

**NOTICE OF MEETING
ARTS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026 - 1:30 PM
CITY HALL - ROOM 204
823 ROSENBERG, GALVESTON, TX 77550
TELEPHONE: (409) 797 -3510**

1. Call Meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum
2. Roll Call
3. Consider Approval Of Meeting Minutes
 - 3.A Draft Minutes - January 13, 2026
4. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Committee. Speakers will be limited to three minutes.
5. Conflict of Interest
6. Clarification of the Attendance Rules per City Ordinance and Open Meetings Act
7. Discuss and Consider the Art in Public Places Applications: United Way, Born Learning Trail, and City of Malaga, Spain
 - 7.A Attachments
8. Discussion of Public Art Recent History, Possibilities, and limitations
9. Discussion of Public Art Panel
 - 9.A Review of the Public Art Panel Ordinance, Including Purpose and Timelines
 - 9.B Discussion of Panel Sign-up Fields and Panelist Selection Process
 - 9.C Discussion of Software or Programs for Panelist Information Collection and Archiving
10. Maintenance and Marketing Fund Expenditures: Topiary Covers, Plaque(s) Language, and Outreach Materials
11. FY26 Artist Contract and Timelines Updates
12. Discussion of Public Art workshop Dates
13. Discuss and Consider New Future Meeting Dates for August, September, November, December
14. Future Agenda Items
15. Adjournment

I certify that the above Notice of Meeting was posted in a place convenient to the public in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code on 02/06/2026 at 11:00 AM.

Martha Alvarez

City Secretary's Sr. Admin. Assistant

Please note: members of the City Council may be attending and participating in the discussion. In accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), persons in need of special accommodation to participate in the proceeding shall, within 3 days prior to any proceeding, contact the City Secretary's Office, 823 Rosenberg, Galveston, Texas (409) 979-3510.

One or more members of the Arts Development Commission may attend the meeting by videoconference. A quorum of the members of the Commission will be physically present at the meeting location.

Draft - Pending Approval
**MINUTES OF THE ARTS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON
MEETING AGENDA - JANUARY 13, 2026**

1/13/2026 - Arts Development Commission Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum

Meeting called to order by Ex-Officio Council Member Porretto at 2:01 pm

2. Roll Call

Present: Nellie Cornett (left the meeting at 3:03 pm), Brita Blesi, Tony Lyle, John Mullins, Trey Click, Sherrill Hilton, Sandra Tetley, Jonathan Crummett, Lacey White, and Alex Porretto (City Council)

3. Introduction of Board Members and Staff

Each board member and staff member gave a self- introduction.

4. Staff Presentation for the Arts Development Commission Ordinance, Process, and Ordinance Mandated Procedures including Conflicts, Alternates Roles and Terms

Board liaison Antoinette Lynch briefly went through the presentation and provided a packet for each member to go through at their own time; they can reach out to her directly if additional questions arise. She emphasized the importance of not including all members in an email to staff, as this can create a walking quorum.

5. Discuss and Consider the Election of a Chair and Vice Chair

Board member Sherrill Hilton made a motion to nominate Trey Click as Chair, with board member Sandra Tetley seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.

Board Member Tony Lyle made a motion to nominate Sherrill Hilton as Vice-Chair, with Chair Trey Click seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.

6. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Committee. Speakers will be limited to three minutes.

Representative of Z Krewe commented that they do a street painting every year and must seek approval from the board. Thanked the board for their time and looking for their approval.

7. Discuss and Consider Future Meeting Dates with Recommendations from Staff

Board member John Mullins made a motion to approve the board to meet every second Thursday of the month at 1:30 pm, with board member Sandra Tetley seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.

8. Discuss and Consider the Art in Public Places Applications: Z Krewe for Recommendation to Council

Board member Sherrill Hilton made a motion to approve the art in public places application from Z- Krewe, with board member Brita Blesi seconding the motion. Unanimously approved.

