



AGENDA
Arts and Culture Commission
Monday, February 26 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
El Cerrito City Hall – Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Roll Call of Commissioners:

Ruth Cazden, George Gager, Heidi Rand (vice chair), Christopher Sterba (Chair), Judith Tannenbaum, Nga Trinh and Christopher Walsh.

1. Commissioners Reports & Liaison Reports

2. Comments from the Public

Comments from the public on non-agenda items may be limited to three (3) minutes each

3. Approval of Minutes

Consider approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 22, 2018

4. Proposal from El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative for “Messy Arts Day”

Discussion and possible action on sponsoring the ECPC “Messy Arts Day” event scheduled for March 18, 2018 (proposal attached).

5. Update on ECCRU Artist-in-Residency Program

Update, discussion, and possible action regarding the status of the ECCRU Artist and program

6. Update on Poet Laureate Program

- Discussion and possible action regarding the timeline for the next Poet Laureate
- Poet Laureate Maw Shein Win’s “Poetry and Place” event May 20

7. Update from ACC/EDC Subcommittee

Discussion and possible action on a potential collaborative project between the ACC and the Economic Development Committee

8. Earth Day Event

Discussion and possible action regarding sponsoring a project at the City’s Earth Day event

9. Update from Community Outreach Subcommittee

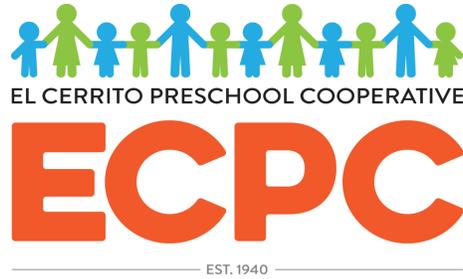
Discussion and possible action relating to various community outreach opportunities

10. Items for Next Meeting

Adjourn

Pending Topics: Eva Meyers’ Fairmont Park mural idea; subcommittee to outreach to institutions; BART pylons mural proposal; Discussion on possible Gallery Space Support; Development of Policies/Procedures for the Commission; Rand to give presentation on “Little Free Libraries”.

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the ACC regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at City Hall - 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, during normal business hours.



PROPOSAL

El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative is seeking assistance from the El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commission in the form of a \$1000 grant for our largest community event of the year, **Messy Art Day**. In 2018, we will host the event on Sunday, March 18.

This event is entirely volunteer-run, with logistics, coordination and community outreach led by a 6-family committee and the Marketing Chair, and participation from over 40 member families throughout the weekend. Costs include art materials, such as tempera paint, spray bottles, confetti, shaving cream, corn starch, baking soda, chalk, toilet paper and bubble mixture, as well as structural materials for constructing play stations. In 2017, the total cost of the event was \$1500.

For five years, since its inception in 2008, Messy Art Day was sponsored by First Five Contra Costa, before funding no longer became available due to state budget cuts. Since then, we have covered the costs of the event through a combination of ECPC's budget and donations from our membership and community partners, including Sticky Art Lab, Ashby Lumber, The Cheese Board Collective and Abbey Pet Hospital.

ABOUT MESSY ART DAY

Messy Art Day is a free, annual Spring community event hosted by El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative, where toddler and preschool-age children can explore colors, textures and a variety of media in a safe and fun environment. Families with children under 5 in El Cerrito and surrounding communities are welcome to join us for a fun-filled day of experiential art activities. The event typically serves 1000 people inside our gates over four hours. More visitors gather outside on Ashbury Avenue, between Moeser Lane and Waldo Avenue, where we have additional art activities, food trucks, and snacks for sale to benefit ECPC Fundraising.

Messy Art Day shares our play-based educational philosophy with the community, and reinforces the idea that art is about the process, not the product. Each of our 20 art playstations is custom-built by the ECPC membership, using mostly donated and recycled materials, in order to keep our overhead low, and enhance the community aspect of the event. Popular playstation activities through the years include Human Spin Art on the ECPC tire swing, House of Fetti, Clean Mud, Oobleck, and Crave the Shave. The event aims inspire children from all backgrounds to explore and create at their own pace, under the supervision of ECPC members and parents.

For more information on Messy Art Day, visit <http://ecpckids.com/wordpress/messy-art-day/>.

ABOUT ECPC

El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative (ECPC) is a parent-run 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, established in 1940. While a professional teaching staff runs the program, member families own the school and are responsible for the administration and maintenance. This helps keep tuition low and allows parents to become fully active in their child's education. It also serves to build a strong sense of community among the families in the school. Our educational philosophy is play-based, allowing students to learn social and emotional skills through self-directed play, under the supervision of teachers and participating family members.

ECPC relies on member tuition and fundraising in order to pay full-time, part-time and substitute teachers, purchase supplies, host membership and community events and maintain the school grounds. As part of our fundraising activities, ECPC hosts two yard sales in coordination with the City Wide Garage Sales, a Bowl-a-Thon at Albany Bowl in the Fall, and an online auction in the Spring.

