



# SIMI VALLEY CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

## **SIMI VALLEY ARTS COMMISSION**

Wednesday, September 18, 2024, 3:30 p.m.

City Manager's Conference Room

City Hall, 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, CA 93063

### AMENDED AGENDA

**PLEASE NOTE: Mayor Pro Tem Rhodes will be participating via ZOOM from Jas Blu Academy Conference Room (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor), 854 Sheng Long Rd, Joy Ting Town, Shanghai China 20165 PRC. This meeting is being conducted pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953.**

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Roll Call
2. Agenda Review
3. Approval of Minutes: May 7, 2024
4. Public Statements  
This is the time allotted for statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Arts Commission.  
  
Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Arts Commission in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items.
5. Informational Presentation
  - a. City of Moorpark Arts Master Plan Development – Chris Ball, Senior Management Analyst, City of Moorpark
6. Continued Business – None
7. New Business
  - a. Update on the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Performing Arts Recovery Grant Program

- b. Review and Consideration of the Draft Arts and Culture Master Plan Statement of Work
8. Reports
- a. Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Programming Report
  - b. Update on Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation Activities
  - c. General Manager's Report
9. Commissioner Comments
- This is the time allotted for statements or comments from Arts Commissioners on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Arts Commission.
10. Adjournment

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Anna M. Medina  
Deputy Community Services Director

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Assistant Community Services Manager, Sandee McGee, at (805) 583-7901. Upon advance notification of the need for accommodation, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Roll Call

Council Member Litster called the meeting to order at approximately 3:30 p.m., welcomed Arts Commissioners, and verified that a quorum was present.

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Rocky Rhodes, Council Member Elaine Litster; Commissioners Becky Savell, Janet Plant, Stephanie Wilson, Burton Weinstein, and Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation Representative Gina Truncale.

Absent: Commissioner John Dantona.

Staff Members: Assistant City Manager Linda Swan, Deputy Community Services Director Anna Medina, Community Services Manager Fred Helsel, and Community Services Assistant Manager Sandee McGee.

2. Agenda Review

No changes were recommended.

3. Approval of Minutes: March 26, 2024

A motion to approve the March 26, 2024, minutes was made by Mayor Pro Tem Rhodes, with a second from Arts Commissioner Plant. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Statements - None

5. Continued Business - None

6. New Business

- a. Receipt of the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operating Budget, Fiscal Year 2023-24 Estimated Actual Budget Projections, and Review of Proposed Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operating Budget.

Community Services Manager Fred Helsel reported that for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 the Cultural Arts Center (CAC) anticipates a Gross Income of \$583,565 with Total Expenses of \$523,675 for a Net Profit of \$59,890. Total Income shows strong box office income of \$367,950, due to the popularity of the CAC's Theatrical Productions, Tribute Concerts, Comedy Nights and Youth Programs.

Artists Fees exceeded the budgeted estimate due to the vacant Technical Coordinator position, increased number of CAC produced events, and providing artist stipends to help offset the cost of traveling to and from ten weeks of rehearsals and performances. Estimated Equipment Rentals will exceed the original budget due to unanticipated emergency equipment rentals. The marked increase in estimated Provider Payments directly reflects the increased Box Office Income and estimated Contract Labor costs exceeds the original budget due to the CAC having to hire additional technical help for the past six months. Due to fewer requests for grant funding from the Performing Arts Recovery Fund in Fiscal Year 2023-24, it is projected that grant awards will amount to a third of the proposed budget. The estimated Licenses and Permits budget total are lower than anticipated due to *The Prom* licensing fees paid in the previous fiscal year and not incurring fees for CAC original productions. The Contingency/Performance Fund Account balance is estimated to remain at \$38,802 on June 30, 2024.

The proposed FY 2024-25 CAC Operating Budget projects Gross Revenue of \$626,350 and Gross Expenses of \$583,850 realizing a Net Income of \$42,500.

A motion to receive the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operating Budget and recommend the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operating Budget as proposed to be forwarded to the City Council for approval was made by Commissioner Weinstein, with a second from Commissioner Savell. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Review of the Proposed Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operating Plan

Community Services Manager Fred Helsel provided an overview of the CAC's Operating Plan for FY 2024-25, highlighting the CAC's commitment to fostering a respectful and inclusive space for all. The CAC aims to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Simi Valley and surrounding areas by presenting diverse and enriching programming, integrating the arts more deeply into community life, and expanding arts education opportunities.

