



**EDINA**  
MINNESOTA



## **Arts & Culture Commission Meeting Agenda**

April 23, 2026, 4:30 PM

Edina City Hall, Mayors Conference Room, 4801 W.  
50th St.

### **Accessibility Support:**

The City of Edina wants all residents to be comfortable being part of the public process. If you need assistance in the way of hearing amplification, an interpreter, large-print documents or something else, please call 952-927-8861 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

#### **1. Call to Order**

#### **2. Roll Call**

#### **3. Approval of Meeting Agenda**

#### **4. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

4.1. Meeting minutes from Feb. 26, 2026 Arts and Culture Commission meeting

#### **5. Special Recognitions and Presentations**

#### **6. Community Comment**

During "Community Comment," the Board/Commission will invite residents to share issues or concerns that are not scheduled for a future public hearing. Items that are on tonight's agenda may not be addressed during Community Comment. Individuals must limit their comments to three minutes. The Chair may limit the number of speakers on the same issue in the interest of time and topic. Individuals should not expect the Chair or Board/Commission Members to respond to their comments tonight. Instead, the Board/Commission might refer the matter to staff for consideration at a future meeting.

#### **7. Reports/Recommendations**

7.1. Initiative 1.1.2 Edina Art Grant Program

7.2. 2026 Workplan Updates

#### **8. Chair and Member Comments**

#### **9. Staff Comments**

9.1. Upcoming Meetings & Events

**10. Adjournment**



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**Item Number:** 4.1

**Department:** Parks & Recreation

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Laura Fulton, Recreation Supervisor Art Center

**Item Title:** Meeting minutes from Feb. 26, 2026 Arts and Culture Commission meeting

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**Action Requested:**

Please approve the meeting minutes from the February 26, 2026 Arts and Culture Commission meeting.

**Information/Background:**

Attached, please find the Arts and Culture Commission meeting minutes from the February 26, 2026 meeting.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Draft ACC Meeting Minutes 2.26.26



# Arts & Culture Commission Meeting Agenda

February 26, 2026, 4:30 PM

Edina City Hall, Mayors Conference Room, 4801 W. 50th St.

## 1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Zbaren called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

## 2. Roll Call

Members Present: Ann Curtin, Tim Scully, Alyssa Fram, Alana Zbaren, Maxine Steinberg, Caroline Byrd, Jignasha Pandya, Bernadette Piacek-Llanes

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Laura Fulton, Perry Vetter, Rachel Finberg

## 3. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Zbaren requested to add Art Grant recipient Dr. Ann Marie Leland to the Agenda. Leland added to Special Presentations.

## 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion **Commissioner Curtin made a motion to approve meeting minutes from January 22 ACC meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Piacek-Llanes.**

Ayes: Ann Curtin, Tim Scully, Alyssa Fram, Alana Zbaren, Maxine Steinberg, Caroline Byrd, Jignasha Pandya, Bernadette Piacek-Llanes

Nays: None

Motion

4.1. Minutes

## 5. Special Recognitions and Presentations

**Agenda Item added:** Dr. Ann Marie Leland presented to Commission about the new mural that was installed at the Edina Early Learning Center.

### 5.1. Minneapolis–St. Paul International Film Festival Overview

Megan Feeney presented information about the history of the Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival (MSPIFF). She then shared information about the upcoming film festival to be held April 8–19, 2026. MSPIFF will have multiple volunteer opportunities for commissioners during the event.

### 5.2. Fred Richard Park Update and Public Art Discussion

Rachel Finberg presented on the Fred Richards Park Update and shared images of what the site will look like in the future. She then presented the opportunity for public art at the park. Commission discussed potential opportunities.

## 6. Community Comment

## 7. Reports/Recommendations

### 7.1. 2025/2026 Workplan Updates

Initiative 1.1.1: Art Center Colocation at Southdale Library  
Fulton updated Commission members on construction.

Initiative 1.1.2: Edina Art Grant Program

Fram reported on the 2025 Art Grant survey.

Commission discussed the process for the 2026 call for submissions.

Initiative 1.1.3 Review Public Art Opportunities for New City Facilities and Locations  
No updates at this time.

Initiative 1.1.4: Commission Participation in Community Events  
Commission discussed participating in the Fourth of July Parade and the Fall into the Arts Festival.

Initiative 1.1.5: Utility Box Art Wrap Program  
Fulton updated commission on the installation of the utility boxes

## 7.2. Officer Elections

The commission nominated Alana Zbaren to serve as the 2026/2027 Chair of the Edina Arts and Culture Commission.

**Commissioner Byrd made a motion to approve. Motion seconded by Commissioner Pandya.**

Ayes: Ann Curtin, Tim Scully, Alyssa Fram, Alana Zbaren, Maxine Steinberg, Caroline Byrd, Jignasha Pandya, Bernadette Piatek-Llanes

Nays: None

Motion Passed

The commission nominated Alyssa Fram to serve as the 2026/2027 Vice Chair of the Edina Arts and Culture Commission.