9. Presentation of Timeline of Former Cultural Arts Commission and Arts & Historical Preservation Advisory Board Contracts, Calls, and Awards in Place and Set for 2026-2027

Board Liaison Antoinette Lynch mentioned previously that the Arts and Historic Preservation Advisory Board operated on a two-year allocation, while the Cultural Arts Commission funded one year in advance, and proposed to compress those timelines into a single process by using SMU DataArts, eliminating separate applications and starting with public art since it already follows a one-year cycle.

10. Presentation and Discussion of Arts Penny Surplus Fund – A. Lynch

Antoinette supplied the board members with a draft of the preliminary data Summary Schedule Revenue & Expenditures FY 25–September Report, put together by the finance department. At every meeting, the board members will be able to look at a report of the current numbers. Antoinette also reported that the Arts and Historic Preservation Advisory Board has an unanticipated surplus resulting from two-year funding allocations based on underestimated penny tax revenues and increased short-term rental registrations. Because allocations were made as fixed dollar amounts, revenue growth produced a surplus rather than increased awards.

The ending fund balance is approximately \$3.1 million. City Council directed staff to bring the matter to the Arts Development Commission for discussion. Antoinette noted the surplus should be treated as a one-time funding opportunity and presented a preliminary list of identified needs.

11. Presentation by Visit Galveston and/or a Community Partners regarding the FIFA Soccer Ball Project and Consideration of a Recommendation to City Council for Approval of the Proposed Project

Board Member Tony Lyle provided an update on the FIFA “Art of Soccer” project, explaining that as part of the Houston World Cup Host Committee agreement, Galveston will receive five blank, 36-inch soccer balls to be transformed through an arts program. Staff described plans to issue an RFP to select a nonprofit, arts-related organization to manage the project, including a call for artists, artist selection, project coordination, and final installation. The intent is to involve Galveston artists, establish themes, and determine installation locations, with City input.

12. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned by Chair Trey Click at 3:23 pm

Martha Alvarez

City Secretary's Sr. Admin. Assistant

Date Approved:

Approximate Site Map for Born Learning Signs at Austin Elementary



Austin Elementary School Born Learning Trail

Supplemental Information for

United Way of Galveston Application 12-5-24

Art Drawn on Sidewalks, Streets, or Public Places



United Way of Galveston

Overview



United Way of Galveston

- The Rotary Club of Galveston has sponsored the installation of a new United Way of Galveston Born Learning Trail at Austin Elementary School
 - Details attached
- Volunteers from Galveston Rotary are planning to install the proposed trail as part of a community service project on Saturday, February 8, 2025
- United Way of Galveston is taking the lead on coordinating the installation, as has previously been done at Born Learning Trail Installations at Adoue Park and Moody Early Childhood Center, and will purchase supplies, direct the installation, and maintain the installation in perpetuity.
- United Way of Galveston has designed the installation in partnership with GISD via Austin Elementary School's Principal, Dr. Julia Ramirez (Letter of Support is attached), and artwork for the installation will be customized for the Austin Red Wolves by artists Kathy VanDewalli and Jennifer Jameson.

Approximate Site Map with Measurements for Born Learning signage and age-appropriate artwork for babies and young children at Austin Elementary to support Early Learning and Literacy



Born Learning Trail Installation at Austin Elementary School



United Way of Galveston

- Materials
 - Official Born Learning Trail Signs (Attachment A)
 - 10 sets of signs along the path each, English and Spanish, hung in pairs
 - i.e., Welcome in English and Spanish; 20 signs, 10 “stations”
 - Sign Specifications: 24”x12” S/F print/lam on Signabond w/ round corners
 - See Adoue Park and Moody Early Childhood Center for examples
 - Paint
 - Behr Premium Plus Exterior Paint & Primer in Satin Enamel
 - Park Picnic - P390-7; Brilliant Blu - P510-6; Tropics - 450-6; Kings Court - P560-7; Buzz-in - P300-6; Beauty Queen - P120-5; Tart Orange - HDC-MD-27; 100 MPH - P170-7; White; Black
- Examples of prior work (Attachment B)
 - See arial photograph of Moody Early Childhood Center
- Maintenance Plan
 - The installation will be maintained in perpetuity by United Way of Galveston as evidenced at Adoue Park and as previously agreed upon for Adoue Park, MECC, and Parker Elementary School, using our pool of volunteers and annual city-wide volunteer events

Attachment A: Signage Examples



United Way of Galveston



Did you know that learning is happening all the time?