A key aspect of the CAC's efforts is its continued support for local non-profits and arts or educational organizations still recovering from the impacts of COVID-19. Through the Performing Arts Recovery Grant, the CAC offers rental subsidies to help these organizations regain their footing. Additionally, the CAC is expanding its Young Artists Playground Arts Education program and offering more diverse types of events and performances to engage a broader audience.

Mr. Helsel emphasized the importance of community partnerships in increasing the visibility and outreach of the CAC. To generate additional revenue and raise community awareness, he discussed plans to expand the use of the DownStage Theater and Multipurpose Room, expand advertising and marketing efforts, boost social media presence, and raise awareness through community events, and community partnerships.

A significant development for the CAC is the upcoming creation of a new website, designed to enhance user experience and make accessing information about the CAC easier. The CAC's Instagram account has already proven to be a powerful tool for outreach, generating over one million views and attracting 22,000 followers.

Mr. Helsel noted that the CAC's programming goals continue to align with the CAC's Strategic Plan. To ensure continued improvement and responsiveness to community needs, the CAC receives feedback from surveys sent to ticket purchasers. This feedback will be instrumental in shaping future programming and initiatives at the CAC. Mr. Helsel will present the data collected from the surveys in a future Arts Commission meeting.

c. Discussion of Developing a Cultural Plan for the City of Simi Valley and Direction on Drafting the Scope of Work for the Request for Proposal

Deputy Community Services Director Anna Medina reported that the role of the Arts Commission expanded with the adoption of the bylaws. A retreat was held where five (5) top priorities were identified and later two priorities associated with funding were combined.

As the Commission further examined the value of the above priorities, Mayor Pro Tem Rhodes recommended that staff agendize a discussion regarding developing an Arts and Culture Master Plan at the next Arts Commission meeting. If the Arts Commission recommends developing an Arts and Culture Master Plan, a Request for Proposal (RFP) for consultant services will need to be developed. In addition, the City Manager's Office has requested additional funding, subject to City Manager approval, for a consultant in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 budget.

Staff recommended that the Arts Commission discuss the possibility of developing an Arts and Culture Master Plan for the City of Simi Valley and provide staff direction regarding the "Scope of Work" for the RFP. The Arts Commission recommended staff develop the "Scope of Work" process for the RFP with review by an ad hoc committee comprised of Commissioners Plant, Weinstein, Wilson, and Foundation Representative Truncale.

A motion to approve an ad hoc committee comprised of Commissioners Plant, Weinstein, Wilson, and Foundation Representative Truncale was made by Mayor Pro Tem Rhodes, with a second from Commissioner Wilson. The motion passed unanimously.

## 7. Reports

### a. Update on Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation Activities

Foundation Representative Gina Truncale provided an update on the Foundation's activities, highlighting several key initiatives and upcoming events. The upcoming Spotlight Awards Gala, scheduled for May 11, 2024, will be held at the CAC for the first time. The gala will feature a live auction with unique items, including a coffee tasting hosted by Mayor Pro Tem Rhodes and a harp performance by Council Member Litster. Ms. Truncale encouraged all Arts Commissioners to purchase tickets and support the event. The Hispanic Heritage Festival is set to take place on Saturday, September 28, 2024, in partnership with the CAC. This festival promises to be a vibrant celebration of Hispanic culture, bringing together the community for a day of festivities. The Foundation has been proactive in seeking financial support, applying for several grants, including from the Community Projects Grant through the City of Simi Valley, the Ventura County Arts and Culture Investment Fund, and US Bank Community Funds. These grants, if awarded, will help further the Foundation's mission and support its various programs. Lastly, the Foundation will have a booth at the CAC's Craft Fest event on June 1, 2024, providing an opportunity to engage with the community and showcase the Foundation's work.

### b. General Manager's Report

Community Services Manager Fred Helsel shared the success of the final weekend for the production of *In The Heights* at the CAC. Despite the challenge of having eight actors out due to COVID-19, the performances were mostly sold out, reflecting the high quality of the production and its strong appeal. This rendition of *In The Heights* not only displayed outstanding talent but also brought together a diverse audience and a cast of actors from Los Angeles and surrounding areas, delivering a significant cultural experience for the Simi Valley community. In addition to the success of the production, Mr. Helsel announced that the CAC received a grant award of \$5,500 from the Meggitt Corporation. These funds will support the CAC's Young Artists Playground (YAP) Program, furthering the center's mission to enhance arts education and provide valuable opportunities for aspiring young artists in the community.