**Commissioner Curtin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Scully, to approve.**

Ayes: Ann Curtin, Tim Scully, Alyssa Fram, Alana Zbaren, Maxine Steinberg, Caroline Byrd, Jignasha Pandya, Bernadette Piatek-Llanes

Nays: None

Motion Passed

## 8. Chair and Member Comments

## 9. Staff Comments

### 9.1. Upcoming Meetings & Events

Fulton discussed upcoming meetings and events.

### 9.2. Upcoming Programming at the Edina Art Center

## 10. Adjournment



**Item Number:** 7.1

**Department:** Parks & Recreation

**Item Activity:** Information

**Prepared By:** Laura Fulton, Recreation Supervisor Art Center

**Item Title:** Initiative 1.1.2 Edina Art Grant Program

**Action Requested:**

Review and approve Art Grant Initiative recommendations for the 2026 Edina Art Grant recipients.

**Information/Background:**

Application Deadline – April 10

10 applications received

The Edina Art Grant Initiative Team choose grant applicants with strong goals, clear planning and execution plans, as well as a focus on diverse artistic experiences for a range of ages in our community and broad exposure.

We recommend that the Edina Arts and Culture Commission approve seven grant recipients to receive the approved \$5,000.

**Grant Recipient #1 - Anti-Racism Collective of Edina - Juneteenth Celebration - A Cultural Journey through History Art Banner Project**

The 2026 Edina Juneteenth Celebration will take place on June 19, 2026, at Centennial Lakes Park and is organized by the Anti-Racism Collective of Edina in partnership with Hennepin County Joint Community Police Partnership, the City of Edina, and the City of Richfield.

This year's event theme, A Cultural Journey through History, will deepen the educational experience for attendees of all ages, with emphasis on making history visible, accessible, and engaging.

Requesting \$800 to create a set of banners commissioned by a local or community-connected artist that honors the traditions, heritage, and cultural legacy of African Americans, and shares the Juneteenth historical timeline.

Banners would be made using durable, reusable materials so the group could display for future Juneteenth events, community gatherings, and programming.

**Initiative Team Thoughts and Recommendation:**

Well-organized and seem to have necessary approvals for execution.

Project would involve commissioning with local artist

Banners would be visible after the 2026 event, and shared with the community for future years.

Award \$400

**Grant Recipient #2 – 50th & France Business Association – The 50th & France Summer Concert Series –**

## **Student Performances**

The 50th & France Summer Concert Series, now in its sixth year of enlivening the plaza in Edina downtown to create a community with live music and an opportunity to spotlight student performers during the summer months.

Concerts are held Friday evenings, June 12 – September 4, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, (12 weeks), outdoors at the Nolan Mains Plaza (within 50th & France business district).

Requesting \$600 – provided to student performers

## **Initiative Team Thoughts and Recommendation**

Well-established program that focuses on a specific targeted audience

Nice marketing plan to recruit students with minimal to no barriers of participation

Award \$600

## **Grant Recipient #3 - MSP Film Society- Minneapolis St Paul International Film Festival - (MSPIFF)@Edina Theater -**

MSPIFF features world-class film programming, with new international and US independent fiction films and documentaries. Movies are shown at

In April 2025, 1700+ moviegoers (Edina residents and visitors) enjoyed 25 movies over seven days.

This year the festival expanded to 41 movies over eleven days, with at least 10 visiting filmmakers available for post-screening Q&As, including one Oscar-nominated film director and one star-alum of Mad Men.

For the past two years, the MSP Film Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) arts organization, has expanded MSPIFF to the Edina Mann Theatre

MSPIFF@EdinaTheatre, selecting specific titles in service of Edina community-building and connecting Edina cultural organizations (e.g., Edina Somali American Committee, Edina Muslim with free and/or discounted admission.

In April 2027, MSP Film Society would like to continue this effort in connecting Edina cultural organizations with MSPIFF@EdinaTheatre, distributing free and/or discounted admission.

Grant requested - \$1,000. 29 movie tickets (@ \$17 ea.) x 2 titles: \$986 + \$14 cost to promote

## **Initiative Team Thoughts and Recommendation:**

The team believes the films spark meaningful cultural conversations within the festival space.

The high artistic merit of the selections serves as a compelling draw for the initiative

Award \$500

## **Grant Recipient #4 – 50th & France Business Association - Edina Art Fair – Emerging Artists Zone**

Edina Art Fair, now in its 59th year, has featured some of the best fine artists from Minnesota and nationally.

Friday, June 3 - Sunday, June 6 and held at 50th and France, with Emerging Artist Zone located on the east side of 50th and Ewing.

Emerging Artist Zone invests in the future of the arts by lowering barriers to entry for first-time exhibitors. By providing mentorship, professional exhibition opportunities, and comprehensive promotional support, the program equips emerging artists with resources needed to launch sustainable creative careers.

Requesting \$1,000 – directly supporting Emerging Artist Zone (10-12 artist booths).

### **Initiative Team Thoughts and Recommendation**

These early opportunities are often pivotal to first time artists, and seeing the program flourish the past two years we feel this provides a significant and positive impact to our local artist community.

