

NASHUA **ARTS** COMMISSION

NASHUA ARTS COMMISSION
Tuesday, August 11th at 8am
3rd Floor Auditorium
Nashua City Hall
229 Main Street, Nashua NH 03060

AGENDA

- 8:00am Call To Order
 Roll Call of Members
 Welcome New Commissioner: Mike McDowell
 Approval of [Minutes June 2026](#)
- 8:05am Chairman's Report (Lindsay)
- 8:15am Old Business
 • Update Summer Music Series (Faith)
 • Update on Arts Kiosk Project, if new info is available (Liz)
- 8:30am New Business
 • FY26/27 Budget Discussion (Lindsay)
- 9:05am Call To Artist Notices (*if any*)
 Upcoming Event Announcements (*if any*)
 Open Discussion for Commissioners (*if time allows*)

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, September 8th, 2026 at 8am** in City Auditorium of
Nashua City Hall

NASHUA **ARTS** COMMISSION

Nashua Arts Commission Recommendation to the Board of Alderman

Approval of \$2500 in support of Arts City Nashua Project.

Submitted by Lindsay Rinaldi, Chair

8/6/26

The Nashua Arts Commission is making a formal recommendation to approve \$2,500 to support the Arts City Project run by Nashua Artist Quest Nine (Kori Thomas).

Arts City Nashua is a multifaceted activation and beautification project that will have a lasting positive effect on the Heritage Rail Trail in the Tree Streets neighborhoods. The project will create and install 15 murals along the Heritage Rail Trail, with a major event planned for August 29th, 2026. The kick-off event will include artists working live, music, vendors, food, and other community resources to bring attention to the project and positive energy to the area.

Kori Thomas made a presentation to the Nashua Arts Commission meeting on 6/9/26 which included an overview of the plan, proof of concept (she has already successfully executed a similar project of this scale in Lowell), and a budget, of which this recommended allocation is less than 3% at this time. [The full project presentation can be in the minutes here.](#)

We recommend that this \$2500 be drawn from the currently earmarked \$45,000 Arts Commission funding for the fiscal year, leaving \$42,500 left available for the regular grant cycle and other Arts Commission led projects. The Nashua Arts Commission feels strongly that the city must be a financial supporter of Arts City Nashua given the longstanding and necessary improvements this very small investment will provide to our city.

NASHUA **ARTS** COMMISSION

Nashua Arts Commission Appointment Memo

Submitted by Lindsay Rinaldi, Chair

8/6/26

The Nashua Arts Commission is in an exciting and unique position. For the first time, the Nashua Arts Commission has a wait list of new appointees looking to serve and I believe it is necessary to allow new voices to be heard now. With this in mind, I ask you to pause before automatically reappointing Judy Carlson for a 4th, 3 year term.

Judy has contributed many wonderful things to the Nashua Arts community over her near 12 years of service on the Arts Commission. Her many achievements include spearheading the Americans for the Arts economic impact study, saving and restoring the valuable Aponovich mural in City Hall, and being the primary organizer for the Celebration of the Arts concert at the Nashua Center for the Arts. I truly value all the time, energy, and heart she has put into making Nashua a beautiful and inspiring place to live. I plan to continue working alongside her on the many other public and private arts committees and boards she proudly serves on.

At this time, I ask you to join me in celebrating Judy's work and many achievements and help us pass the torch of the arts commission's work to a new body of voices. We have a number of new prospective commissioners who have submitted their interest formally and informally and I would not be bringing this to your attention if this was not the case. I have brought this up to the Mayor in our annual meeting in March 2026 and have mentioned this in past Arts Commission meetings, most recently documented in the [April 26](#) and [May 26](#) meeting minutes. I believe it is the responsibility of the Chair of any commission to ensure all voices have the chance to be heard.

At this moment, the longevity of the Nashua Arts Commission and the success of [Nashua's Arts and Culture Plan](#) is tied to proper succession planning. I have encouraged all commissioners, especially those who have served 2 or more terms, to not seek re-appointment unless they are willing to step into a leadership role. I am using myself and the current Vice Chair, Jennifer Annand, as an example by planning to finish our 3rd terms proudly and not seek reappointment in 2027. In order to make sure that this transition goes smoothly, we must dedicate specific focus and energy to cultivate the next group of leaders now. This includes onboarding and training new commissioners so that we have a strong, confident, and well informed group going forward.

If you choose to move forward with the standard 3 year appointment, this would block other qualified voices from being heard now. Although it is outside of the typical cycle, I am open to Judy Carlson serving a 1 year term to assist with this succession planning as long as it does not stop new voices from joining the commission. I have spoken with Judy and I believe she is willing to consider this option.

I hope you will consider this statement in your deliberations. Ultimately I will stand by the decision of the Board of Alderman on this matter.