8. Commissioner Comments

Mayor Pro Tem Rhodes announced that he is meeting with Arts and Culture Manager for Ventura County on May 29, 2024, for a tour of the Artist Studios at Channel Islands and the Vita Art Center.

Commissioner Savell commended staff for reaching out and building community partners.

Commissioner Wilson announced that she would attend the Happy Face Festival on May 25, 2024.

Commissioner Weinstein expressed that he loves the laughter at the Arts Commission meetings.

Foundation Representative Truncala stated that the production of *In The Heights* at the CAC was amazing. She congratulated Mr. Helsel. Ms. Truncala also stated that the CAC is educating the community through the CAC's quality and diverse programming.

Commissioner Plant is delighted that the Arts Commission will be developing an Arts and Cultural Master Plan.

Council Member Litster stated that the Simi Valley Music Foundation is forming to support a professional orchestra, which will perform at the VA National Cemetery.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:04 p.m.

## CITY OF SIMI VALLEY • MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 18, 2024

**TO:** Simi Valley Arts Commission

**FROM:** Fred Helsel, Community Services Manager

**SUBJECT:** UPDATE ON THE SIMI VALLEY CULTURAL ARTS CENTER PERFORMING ARTS RECOVERY GRANT PROGRAM

At the November 17, 2021, Arts Commission meeting, the Arts Commissioners approved the Performing Arts Recovery Grant Program and recommended it for approval by the City Council. The City Council approved the Grant Program at its March 21, 2022, meeting. The grant program was established to provide financial support in the form of facility rental rate subsidies to local non-profits and arts and educational organizations by partially offsetting rental fees during 2022, 2023 and extending into 2024.

The Arts Commission also appointed an ad hoc grant review committee with the authority to approve grant applications. The Committee reviews incoming grant applications and rates them according to the grant guidelines. Those receiving a score of 75 or higher are approved for funding. Initially, the Cultural Arts Center (CAC) utilized \$75,000 of Operating Surplus to fund the initial grants. An additional \$100,000 was approved by the City Council from the City’s American Rescue Plan Act Grant.

In the 2022 calendar year, the Performing Arts Recovery Grant Program awarded \$36,732.18 in subsidy to non-profit and other arts organizations.

In the 2023 calendar year, the Performing Arts Recovery Grant Program awarded \$41,496.76 in subsidy to non-profit and other arts education organizations. The following list shows a breakdown of which community organizations received funding and the amount of funding received.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Disbursed</b>
2023	Simi Valley Cultural Association	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
2023	Panic Productions	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
2023	ARTS Youth Theater Program	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00
2023	Backyard Productions, Inc.	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2023	Daylyn Paul Femme Faire	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2023	Serendipity Dance Company	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2023	Turpin Performing Arts Recital	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2023	Stage 1 Music Recital	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2023	A 5-6-7-8 Dance Studio	\$4,000.00	\$3,496.76
	<b>TOTAL AWARDED 2023</b>	<b>\$44,000.00</b>	<b>\$41,496.76</b>



Thus far in 2024, a total of \$26,000.00 has been awarded by the Ad Hoc Grants Committee and of the total awarded amount, \$24,748.22 has been disbursed to date. Simi Valley Cultural Association dba Actors' Repertory Theatre of Simi was awarded \$15,000 toward their season of productions including *Parade*, *Annie* and *White Christmas*. Daylyn Paul Femme Faire was awarded \$1,000 toward their one-day event and Music RX Org was awarded \$1,000 for their Keith Borden Concert. The Organic Mind was awarded \$1,000 toward their Health and Wellness Conference. Susan Mastrotonardo was awarded \$947.19 toward their Piano Recital. ARTS Youth Theater Program was awarded \$4,801.03 toward their two (2) day production of *Guys and Dolls Jr.* Stage 1 Music recital was awarded \$1,000.00 for their Music Recital. Grant awards are disbursed in full during the final reconciliation process for eligible events.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>	<b>Disbursed</b>
2024	Simi Valley Cultural Association	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
2024	Daylyn Paul Femme Faire	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2024	The Music Rx Org	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2024	The Organic Mind	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
2024	Mastrotonardo Piano Studio	\$1,000.00	\$947.19
2024	ARTS Youth Theater Program	\$5,000.00	\$4,801.03
2024	Stage 1 Music Recital	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
	<b>TOTAL AWARDED AS OF 09/18/2024</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$24,748.22</b>

Combined, a total of \$102,977.16 has been awarded and disbursed thus far from the Performing Arts Recovery Fund since its establishment.