Emerging Artists Zone strengthens the diversity of the Edina Art Fair by introducing fresh perspectives and a wider range of artistic expression.

Award \$1,000

### **Grant Recipient #5 - Artist Donte Mearon - Mobile Printmaking- Edina Art Fair**

The artist would create a mobile printmaking set-up, allowing him to share the art of printmaking and experience with visitors at Edina Art Fair as well as other community events.

Plans would be to initiate the mobile printmaking setup at Edina Art Fair (Kidzone area), June 5-7, 2026, and future community events.

Requesting \$1,000 – Pay for portion of material costs including: wood, wheels, printing press, paint.

### **Initiative Team Thoughts and Recommendation**

Supporting a local artist/educator

Focused on young and family audiences

Community-building through shared experience and exposure to diverse forms of artmaking

Grant allows for the artist to continue sharing printmaking in an accessible format with various audiences and community events

Award \$1,000

### **Grant Recipient #6 – Morningside Theatre Company (MTC) – Plaza Performances**

In partnership with 50th & France Business Association, Members of the MTC community put on an hour-long interactive performance for children of all ages which includes a variety of songs, storytelling and crafts.

Plaza Performances will take place Saturdays, June 6th, June 20th, July 11th, July 18th, and August 1st from 10 am – 11 am, outdoors at the Nolan Mains Plaza (within 50th & France business district).

Requesting - \$1,000 – funding for three actors and one director with rehearsal, setup, marketing and performances.

### **Initiative Team Thoughts and Recommendation**

Theatre medium is nice contrast to other applicants

Focus on free programming for families and children

Award \$500

### **Grant Recipient #7 - Edina Asian American Alliance (EAAA) - Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Festival**

In observance of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage month, EAAA will host the AAPI Festival. Celebration and elevation of AAPI art, cultures, and communities in Edina.

Festival planned and implemented by EAAA – an intergenerational, grassroots coalition of students, parents, and community members allied in deep commitment to Asian and Asian America youth in the Edina Community.

AAPI Festival will take place Saturday, May 16th, 12pm- 4pm at Rosland Park, with rain back-up Sunday, May 17.

Requesting \$1,000 – to be used in support of the event by providing funding for artist honorariums, space rentals, and audio productions, etc.

### **Initiative Team Thoughts and Recommendation:**

Well-planned event with clear purpose of intent with goal to share AAPI culture and community, while appealing to a broader audience through education and engagement within the Edina community.

Award \$1,000

### **Supporting Documentation:**

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None



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**Item Number:** 7.2

**Department:** Parks & Recreation

**Item Activity:** Discussion

**Prepared By:** Laura Fulton, Recreation Supervisor Art Center

**Item Title:** 2026 Workplan Updates

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**Action Requested:**

No action requested

**Information/Background:**

**2026 Arts and Culture Workplan:**

Arts & Culture Commission

The Commission strives to build a vibrant community through support of arts and culture and advises the City Council on artistic initiatives in Edina, including the Edina Art Center.

**Initiative 1.1.1: Art Center Colocation at Southdale Library**

The Arts and Culture Commission will continue to bring forward community perspective for the new Art Center, collocated at the Hennepin County Southdale Library.

2026 Initiative members: Piacek-Llanes, Scully, Steinberg, Westlund, Buzar Barua (s), Peterson (s)

**Initiative 1.1.2: Edina Art Grant Program**

Arts and Culture Commission members will review, refine and host a third year of the Edina Art Grant Program.

2026 Initiative members: Curtin, Fram, Pandya, Piacek-Llanes, Peterson (s)

**Initiative 1.1.3 Review Public Art Opportunities for New City Facilities and Locations**

The Arts and Culture Commission will review public art elements and make recommendations to public projects, such as Fire Station #2, Fred Richards Park, Braemar Arena and others.

2026 Initiative members: all

**Initiative 1.1.4: Commission Participation in Community Events**

Commission participation in up to two community events this upcoming year.

2026 Initiative members: Byrd, Scully, Steinberg, Zbaren

**Initiative 1.1.5: Utility Box Art Wrap Program**

Three of the five boxes were wrapped in 2025. The remaining boxes will be wrapped in 2026.

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None



**Item Number:** 9.1

**Department:** Parks & Recreation

**Item Activity:** Information

**Prepared By:** Laura Fulton, Recreation Supervisor Art Center

**Item Title:** Upcoming Meetings & Events

**Action Requested:**

Information only

**Information/Background:**

**Upcoming Meeting Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Thursday, May 16	12-4 PM	AAPI Festival, Rosland Park
Thursday, May 21	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room
June 5-7	TBD	Edina Art Fair
Thursday, June 25	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room
Saturday, July 4	TBD	4th of July Parade
Thursday, July 23	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room
Thursday, August 27	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room
Saturday & Sunday Sept. 5 & 6	TBD	Fall Into the Arts Festival, Centennial Lakes Park
Thursday, September 24	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room
Thursday, October 22	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room
Thursday, November 19**	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room
Thursday, December 17**	4:30 PM	Edina City Hall, Community Room

\*\*Date adjustments due to holidays

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None