



**Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission (ACHC)
FY 2025/26 Five-Year Action Plan and
Annual One-Year Implementation Plan**

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A. Introduction

The City of Wilsonville's Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission's (ACHC) purpose is to provide ongoing input and advise the City Council and other City Boards, commissions and committees on matters relating to advancing arts, culture and heritage in Wilsonville and oversee recommendations outlined in the Arts, Culture & Heritage Strategy (ACHS). The ACHS, a City Council 2019-20 Goal, provides findings and recommendations for cultivating a sustainable, long-term plan that supports community aspirations for a vibrant cultural scene in Wilsonville. The City Council approved [Resolution No. 2857](#), adopting the ACHS in November 2020, which included many key findings and recommendations on how to achieve this. Within the ACHS, one recommendation states "City forms an Arts and Culture Commission and provides supporting staffing resource." A 2021-23 Council Goal included: "5.3 Establish the Arts and Culture Board." The City Council formed the ACHC in December 2021 via [Resolution No. 2941](#), which began meeting in April 2022, and hired an Arts and Culture staff person in November 2022 to propel the recommendations within the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Strategy forward.

The ACHC also oversees the Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant including the recommendation of disbursement of grant funds. The ACHC is also charged specifically to develop annually for City Council approved fiscal-year plans for a long-term Five-Year Action Plan and annual One-Year Implementation Plan for prioritizing and fulfilling recommendations of the ACHS.

B. Arts, Culture, and Heritage Commission Members

Supported by the Parks and Recreation Department, the ACHC is composed of nine (9) voting members appointed by the Mayor with Council confirmation and four (4) non-voting ex-officio members who provide advice to the Commission, as stated in the Commission Bylaws established by Resolution No 2941.

The FY 2024/2025 members included:

- **David Altman**
- **Joan Carlson**
- **Nadine Elbitar**
- **Aaron Harris**
- **Jason Jones**
- **Sageera Oravil Abdulla Koya**
- **Benjamin Mefford**
- **Susan Schenk**
- **Deborah Zundel**

The Current FY 2025/2026 members include:

- **David Altman**
- **Joan Carlson**
- **Creed Harmon**
- **Aaron Harris**
- **Jason Jones**
- **Douglas Parker**
- **Sageera Oravil Abdulla Koya**
- **Susan Schenk**

Non-Voting Ex Officio members:

- **City of Wilsonville Parks and Recreation Department:** Parks and Recreation Director
- **City of Wilsonville Administration,** Zoe Mombert, Assistant to the City Manager
- **Wilsonville Public Library,** Shasta Sasser, Library Director

Staff Liaison:

- **City of Wilsonville Parks and Recreation Department,** Erika Valentine, Arts and Culture Program Coordinator

C. Mission & Vision

In FY 2022/23 the ACHC established a mission and vision statement to provide clarity and direction on their work. The mission is as follows:

To enhance the Wilsonville community by supporting, advocating and advising on matters relating to advancing arts, culture & heritage. We strongly believe residents' lives are enriched and enhanced through a thriving arts and culture environment.

The Vision is as follows:

Lives will be enriched and enhanced through a thriving arts and culture environment in Wilsonville.

Our vision for Wilsonville is one that:

- *Supports all creatives*
- *Fosters a sense of inclusivity for all cultures*
- *Has a vibrant cultural identity*
- *Celebrates local history and heritage*
- *Is recognized for accessible community cultural facilities, parks, and other spaces to host a variety of creative forms and activities*

- *Has a robust Public Art program*

D. Commission Meetings

The Commission met eight times in FY 2024/25, exceeding the minimum required four meetings per fiscal year pursuant to Resolution No. 2941.

E. Charge of ACHC

- Make recommendations to City Council and staff on cultural arts programs, activities, services, policies, etc.
- Support and build awareness of cultural arts programs in Wilsonville and work with other agencies and organizations involved in cultural arts programs to build partnerships
- Receive and evaluate input from the community, including input from other individuals and organizations on relevant cultural arts topics and programming
- Advise the City on future Public Art program plans and serve as the City's review body for public art projects as they move through the approval process
- Serve as a resource to the City on a wide range of visual and performing arts mediums and topics
- Advise the City on facility needs and design regarding to Arts
- Provide feedback to staff on the assessment of current and future needs of the cultural arts community
- Increase opportunities for artists/creatives

F. Advancing Arts, Culture, and Heritage Strategy (ACHS)

The commission is charged with moving the ACHS forward.