For ways to learn together, just look for the *Born Learning Trail* signs. By playing and exploring you help young children get ready for success in school and in life.

Together, you can turn everyday moments into learning moments.

Happy trails!



Talk it up while you play.

Try this:

- Listen to the sounds *around you*. Ask, "What made that sound? Where did it come from?"
- Talk with your child. Ask, "What should we do next?"
- Make up silly stories or songs. Sing, "Swing, swing, bo, bing..."

Trail tip: Talking and singing with children teaches them words and gets them ready to read.

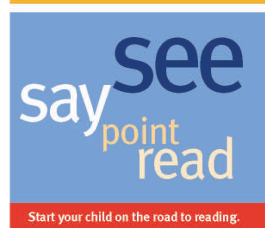


Let your child lead the way.

Try this:

- Watch what your child likes to do. Are they playing with other children, looking at signs or some other interests?
- Do the things your child likes to do.
- Is your child staring or pointing at something? Ask, "What do you see?"

Trail tip: When you follow a child's lead, curiosity and confidence grow.



Start your child on the road to reading.

Try this:

- Point to the letters on the wall. Say the sound each letter makes.
- Think of words or names that start with A, B or C.
- Point and say, "I see something tall. What rhymes with tall?"

Trail tip: Playing with letters and sounds helps children get ready to read.



Take time to pay attention to your child.

Try this:

- Stand in a circle, looking at each other. Make each other smile or laugh.
- Hold hands, give your child a hug, a smile or a pat on the back.
- Watch, listen and learn. See what your child looks at, talks about and does.

Trail tip: Paying attention to children helps them to feel special and secure.

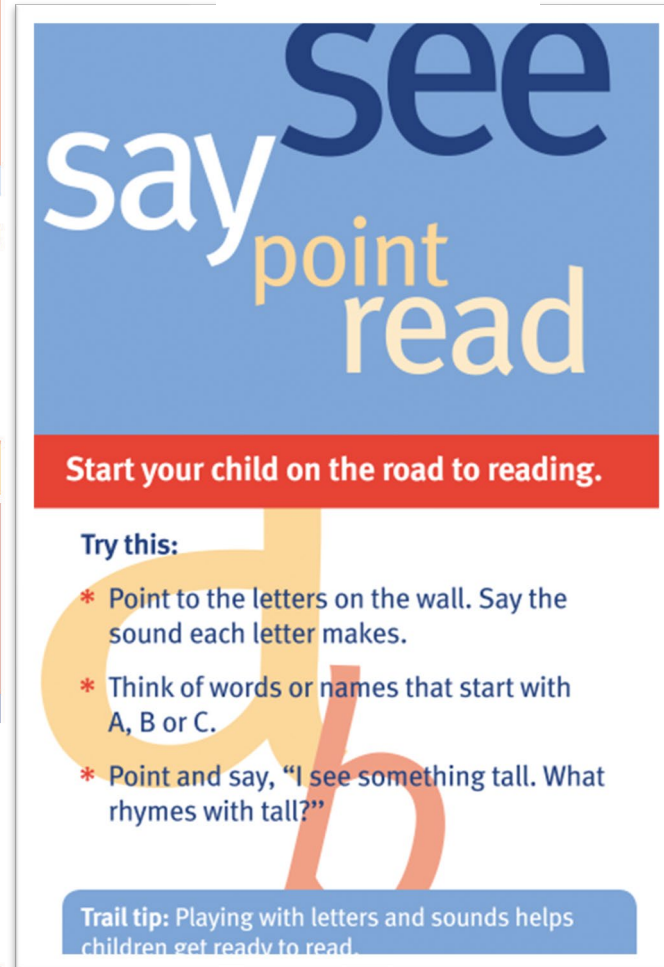


Turn any time into story time.

