

2022 Mercer Island Arts Summit

Proposed Event Outline

Overview

The 2022 Mercer Island Arts Summit aims to convene local arts and culture groups, artists, creative businesses, and other community organizations to discuss the state of Mercer Island's arts and culture ecosystem following the COVID-19 pandemic. City staff, in partnership with the Mercer Island Arts Council, hope to learn more about how other arts and culture providers and makers have been impacted by the pandemic, how they are resuming services and planning for the future, and where the City can provide support and leadership to continue reviving local arts and culture programs and services for Island residents.

Goals

This event will convene providers of Mercer Island's arts and culture programming as well as local arts practitioners who use Mercer Island arts spaces and other resources to make and showcase their practice. The following goals have been identified for this summit:

1. Bring together Mercer Island's arts and culture providers and practitioners to reintroduce them to each other, the City, and the Mercer Island Arts Council, and to begin fostering a renewed sense of collaboration and connection among the community's arts ecosystem.
2. Create a forum for local arts and culture providers and practitioners to share the challenges they've faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic and their needs going forward to continue providing arts and culture programs and opportunities to the community.
3. Establish and communicate clear next steps to summit participants to continue moving collaboration and connection forward.

Additionally, following the summit, City staff will use information gathered to inform the drafting of the 2023-2024 City Arts and Culture Work Plan, including better defining the role of the City in supporting and strengthening the Mercer Island arts ecosystem. Staff anticipate presenting a summary of findings and next steps for developing the work plan at the July 2022 Regular Arts Council meeting.

Logistics

- **Date:** Late May 2022 (TBC but target the week of May 23)
- **Time/Length:** 90 minutes, late afternoon/early evening
- **Format:** Virtual via Zoom
 - Include polling, whiteboard exercises, and/or breakout room discussions
 - Meeting will be open to the public to listen to/watch as well as recorded to post on the City Council's YouTube channel
- **Participants:** Participation in the discussion and exercises will be limited to invited organizations and artists to maintain the scope of this event and make space for all invitees to participate fully. Lists of suggested organizations and practicing artists is included on the next pages.
- **Promotion:** Begin the first week of May 2022

List of Suggested Invitees – Organizations

Organization	Details	Contact(s)
<u>Mercer Island Visual Arts League (MIVAL)</u>	Nonprofit Artmaking / presenting	Carol Whitaker
<u>Mercer Island Center for the Arts (MICA)</u>	Nonprofit Presenting	Genevieve Morton, Co-Chair, Board of Directors
<u>Youth Theatre Northwest</u>	Nonprofit Artmaking / presenting	
<u>Stroum Jewish Community Center</u>	Nonprofit Presenting	
<u>Seattle Shakespeare Company</u>	Nonprofit Artmaking / presenting	George Mount, Artist Director
<u>Dance for PD</u>	Nonprofit Program / service delivery	Shawn Roberts, Director Naomi Glass, MI Teaching Artist
<u>Clarke & Clarke ART+ARTIFACTS</u>	Local business Artspace	Ginny Clarke, Co-Owner & Curator
<u>Suzanne Zahr, Inc.</u>	Local business Artspace	Suzanne Zahr, Founder & Principal Architect
<u>Children's Dance Conservatory / Island Youth Ballet</u>	Local business Artmaking / presenting	Susan Valencia, Founder
<u>Creation Dance Studio</u>	Local business	Stevie Hagen, Owner & Instructor
<u>Arts for All / Fine Arts Advisory Council (FAAC)</u>	Nonprofit Advocacy / presenting	Marni Sheppard Alice Finch
<u>Musical Minds Music Studio</u>	Local business	Connie Wibble
Mercer Island School District (MISD)	Artmaking / presenting	David Bentley, <u>Music</u> Teacher Julie Biggs, <u>Visual Arts</u> Teacher
<u>Theresa Goesling ART</u>	Program / service delivery	Theresa Goesling, Owner + Artist

List of Suggested Invitees – Artists

Name	Medium	Website
Anne Hritzay	Visual	
Juliana Kang Robinson	Visual	<u>https://www.julianakangrobinson.com/</u>
Louise Hanks	Visual	
Matt Lome	Performing	<u>https://www.mattlome.com/</u>
James Gwertzman	Visual	<u>https://www.moonlightcollective.studio/</u>