The Commission makes recommendations to the City Council and other City boards, commissions and committees as is appropriate to:

Objective	
A	Provide leadership and coordination to support arts, culture and heritage activities, events, facilities and programs
B	Improve inter-governmental collaboration and coordination to advance arts, culture, and heritage
C	Work with partners to advance an arts and cultural center/facility
D	Develop a long-term, sustainable public art program
E	Suggest ways to make cultural diversity, ethnic inclusivity and accessibility for all community members a priority for cultural programs
F	Provide strategic assistance to Wilsonville cultural nonprofits in order to build organizational capacity
G	Identify and recommend sustainable funding mechanisms to support cultural activities, events and programs
H	Make recommendations concerning the goals and objectives, and the selection and disbursement of funds of the Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant

G. Past Year's Accomplishments, FY 2024/25

The ACHC had a successful year, advancing key objectives and moving the City's Arts, Culture, and Heritage Strategy Recommendations forward such as advancing Public Art projects and cultural programs.

The following is an accounting of accomplishments achieved in 2024/25:

- **Recruit to fill all voting positions for the ACHC**

Four (4) Members of the ACHC have been members since its inception in 2022. The remaining 5 members started between 2023 – 2025.

- **Elect chair/vice-chair leadership positions.**

Jason Jones was elected as Chair and Sageera Oravil Abdulla Koya was elected as Vice Chair during the August 2025 meeting.

- **Commission continues to oversee the Community Cultural Events and Programs (CCEP) Grant and made fund distribution recommendations to Council**

The ACHC received and reviewed three (3) applications from the following nonprofits: Charbonneau Arts Association (Wilsonville Music Festival), Wilsonville Rotary Foundation (Rotary Summer Concerts), Wilsonville STAGE (Pop Up Performances).

- **The ACHC received a presentation from Planning staff about the City's Heritage Tree Program and then subsequently passed Resolution No. 1, which updated the Heritage Tree Program Nomination process, acknowledged previously designated heritage trees in the City, and approved a new Heritage Tree Nomination for the Holiday Leyland Cypress.**

- **The heARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart Public Art Project got implemented.**

This project consisted of 10 large fiberglass hearts sculptures that were painted by different local artists and placed around the City. The ACHC was the selection panel for this project and reviewed the Call for Art Application and solidified the theme "Many Cultures, One Heart." Following the artist solicitation period, the ACHC reviewed and scored 29 unique designs from 20 different artists, to ultimately award the 10 hearts to 10 different artists, including one heart led by WHS Art teacher Angennette Escobar in conjunction with her students. An opening reception took place at the Stein Boozier Barn to view all 10 hearts prior to getting installed at City facilities and parks. This project was extremely popular amongst the community and received a lot of positive praise.

This project was funded by the Metro Community Enhancement Grant Program.

- **The ACHC had a joint meeting with the City's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee to discuss shared goals and possible collaborations.**

- **The ACHC approved the Boones Ferry Park Public Art Request for Qualifications (RFQ) 'Essence of the River' Project.**

The ACHC approved the RFQ for this project which is being funded by Public Art CIP # 9183. The RFQ included important site information, Boones Ferry Park Master Plan information, historical information, scope/goals of project, budget, theme, and three potential location zones.

- **The ACHC determined the top three artists/artist teams who responded to the Boones Ferry Park Public Art Request for Qualifications.**

Over one hundred and fifty artists responded to this RFQ. First, a selection panel consisting of two ACHC members and two Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members scored and reviewed all applications and then met to discuss. Through that meeting, they recommended the top ten artists to the full ACHC.

The ACHC scored and reviewed the top ten artists/applications. They determined a top three to advance to a Request for Proposals design phase which involved each of the three artists/artist teams coming up with their unique design proposal.

- **The ACHC planned and hosted a Multicultural Dance Celebration Event at McMenamin's Old Church.**

The event took place at McMenamin's Old Church. The Performing Dance Groups included: Eien Hunter-Ishikawa, Shishimai (performing traditional Japanese dances), Jayanthi Raman Dance Company (performing classical Indian Dance), and Huizilopotchtli Danza Azteca (performing Indigenous Dances). The event was emceed by ACHC Member Aaron Harris. There were free appetizers available and drinks available for purchase. Estimated attendance was approximately one hundred people.

- **The ACHC was the selection panel to review three artist options to complete the 2025 Temporary Pride Month Mural.**

The ACHC reviewed three artists and their work samples for the Pride Mural. They advanced two artists to create unique designs.

- **The ACHC awarded the 2025 Temporary Pride Month Mural to Artist Daren Todd.**

This project was a successful collaboration between ACHC and the DEI Committee. The Mural design featured different monochromatic panels in rainbow colors, inspired by the Progress Pride Flag. The mural was up for the month of June on the side of the Parks & Recreation Administration Building.