Try this:

- Tell stories about yourself and your family. Begin with "When I was little..."
- Look around for story ideas. See a door? Say, "Once there was a magic door..."
- Have your child help tell the story. Ask, "What do you think is on the other side of the door?"

Trail tip: Storytelling can grow a child's ability to imagine and listen.



Attachment B: Moody Early Childhood Center



Any Questions? Need more information?



United Way of Galveston

- Please contact me!
 - Lindsey White, United Way of Galveston Executive Director
 - (409) 762-HELP office
 - (409) 750-5051 mobile
 - lwhite@uwgalv.org



409-761-3500

juliamirez@gisd.org

1514 Avenue N1/2
Galveston, Texas 77550



December 9, 2024

To: Cultural Arts Commission of the City of Galveston

My name is Dr. Julia Ramirez, and I and the Principal of Austin Elementary School. Prior to this year, I was Principal of Rosenberg Elementary School, which was adjacent to Adoue Park, home of Galveston's first Born Learning Trail.

I'm writing in support of United Way of Galveston's application to install a new Born Learning Trail at our school. I believe in the Born Learning + Baby Smart Program that United Way of Galveston has been leading because I have seen it in action and it works.

The United Way of Galveston is working to equip caregivers of young children with tools to build healthy brains for babies and children ages 0-6, and this helps us at Galveston ISD. When parents and caregivers are involved in early learning, they are more likely to be involved in the duration of a student's enrollment in our school. The students who have been exposed to intentional and recurring early learning opportunities, like those that the Born Learning Trails provide, are more likely to have a more robust vocabulary, which is an important indicator of later success in academics and life.

In short, United Way of Galveston is setting the stage for early learning with the Born Learning Trails by empowering caregivers, like parents and grandparents, with tools to help their baby flourish and thrive. We are very appreciative of this partnership to bring Born Learning to our brand new Austin Elementary School and the community that surrounds our campus.

If you have any questions, please call or email my office and we will happily provide more information.

Thank you for considering this proposal for a new Born Learning Trail. We would love to see this happen for our Red Wolves and their families!

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Ramirez".

Dr. Julia Ramirez
Principal
Austin Elementary School



El Alcalde de Málaga

January 12, 2026

The Honorable Craig Brown
Mayor of the City of Galveston
City Hall
823 Rosenberg Street
Galveston, TX 77550

Re: America 250 – Civic Cultural Collaboration Proposal with the City of Málaga

Dear Mayor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Málaga, Spain, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to the City of Galveston and to the people of the United States on the occasion of the upcoming 250th anniversary of American independence. Along the Gulf Coast, few places embody the historic crossroads of cultures, trade, and resilience as clearly as Galveston.

As this milestone approaches, it offers an opportunity to honor the international alliances and shared efforts that helped shape the foundations of the United States. Among them stands a figure whose legacy is deeply connected to the history of the Gulf of Mexico and to the lands that would later become part of Texas: Bernardo de Gálvez, a native of Málaga.

As Governor of Spanish Louisiana, Bernardo de Gálvez secured the Gulf Coast at a decisive moment of the American Revolutionary War, protecting key maritime routes and preventing British forces from advancing through the southern frontier. His leadership helped ensure that the Gulf remained open to supplies, trade, and strategic movement, directly supporting the American cause at a moment of great uncertainty. At the same time, Spain provided essential financial support to the Continental Army when resources were scarce. 400,000 reales were raised in Málaga, funds that sustained the American war effort at a critical stage. Without this support, the final phase of the war led by George Washington would have faced severe limitations.

In recognition of this decisive contribution, the United States formally acknowledged Bernardo de Gálvez as part of its founding history by granting him honorary American citizenship, a distinction reserved for only a small number of historical figures. His legacy remains especially meaningful along the Gulf Coast, where his actions helped shape the region's historical trajectory. With this shared history in mind, the City of Málaga would be honored to propose a civic and cultural collaboration with the City of Galveston as part of the America 250 commemorations.

