArts workshop #1 and #2
February 2022	Workshops draft summary
March 2022	Workshops summary and Board of Supervisors presentation.
May 2022	JUMP StArts art project and/or program draft.
July 2022	JUMP StArts art project and/or program final proposal.
August 2022	JUMP StArts art project and/or program public presentation.
September 2022	JUMP StArts art project and/or program securing partners, funding, and creating a timeline for implementation.

*Reference: https://arts.ca.gov/grant_program/jump-starts/

5. ABOUTFACE Timeline: Activity Period: October 2021-July 2022

Date	Task & Activities
October-December 2021	Preparation, timeline coordination, lesson plans, and workshop format.
December 2021-April 2022	Website and social media.
January 2022-February 2022	Communication, Veteran outreach, marketing, and organization presentations.
February 2022	Workshop #1 supplies order, prep and delivery.
March 2022	Workshop #1 (3 Saturdays). Workshop #2 supplies order, prep and delivery.
April 2022	Workshop #2 (3 Saturdays). Participant surveys.
May-July 2022	ABOUTFACE exhibition.

**A comprehensive 20-21 ABOUTFACE Project Plan and Timeline is available upon request.*

6. Poetry Out Loud Timeline: Activity Period: October 2021-April 2022

Date	Task & Activities
October-November 2021	Preparation, timeline coordination, and program/screening format. Website and social media.
December 2021-January 2022	Schools and organizations offer POL to students. POL student coaching outreach. Friends of AC5 funding requests and prizes coordination.
January-February 2022	POL coaching sessions available upon request. Completion of High School competitions and judging (scoring and tabulations). Paperwork finalized and deadline for County competition. Schools opt-in and CAC POL sent the final participation list. Graphics/script created for Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County virtual county-level screening and award ceremony. Website and social media.
February 2022	Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County virtual county-level screening and award ceremony. Awards coordination and delivery. POL coaching sessions for State competition available upon request. Website and social media.
March 2022	State Finals and Board of Supervisors presentation, paperwork, and delivery of certificates. Website and social media.
April 2022	National Finals.

**A comprehensive 20-21 POL Timeline is available upon request. References:*

<https://www.capoetryoutloud.org/>

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1G8qsaWF1WBSLprlyY_8ZZOZwz0a9FoaLK7AxkuK40Pc/edit?usp=sharing

7. Youth Advisor Timeline: Activity Period: July 2020-July 2022

Date	Task & Activities
February 2021- June 2022	Carolyn Considine appointed first Youth Advisor. Commissioner Beverly Kumar is her mentor.
June-August 2021	Youth Advisor application marketing, process (online creation) and coordination.
September-October 2021	Youth Advisor open-call and application reviews (including ad-hoc interview subcommittee)
October-November 2021	Youth Advisor selection, mentor identification, and training.
Fall 2021- Fall 2022	New Youth Advisor appointment period including project coordination.
March 2022-June 2022	Youth Advisor marketing and application coordination process.

8. Art Passages Timeline:

Proposed Activity Period: July 2021-July 2022

**2-3 exhibitions a year at the New County Administration Building.*

Proposed FY 21-22 Exhibition Schedule:

1. ABOUTFACE till December 3, 2021.
2. Art of the African Diaspora December 14, 2021 - February 28, 2022. (Create a call, 3-5 artists, concept theme) Identify: specifics,
3. Cesar Chavez exhibit March 14, 2022 - June 13, 2022.
4. Marsh Creek exhibit July 1, 2022 - September 30, 2022.