Staff will continue to provide annual updates on the Performing Arts Recovery Grant at future Arts Commission meetings.

# CITY OF SIMI VALLEY • MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 18, 2024

**TO:** Simi Valley Arts Commission

**FROM:** Anna M. Medina, Deputy Community Services Director

**SUBJECT:** REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT ARTS AND CULTURE MASTER PLAN STATEMENT OF WORK

The City Council adopted the Simi Valley Arts Commission (Arts Commission) Bylaws on August 14, 2023. Based on the new direction created by the Bylaws, staff recommended the Arts Commission provide direction regarding future agenda items. Mayor Pro Tem Rhodes recommended staff agendaize a discussion regarding developing an Arts and Culture Master Plan for the City of Simi Valley.

At the May 7, 2024 meeting, the Arts Commission discussed the idea of developing the “Scope of Work” or responsibilities of the consultant prior to additional funding being approved as part of the budget process. The Arts Commission considered the following alternatives: scheduling special meetings to discuss and develop the “Scope of Work”; establishing an ad hoc committee to develop the “Scope of Work” and provide a report at an Arts Commission meeting; having staff develop the “Scope of Work” and provide a report at an Arts Commission meeting. The Arts Commission recommended staff prepare the “Scope of Work” with review by an Ad Hoc Committee (Committee) comprised of Commissioners Plant, Weinstein, Wilson, and Foundation Representative Truncale.

Staff met with the Committee on August 1, 2024, to review the Draft Arts and Culture Master Plan Statement of Work. The Committee requested that the suggested revisions be made and recommended the draft plan be presented at the next Arts Commission meeting. The next step in the process is to draft the Request for Proposal.

The purpose of the Arts and Culture Master Plan is to set a vision and chart a course for Simi Valley’s cultural development over the next ten years and provide a clear vision for the future of public art, community oriented public arts and cultural events, and artist communities in Simi Valley. The Draft Arts and Culture Master Plan Statement of Work (attached) addresses each of these elements.

The following alternatives are available to the Arts Commission:

1. Approve the Draft Arts and Culture Master Plan Statement of Work as proposed and provide staff direction regarding the Request for Proposal;
2. Revise the Draft Arts and Culture Master Plan Statement of Work and provide staff with direction regarding the Request for Proposal;
3. Provide staff with alternative direction.

Staff recommends alternative No. 1.

**Suggested Motion:**

I move to approve the Draft Arts and Culture Master Plan Statement of Work as proposed and recommend staff move forward with drafting the Request for Proposal.

Attachment

## **OBJECTIVE**

This is the first Arts and Culture Master Plan for the City of Simi Valley. The purpose of the Arts and Culture Master Plan is to set a vision and chart a course for Simi Valley's cultural development over the next ten (10) years and provide a clear vision for the future of public art, community oriented public arts and cultural events, and artist communities in Simi Valley.

## **STATEMENT OF WORK**

The following is the proposed Statement of Work. Proposers should expect to accomplish, at a minimum, the following items to create an Arts and Culture Master Plan. Expansion of the Statement of Work by Proposers is encouraged in order to ensure a complete analysis with all necessary research and data.

Produce an Arts and Culture Master Plan that is a comprehensive and visually engaging document that includes, but is not limited to, the following components:

- A detailed plan that identifies and articulates key values, purpose, priorities, vision, mission, and goals based on outcomes from comprehensive community outreach.
- A comprehensive community outreach program with community meetings and surveys that fully engage residents, stakeholders, officials (City Council, Arts Commission, etc.), and the community at large in shaping and designing what Public Art and Events should embody in Simi Valley.
  - a. Provide summary of research, findings, and community input results.
  - b. Include the results of the responses as an appendix to the final Arts and Culture Master Plan document.
- Conduct a thorough inventory and assessment of existing cultural assets and opportunities in the City of Simi Valley including identifying art and culture organizations and groups and outlining each organization's purpose and role.
- Develop clear and feasible goals and actionable strategies that consider the City's available resources, and include short-term and long-term initiatives, estimated budget and costs, and implementation dates.
- Perform an assessment of the City's assets and opportunities for Public Art, including potential locations. This is to include reviewing and becoming familiar with existing policies, documents, and local codes, as well as planned future developments.
  - a. Recommend formal policy guidelines and procedures for Public Art based on industry best practices that incorporate existing policies and any recommended policy updates. Including the following:
    1. Criteria for the location of Public Art projects.

