

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Cultural Arts Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2006, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Cultural Services Producer Gia Inferrera led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Armstrong, Miranda, Smisek, Smith, Stadler, Strehler, and Chairperson Wang.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Cultural Services Manager Myers, Senior Cultural Services Supervisor McClelland, Cultural Services Producer Inferrera, Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson, and Cultural Services Consultant Powers.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Stadler moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Smisek seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Wang so ordered.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2006

MOTION: Commissioner Stadler moved for the approval of the February 27, 2006 Cultural Arts Commission meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed by unanimous voice vote approval.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6A. 2006 EXCELLENCE IN ARTS AWARD NOMINATIONS

Cultural Services Manager explained the selection process for the 2006 Excellence in Arts awards.

Committee chairpersons presented nominations and committee recommendations for each of their categories. After review and discussion of applications submitted, the Commission recommended that Excellence in Arts Awards be awarded as follows:

Literary Arts
Music
Visual Arts

Bonnie Mae Barnard
Richard Heckman
Ruby Wang

Dance	South Bay Little Angels
Drama	Starlight Productions
Arts Education	Dr. Dennis Puckett
Katy Geissert Award	Mary P. Miller

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

7A. EXCELLENCE IN ARTS

Cultural Services Manager Myers reminded Commissioners that the 2006 Excellence in Arts Awards ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, April 30, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in the Toyota Meeting Hall of the Cultural Arts Center.

7B. COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLAN

No report.

7C. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Cultural Services Manager Myers asked Commissioners to encourage organizations to submit grant applications.

8. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORT

Senior Cultural Services Supervisor McClelland reported that Artline was recently mailed out and encouraged Commissioners to submit any ideas for future issues to Cultural Services. He commended the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation for their continued support.

Cultural Services Supervisor Ferguson distributed postcards on the upcoming exhibition, "Telling," at the Torrance Art Museum beginning March 24, 2006, and invited Commissioners to attend the opening reception on March 25, 2006. She estimated that 1,406 children and adults were in attendance at the last exhibition.

Producer Inferrera reported that Torrance Theatre Company closed its first production of the 2006 season, "Biloxi Blues," on March 19, 2006 and that auditions will begin next month for "The Man Who Came to Dinner." She stated that there are over 100 season subscribers and will be three new directors this season. She discussed upcoming events that include a Regina Klenjoski Dance Company performance this week, Torrance Civic Chorale's "A Musical Salute to Living Composers and Arrangers" on April 8, 2006, and Starlight Production's "Wizard of Oz" in June 2006.

Cultural Services Consultant Powers reported on Works in Progress and the success and press coverage on the first segment "9/11 Commission Report – 1998" on February 22, 2006. The series will continue on March 29, 2006 with "9/11 Commission Report – 1999" in the Nakano Theatre.

He provided an update on the Starters program, Wild Wednesdays, and Ooodles of Noodles.

Dr. Owen Griffith congratulated the Foundation for continuing to put on outstanding programs. He reported that the Torrance Symphony had a successful concert a week ago featuring three winners of the young musicians concerto competition from last year. He discussed the 10th annual concerto competition for young musicians on March 25, 2006. He announced that on April 4-6, 2006 the Arts Council would be conducting its competition for graduating seniors from all City high schools.

Alex See, Torrance Chinese School, invited Commissioners to attend South Bay Community Children's Chorus' March 26, 2006 "Dance for Spring."

9. ORALS

Commissioner Strehler stated that she enjoyed the Torrance Symphony performance, "Biloxi Blues," and a demonstration by water colorist Manon Washburn at a Torrance Artists Guild meeting.

Commissioner Armstrong stated that the Torrance Symphony concert was exciting.

Commissioner Stadler stated that she enjoyed the Torrance Symphony concert and announced that Hermosa Valley School was putting on "Bugsy Malone."

Commissioner Smisek stated that she enjoyed "Biloxi Blues" and discussed Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation programming that included The Irish Descendents on March 18, 2006 and Tammy Bruce on March 19, 2006, noting that the last jazz cabaret will be on March 24, 2006 with Frank Potenza.

Commissioner Smith stated that she has received positive comments about The Irish Descendents, that the Frank Potenza performance is sold out, and that her son, Justin Smith, is performing at Coffee Cartel.

Commissioner Miranda discussed his trip to Boston where he enjoyed visiting the Fogg Museum in Cambridge.

Chairperson Wang stated that she enjoyed hearing Sean Wiggins at the Museum and shared information about her trip to Washington, D.C. and Hokusai exhibition at the Smithsonian.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:27 p.m., Commissioner Smith moved to adjourn the meeting to Monday, April 17, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall. Commissioner Stadler seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Wang so ordered.

Approved as Amended April 17, 2006 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
