

TO: CITY ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: Tim Hetherton, Library Services Director
949-717-3810, thetherton@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Tim Hetherton, Library Services Director

TITLE: *Murals Under the Stars* arts program

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Arts Commission approve the staging of a *Murals Under the Stars* program at a date to be determined in Spring 2016.

DISCUSSION:

Murals Under the Stars is an arts program in which visual art is shown on a large, state-of-the-art projection system in outdoor settings. Attendees are able to experience an art history presentation with large vibrant images and an enlightening lecture in a comfortable and informal setting.

The events are hosted by Gregorio Luke, former Director of the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach, former Consul of Cultural Affairs of Mexico in Los Angeles and the First Secretary of the Embassy of Mexico in Washington D.C. Mr. Luke is an expert on Mexican and Latin American art and culture, and has presented over 1,000 lectures in museums and universities throughout Mexico, Europe and the United States in institutions such as the Library of Congress, The Smithsonian Institution, the San Diego Museum of Art, the Detroit Institute of Art, and Universities such as Harvard, Columbia, UNAM and Georgetown, among others. In 2008 he received the Local Hero Award of KCET.

Mr. Luke has presented lectures on Michelangelo, Picasso, Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo, Ernest Hemingway, Pablo Neruda, and many others at outdoor venues throughout Southern California. The lectures have garnered a great deal of critical acclaim, and have the potential to become a valuable and inclusive community arts event in Newport Beach.

The cost of staging *Murals Under the Stars* is estimated at \$5,000.00, which includes Mr. Luke's fee and the rental of sound equipment. Staff proposes staging the program at the entrance of the Central Library facing the Civic Green. Staff feels that this venue is ideal since electrical power, parking, and public restrooms are readily available. The Civic Green lawn also offers attendees the opportunities to bring chairs and picnic dinners to enjoy while viewing the program.

ATTACHMENT A: promotional material for *Murals Under the Stars*.

NOTICING:

This agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Arts Commission considers the item).