2. Guidelines for inclusion of Public Art in public and private development projects.
  3. A general process by which artists are commissioned and selected.
  4. Policies for the management of commissioned art projects including, but not limited to, City/artist/stakeholder roles and responsibilities, contracting requirements, and any applicable regulatory requirements.
  5. Standards for maintenance, upkeep, and replacement, maintenance funding, and managing Public Art inventory.
  6. Policies for acceptance of donated/gifted artwork.
  7. Policies and procedures for deaccession of artwork.
  8. A general process for establishing, managing, and maintaining a permanent collection.
  9. A general process for establishing, managing, and maintaining a Public Art Roster.
- b. Recommend programs and initiatives that align with the established vision for the City's Public Art program.
  - c. Recommendations for documenting and archiving existing Public Art inventory, including Private Art installations.
  - d. Strategies for the preservation of accessible space in private and public developments for Public Art installations.
  - e. Identification of sites for future permanent and/or temporary Public Art projects.
  - f. Identify opportunities and strategies for partnering with key community stakeholders to further the vision for the Public Art program.
  - g. Analysis of current funding sources and recommended additional models and opportunities for funding.
  - h. Identify staffing or possible management options, cost implications, potential utilization, and advantages and disadvantages of each option.
  - i. Strategies for ongoing community engagement and outreach, considering the City's limited resources.
  - j. Develop a strategic marketing plan for immediate and on-going promotion of Public Art.
- Recommend community centered arts and cultural events for Simi Valley that are engaging, meaningful, and relevant to the local and regional community and that will attract event attendees, including potential locations. Provide a combination of free and ticketed events. In addition, recommend a yearly event that would accelerate awareness of Simi Valley as a cultural destination, stimulate the economy, and create a funding source for financial sustainability.
    - a. Identify current public events including public arts and cultural events in the local and regional community, including time of year event is held.
    - b. Identify opportunities and develop strategies for partnering with key community stakeholders.
    - c. Analysis of current funding sources and recommended additional models and opportunities for funding.

- d. Strategies for ongoing community engagement and outreach, considering the City's limited resources.
- Perform an assessment to determine the feasibility of an Artist Community/Colony, Artist Studios, and/or community and cultural center that would accommodate artist studios, classes, arts exhibits, meetings, and other special events, including potential locations for each option.
  - a. Determine the potential support from the local and regional community (economic and demographic) of each option.
  - b. Identify staffing or possible management options, cost implications, potential utilization, and advantages and disadvantages of each option.
  - c. Identify opportunities and strategies for partnering with key community stakeholders.
  - d. Analysis of current funding sources and recommended additional models and opportunities for funding.
  - e. Strategies for ongoing community engagement and outreach, considering the City's limited resources.
  - f. Develop a strategic marketing plan for immediate and on-going promotion of each option.

Provide print and electronic copies of the completed Arts and Culture Master Plan, as well as electronic copies of all accompanying supplemental materials in a format to be determined by the City.

Present the completed Arts and Culture Master Plan to the Arts Commission and the City Council, including preparation of presentation materials (PowerPoint presentation, handouts, etc.)

# CITY OF SIMI VALLEY • MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 18, 2024  
TO: Simi Valley Arts Commission  
FROM: Fred Helsel, Community Services Manager  
SUBJECT: SIMI VALLEY CULTURAL ARTS CENTER PROGRAMMING REPORT



## **BROADWAY AND BEYOND CABARET: HITS & MISSES**

**August 23 – September 21, 2024**

**Presented by Simi Valley Cultural Arts  
Center (SVCAC)**

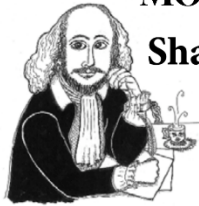
If you love Broadway music, be sure to join us for our third installment of the **Broadway and Beyond Cabaret Series on the DownStage Theater!**

**Broadway and Beyond Cabaret: Hits & Misses** celebrates the Biggest Hits and the Box Office Busts of Broadway, film and Off-Broadway mixed in with little known musical theater gems. This fun evening or afternoon of Broadway music will feature selections from some of your favorite shows - *The Music Man*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Gypsy*, *Wicked*, *The Sound of Music* and much more! You will also discover catchy tunes from lesser-known shows such as *Side Show*, *Carrie The Musical*, *Wildcat* and other hidden gems! And Broadway and Beyond Cabaret Host Philip McBride will once again be providing fun tidbits of Broadway trivia including a section about Tony Award Winners and surprising Tony Award Losers! Seating is "Cabaret Style" at tables so that you can enjoy tasty desserts or a beverage of your choice during the show! Make plans now to join us for **Broadway and Beyond Cabaret: Hits & Misses** on the DownStage Cabaret Theater at the SVCAC!