- **The City Hall Art Gallery Held exhibits from four talented local artists as part of the Clackamas County Arts Alliance's Artist Exhibit Program.**

H. Five-Year Action Plan ACHC: FY 2025/26 – 2029/30

The longer-range five-year plan recommended by the Commission focuses on objectives derived from the ACHS.

While the Commission recognizes that adjustments are to be made to the longer-range plan via annual 'course corrections'—the five-year plan is outlined below in fiscal years, July 1 of one year to June 30 of the following year.

Annually, the ACHC will make recommendations on the distribution of the CCEP Funds.

- Leadership, Meetings: Continue recruitment efforts to fill all voting positions for the ACHC. Elect committee chair/vice-chair leadership positions annually.
- Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant (CCEP): Commission continues to oversee the CCEP Grant and make funding recommendations to Council.
- Award the Boones Ferry Park Public Art Project.
- Complete the heARTs of Wilsonville: Many Cultures, One Heart Public Art Project and finalize the silent auction.
- Award a Pride Month Mural Artist and support Pride Event.
- Approve the Wilsonville Public Library Children's Section Mural Project Artist and Mural Design.
- Develop and advance a Utility Box Public Art Project forward, through potential funding from the Metro Community Enhancement Grant Program.
- Increase arts classes/workshops and arts components of existing special events.
- Explore possibility of planning future arts and culture events and performances.
- Attend a Joint-Collaborative Meeting with the DEI Committee.
- Begin an assessment of the current Public Art Collection.
- Collaborate and strategize on coordination with the Library, School District, other arts organizations, etc.

**Year 2
FY 2026/27**

- Complete temporary and permanent Public Art projects and art installations.
- Investigate funding structures and options for advancement of Public Art and Arts programs such as a percent for art ordinance.
- Review and recommend funding of Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant.
- Increase awareness of arts, culture and heritage programs through marketing – improve and develop ACHC/Arts website to support local artists, nonprofits, provide education, etc.
- Explore feasibility of a mural policy / mural program, with possible private/public partnerships.
- Collaborate and strategize on coordination with the Library, School District, other arts organizations, etc.
- Develop culturally relevant programming/opportunities/events, centering diversity, ethnic inclusivity and accessibility.
- Continuation of assessment of current Public Art Collection.

**Year 3
FY 2027/28**

- Complete temporary and permanent Public Art projects and installations
- Investigate funding structures and options for advancement of Public Art and Arts programs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and recommend funding of Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant • Identify partners, assess needs and assess existing cultural arts related facilities and assets as they relate to an arts and cultural center/facility • Develop culturally relevant programming/opportunities/events, centering diversity, ethnic inclusivity and accessibility.
Year 4 2028/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete temporary and permanent Public Art projects and installations • Investigate funding structures and options for advancement of Public Art and Arts programs • Review and recommend funding of Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant • Develop culturally relevant programming/opportunities/events, centering diversity, ethnic inclusivity and accessibility.
Year 5 2029/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete temporary and permanent Public Art projects • Investigate funding structures and options for advancement of Public Art and Arts programs • Review and recommend funding of Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant • Investigation of feasibility of an arts and cultural center facility • Develop culturally relevant programming/opportunities/events, centering diversity, ethnic inclusivity and accessibility.

I. Annual One-Year Implementation Plan: FY 25/26 July 2025 – June 2026

Next fiscal year's work plan is segmented into four main sections:

1. **Conduct ACHC Business:** The committee executes all Council-mandated activities, including:
 - **Leadership:** Elect a chair and vice chair at the first meeting of the new fiscal year.
 - **Meetings:** Hold at least four meetings with quorum attendance during the fiscal year.
 - **Plans:** Work with staff to draft for City Council adoption of an updated version of the Five-Year Action Plan and Annual One-Year Implementation Plan.
2. **Public Art:** The ACHC will work with staff and other stakeholders to advance public art projects while following the City's Public Art Policy and Guidelines, adopted by Council. Projects include Murals at the Wilsonville Library and a larger scale project at Boones Ferry Park. The ACHC will also complete the heARTs of Wilsonville, Many Cultures, One Heart Project and explore a Utility Box Public Art Project. The ACHC will continue to assess the existing public art collection, determine goals of future projects, establish future sites of public art, etc.
3. **Public Awareness:** Cultivating increased local residents' knowledge and interest in learning about local arts, culture and heritage, as well as increased opportunities to engage with arts, culture and heritage. This will be achieved by increased marketing efforts and additions of

arts, culture and heritage programs and classes, such as speaker/performance events and additional arts-themed workshops. The ACHC will also continue to collaborate with the DEI Committee on relevant projects and programs such as the Pride Month Mural and other cultural programming.

4. ***Community Cultural Events and Programs Grant:*** Review and recommend funding of the grant program.

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