A commemorative mural as a civic gift

The City of Málaga would like to offer Galveston a large-scale commemorative urban art mural as a permanent civic gift marking the 250th anniversary of the United States. The mural would depict Bernardo de Gálvez, the City of Galveston, and the historical relationship between the Gulf Coast and the American struggle for independence, highlighting Galveston's place within this broader narrative.



El Alcalde de Málaga

To make this possible, the only requirement from the City of Galveston would be the provision of a suitable wall or surface in a visible and appropriate public location, allowing the mural to remain in place for an open-ended period of time, in accordance with local regulations and public space policies. Beyond the provision of this space, no financial or operational contribution would be required from the City, as Málaga would assume all costs associated with the artwork.

The mural would be created by Eduardo Luque (known professionally as "Lalone"), a Málaga-born European Champion in Urban Art with extensive international experience. Málaga would provide the artist, artistic direction, materials, and full logistical coordination. The artistic style, scale, and final design would be adapted to the surrounding environment and would be submitted for review and approval by the City of Galveston prior to execution. Examples of similar international projects are included in the dossier and video materials accompanying this letter.

Institutional presentation and civic reception

In addition to the mural, the City of Málaga would be honored to offer Galveston an institutional presentation and civic reception as a gesture of friendship, shared heritage, and celebration of America 250.

This event would be organized by Málaga as a formal historical presentation followed by a reception, addressed to representatives of Galveston's cultural, historical, tourism, and institutional communities, as well as invited guests and members of the media. The purpose of this gathering would be to honor Galveston's role within the Gulf Coast's historical narrative and to celebrate the enduring ties between our communities. The presentation and reception would be developed with the support and endorsement of the Embassy of Spain in the United States and the Spanish Cultural and Tourism Offices in the U.S. As with the mural, the City of Málaga would assume the organization and coordination of the event. We would be deeply honored if the City of Galveston could kindly consider providing a historic civic venue, ideally equipped with integrated audiovisual capabilities. Aside from the venue, no additional resources would be required from the City.

We believe that this initiative—combining a permanent public artwork and an institutional civic gathering—would create a lasting civic legacy for Galveston within the framework of the America 250 commemorations and further strengthen the historic bond between our communities across the Gulf of Mexico.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further at your convenience and remain at your disposal for any additional information.

Respectfully,

Francisco de la Torre
Mayor of Málaga - City of Málaga



City of Galveston

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF ART DRAWN ON STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PLACES

Notice to Applicants:

Please complete the following application to be considered for approval of art drawn on streets, sidewalks, and public places. Your application will be presented to the Cultural Arts Commission for their review at an upcoming meeting. The Cultural Arts Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 2pm. You will be invited to attend the meeting once your application has been scheduled on their agenda.

This application does not represent an acceptance of the application. Any permits granted are revocable at any time and without notice. The granting of this permit does not make the organization or people receiving or working under the permit employees or agents of the City of Galveston. The organization is responsible for all time and materials associated with the applied for project. Any deviations from the project as applied for must be requested before such deviations take place. The organization shall follow all local laws and conditions, and the failure to do so will result in the immediate revocation of any granted permits, as well as being civilly or criminally liable for such actions or failures to act.

How to Apply:

- Submit your application to: CulturalArts@GalvestonTX.gov. The Chair and/or a City of Galveston Staff Liaison will reach out once the application has been received.





City of Galveston

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF ART DRAWN ON STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PLACES

**Please complete this form and include with the submission of application materials.
Please email all materials to CulturalArts@GalvestonTX.gov in PDF format.**

Applicant Name(s): _____

Contact Number: _____

Email address: _____

Location of Proposed Project: _____

Surface Description: _____

Proposed Dimensions: _____

Proposed Materials: _____

Projected Duration / Lifetime of Project including Start Date: _____

Maintenance Plan: _____

Removal Plan and Date: _____

*** Please include any renderings, designs, or sketches of your proposal,
including colors and dimensions, with your application.**

*** If you have letters of support from property owners or neighbors,
we encourage you to submit those with your application.**