**Broadway and Beyond Cabaret: Hits and Misses** features vocalists **Sharon Gibson**, **Lauren Josephs**, **Philip McBride**, **Jackie Cox**, **Amber Florin**, and **Paul Siemens**, with Musical Director **Jenny Chaney** on Keyboard and her band. So, grab a delicious dessert or glass of wine and enjoy an evening or afternoon of incredible Broadway style music sung by a bevy of amazing voices. **Tickets are \$25 Reserved seating. Please note there is a \$2 per ticket surcharge on all tickets whether purchased online or in person. Desserts and beverages sold separately at the performance and are not included in the admission price.**

# YAP PRESENTS

## MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL



### Shakespeare Unshackled

August 26 - November 4

### YOUNG ARTISTS PLAYGROUND (YAP) MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL THEATER PROGRAM

August 26 – November 4, 2024

Register your Young Artist NOW!

The CAC's YAP 2024 Fall After School Musical Play will be Shakespeare **Unshackled** by Ron Fink (Composer) and John Heath (Book and Lyrics). About

**Shakespeare Unshackled:** This show answers every question

everyone has ever had about Shakespeare. Well, maybe it does not quite do that, but it does touch on many cool aspects of Shakespeare's life! Most of the titles of Shakespeare's plays are mentioned (often in humorous contexts), and there are dozens of quotations from Shakespeare, including extended passages from *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* (and a fractured description of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*). It is a perfect introduction for students and audiences to the real thing! Filled with humor and fantastic songs, **Shakespeare Unshackled** is both a great introduction to Shakespeare and a wildly fun musical play that entertains and educates all at once! **10 weeklong after school session, August 26 - November 4, 2024 (No class on 9/2: Labor Day), 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Cost: \$350 for 10 weeks**



### 4NR: THE FOREIGNER CONCERT EXPERIENCE

September 25, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

Featured on AXSTV's The World's Greatest Tribute Bands (formerly Double Vision) 4NR is dedicated to recreating the sound and spirit of classic era Foreigner. A real, live, high-energy rock show is what you will experience at a 4NR performance. Guitars, keyboards, harmony vocals and of course the

multi-talented Kyle Frost as charismatic lead vocalist Lou Gramm, all come together in an unforgettable evening of 1970's and 80's Rock n Roll. Relive the magic of *FEELS LIKE THE FIRST TIME*, *COLD AS ICE*, *HOT BLOODED*, *DOUBLE VISION*, *HEAD GAMES*, *URGENT*, *JUKE BOX HERO*, *I WANT TO KNOW WHAT LOVE IS* and many more with 4NR: The Foreigner Concert Experience! **Tickets are \$38 Adults, \$34 Seniors 60 & Above and Students, \$32 Children 12 & under.** Please Note: There is an additional \$2 per ticket surcharge on all ticket sales both online and in person.





**HISPANIC HERITAGE FESTIVAL**  
**September 28, 2024**  
**From 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
***Presented by Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation in Association with the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center***

The Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation in association with the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center will host a **Hispanic Heritage Festival** on Saturday, September 28, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center.

Admission to the Festival is free of charge and is open to the public.

This six-hour celebration will feature live entertainment, dancing, over forty Hispanic artisan vendors selling handmade art, jewelry, clothing and more, and food vendors featuring a variety of tastes of Latin American food. In addition there will be a live weaving demonstration by Oaxacan artist Benita Martinez and a screening of the critically acclaimed documentary ***Translators*** - a powerful short film directed by Emmy Award winner Rudy Valdez which sheds light on the vital role bilingual children play in helping their immigrant families in America.

The **Hispanic Heritage Festival** celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month. Observed from September 15 to October 15, Hispanic Heritage Month is a national celebration of the culture, traditions and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society.

