



CITY OF ONTARIO
ONTARIO MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA
FAYE DASTRUP HAMILL HISTORIC COUNCIL CHAMBERS
225 S. EUCLID AVE. • ONTARIO, CA
September 24, 2024 • 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

6:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

- Kueng Caughman Gerstheimer Weems Garcia
 Porada/City Council Member

MUSEUM ASSOCIATES LIAISON

- Sherwood-James

STAFF PRESENT

- Kuchek, Museum Arts & Culture Director
 Oakes, Museum Manager
 Herrera, Assistant Curator of Exhibitions
 Padilla, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR August 27, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENTS

6:30 PM

The Public Comment portion of the Board of Trustees meeting is limited to 15 minutes total, with each speaker allowed a maximum of 3 minutes. Additional speakers are allowed 3 minutes each at the end of the meeting. Prior to consideration of old or new business agenda items, speakers will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes each to comment on that specific item. Under provisions of the Brown Act, the Board of Trustees is prohibited from taking action on oral requests.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON PORADA

STAFF REPORTS

1. Directors Report – Marissa Kucheck
2. Annual Día de los Muertos Exhibit – Samantha Herrera

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review updated Strategic Plan Annual Checklist

NEW BUSINESS

MUSEUM ASSOCIATES/LIAISON COMMENTS

MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NEXT MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING(S)

Next meeting:
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 6:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

6:00 PM

MOTION TO ADJOURN /



Agenda Report
September 24, 2024

SECTION: STAFF REPORT

Prepared By: Marissa Kuceck
Staff Member Presenting:
Marissa Kuceck
Approved By: Marissa Kuceck

Action: Report & File

SUBJECT

Director's Report

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

Collections:

The Collections team has continued to work on inventory, last month the team processed 88 items bringing the total inventory count to 1922. The team has started the inventory of the *Gem of the Foothills* exhibition. Since previous staff did not record what artifacts went into the exhibition, the team has been busy solving mysteries and locating items formerly listed as unknown locations. Both the collections and exhibition team worked together to relocate the George Chaffey bust to the offsite storage. The bust has been on loan to the Chaffey Community Museum of Art for the past five years. The Collections team did some basic cleaning of the bust and will conduct an assessment to determine its preservation needs. The Curator of Collections is attending the Western Museum Association in Tucson this month. They will be hosting a roundtable

discussion on the topic of inventory and beginning their term as a board member for WMA.

Education:

Public Programs: The Education Team kicked off their Fall programming with First Thursdays: Botanical Brews & Plant Clippings earlier this month where staff collaborated with Maestra Sarai and her Amate tea blends and host a tea meditation. Following the program, guests were invited to create artwork out of plant clipping using a reusable stamping method. Later this month for Studio Saturdays, the museum will host a paper mâché workshop with artist, Monica Thaller where she will instruct guests how to make their own "conchas" or pan dulce artwork.

Tours and Tour Training: At the end of last month, the Education team attended a lecture at the library on the citrus industry in Ontario. Staff also visited the California Citrus State Historic Park for a Grove Tour in Riverside on August 30th to expand their learning on the citrus history of the region and apply to our *Gem of the Foothills* tours.

Outreach: Education staff is participating in the City Library's KinderGo programming, visiting kindergarten classes and promoting early literacy. At the end of the month, staff will also host a booth at the KinderFair to promote the Museum's fall programs.

Exhibits:

In September, the Exhibits division held its final program related to the *Holistic Expressions* exhibition. The program was called "Healing Circle" and instructed by exhibiting artist Denise Silva. Twenty attendees engaged in meditation, meaningful discussions, and grounding artistic exercises, which promoted overall well-being and healing. It was well received, and participants asked if we held similar programs more often.

The installation for our *Día de los Muertos: Healing & Remembrance* exhibition has begun. The team is currently prepping and painting the fourth gallery to prepare the space for the participants who will create altars for this year's show.

Finally, the team is coordinating with local artists from Inland Empire arts centers to meet and review our proposition for the complimentary exhibition for the traveling show *Mission Gráfica: A Community in Print*.

Other:

We are currently recruiting for a full-time Curator of Exhibits, Assistant Curator of Education, and three Museum Assistants vacancies. We are excited to share that we have made a preliminary offer to an Assistant Curator.

Collections, Arts & Culture, and Education staff also participated in the inaugural CLC Con earlier this month. Department presentations included: "Community Treasures: Sharing Stories Through Collected Artifacts," "Oral Histories: A Whisper of the Past, Present, and Future," "Storytelling with Photography," and "Creating an Event Reflective of Your Community."

Beginning in October, the Museum will be participating in Art Bridges' COVES (Collaboration for Ongoing Visitor Experience Studies) program. COVES is designed to unite museums in systematically collecting audience-level data, with a focus on institutional and field-wide improvement. This grant will provide the Museum with \$5,000 to be spent towards iPads for collecting the data and payment to staff who spend time collecting surveys.



Agenda Report
September 24, 2024

SECTION: STAFF REPORT

Prepared By: Samantha Herrera
Staff Member Presenting: Samantha Herrera
Approved By: Marissa Kuchek

Action: Report & File

SUBJECT

Día de los Muertos: Healing & Remembrance

AGENDA REPORT SUMMARY

The Museum's upcoming *Día de los Muertos: Healing & Remembrance* exhibition is a vibrant show dedicated to the holiday observed annually on November 1 and 2. This October the Museum presents the 26th edition of its annual Day of the Dead exhibit.

For many, *Día de los Muertos* serves as a powerful space for healing. This holiday brings families together to share stories, sing, and remember their loved ones, reinforcing their presence in the lives of the living. Through this remembrance, participants find solace and a sense of connection, honoring both the lives that were and the enduring impact those lives have on the present.

Día de los Muertos: Healing & Remembrance features the work of Gloria Toti-Bell, Heriberto Luna, Irene Nuñez, Jessica Cruz, Lisa Cabrera, MaryLucille Nuñez, Raymond Sloan, Theresa Polley-Shellcroft, and June Ramirez. Through a diverse

range of media—including paintings, sculptures, fabric art, mixed media, and altar installations—artists present a multicultural perspective on life and death.