Featured entertainment scheduled on the outdoor stage during the **Hispanic Heritage Festival** includes performances by Danza Azteca, Ballet Folklorico Cielito de Simi Valley, Mariachi Zapopan, Dances of Peru, and salsa dance lessons. Other scheduled events during the festival include a community art project, gallery exhibit featuring artists from the Hispanic community, face painting and a mural project by Art Trek.

The Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation is committed to enhancing the arts and cultural activities within the City of Simi Valley. Community Partners and Sponsors of the **Hispanic Heritage Festival** include U.S. Bank, Vallarta Supermarkets, Visit Simi Valley, Elvira's Mexican Grill, Box Stop, Floreecer Family Counseling, Susan Derksen Realtor, Kurlly's Churros, La Dulceria, Munay Peruvian Restaurant, Tina's Tamales, Pretty As You Please Boutique, Rock n Roll Cafe, Hispanic Business Alliance and many others. The **Hispanic Heritage Festival** is also made possible in part through funding from the City of Simi Valley's Community Projects Grant received by the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation.

***WHAT: Hispanic Heritage Festival | WHEN: Saturday, September 28, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. | WHERE: Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center, 3050 E Los Angeles Ave, Simi Valley, CA 93065 COST: The Hispanic Heritage Festival is open to the public and free of charge.***

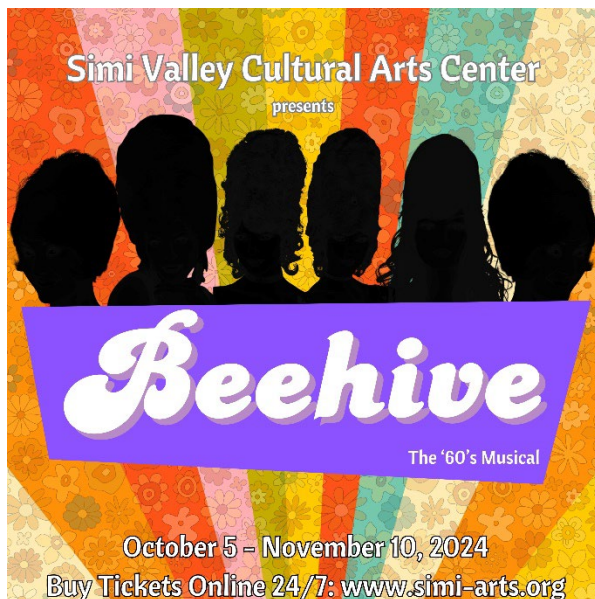


**SUNDAY NIGHT COMEDY AT THE CENTER**

**September 29, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.  
October 27, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**

The Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center is pleased to continue the family friendly Sunday Night Comedy at the Center series on the Main Stage featuring some of Hollywood’s hottest comedians! Sunday Night Comedy at the Center features a variety of talented comedians from the Los

Angeles area bringing clean comedy to the stage of the Cultural Arts Center. **Tickets are \$15, All Seats Reserved.** Please note there is an additional \$2 per ticket surcharge on all ticket sales both online and in person.



**BEEHIVE – The 60’s Musical**

**October 5 – November 10, 2024  
Presented by Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center**

**Beehive: The ‘60s Musical** is a wailing musical tribute to the groundbreaking female voices of the 1960’s who left an unforgettable mark on generations. Featuring such beloved hits as *Respect, Natural Woman, My Boyfriend’s Back, One Fine Day, Proud Mary* and more, **Beehive: The ‘60s Musical** features six extraordinary women performing more than two dozen timeless hits from Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross, Janis Joplin, Carole King, Tina Turner and more. Complete with big hair dos and funkadelic

60’s fashions, **Beehive: The ‘60s Musical** will have audiences of all ages movin’ and groovin’ and shouting for more. **Tickets are \$33 for Adults, \$28 for Seniors 60 & Above and Students, and \$22 for Children 12 and under.** Please note there is a \$2 per ticket surcharge on all tickets whether purchased online or in person

**MORE TO COME IN SEASON 2024 . . .**

- More DownStage Cabaret Events including a Holiday Cabaret
- More events on the Main Stage including the beloved musical *White Christmas*
- More Tribute Concerts, including tributes to Selena, Neil Diamond, The Eagles, and Blue Christmas with Elvis!
- More Sunday Night Comedy at the Center Series
- Winter Art Marketplace on December 7, 2024
- More SVCAC Foundation events including an Indian Cultural Evening
- More Gallery events