

NASHUA **ARTS** COMMISSION

NASHUA ARTS COMMISSION
Tuesday, August 12th at 8am
3rd Floor Auditorium
Nashua City Hall
229 Main Street, Nashua NH 03060

AGENDA

- 8:00am Call To Order
 Roll Call of Members
 Approval of [Minutes June 2025](#)
- 8:05am Communications
 Update on NH State Council (Lindsay)
 Sandy Cleary Gallery Reception (Carol)
 Greeley Park Art Show (Lindsay)
 Play It Forward - NCMS Summer Concert (Lindsay)
- 8:20am Old Business
 Update on Water St Mural (Liz)
 Arts & Culture Plan Update (Lindsay)
- 8:20am New Business
 NAC 2025 Budget Allocation (Lindsay)
 Project Management Flow (Lindsay)
- 9:10am Call To Artist Notices
 Open Discussion for Commissioners (*if time allows*)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Sept 9thth, 2025 at 8am in City Auditorium of Nashua City Hall

At the Nashua Center for the Arts

**MEET AND GREET THE NEW ARTISTS
AT SANDY CLEARY COMMUNITY ART GALLERY**

(Nashua, NH) Wednesday, July 30, 2025 -- On Tuesday, August 12, four new local artists will be featured at the reception for the summer-fall rotation in the Sandy Cleary Community Art Gallery. Open to the public, the gallery is located on the ground floor of the Nashua Center for the Arts on Main Street in downtown Nashua. The doors to the Center open at 4:00 pm with the reception ending at 6:00 pm.

The exhibition runs through the end of November and all the artwork is available for sale by contacting the artist, a timely opportunity for acquiring a special gift for the holiday season.

Peter Houde is a Nashua native, and third generation Certified Public Accountant on Main Street. He has been fascinated by art his entire childhood. He studied art and accounting at Saint Michael's College in Vermont and went on to do graduate work at the Rhode Island School of Design. Decades later he is still painting, drawing, and illustrating. According to Peter, "It is our creativity that helps make us who we are. It allows us to forge our lives, and influence the world around us, hopefully in a positive way." **Contact info:** houdepeter@aol.com.

Maxwell Irwin was born, raised and resides in Nashua. Max participated in the design and visual communications program at Nashua High School and then pursued the arts at Colby-Sawyer College, learning to draw, ceramics, photography, typography, and printmaking. He graduated with a BFA in graphic design with a focus on photography. Outside of observational photography, Max has an extensive portfolio, including concert, event, and cosplay photography. He travelled across the country with the Nashua based hardcore band 'Set The Bar Low' as their touring photographer. He also has been a recurring volunteer photographer at events like Anime Boston and Otakon. "Showcasing high-passion social gatherings is one of my greatest motivators," he noted. **Contact Info:** max.makes.media.2023@gmail.com.

Guy Riendeau is a landscape and cityscape photographer based in southern New Hampshire. His background in architecture, advertising, and photography has shaped both his creative vision and professional career as a business owner and architectural sales representative. Over the years, he refined his craft through workshops in Chicago, Paris, New York, and other international locations. He studied under acclaimed photographer Serge Ramelli and earned a Master of Photography Diploma in 2024. Guy was recently published in Noir International Photo Magazine and received a certificate of recognition in their Summer 2025 issue. "My latest color collection, *Making Time For Shore – Coastal Scenes and Lighthouses*, reflects my fascination with nature's quiet strength and the enduring beauty of maritime landscapes," he said. **Contact info:** griendeau5@gmail.com.

Carol Walser Robey is a retired Nashua pediatrician who began painting with New Hampshire area artists Kevin Dadoly, Stephen Previte, and Paul Ingbretson fifteen years ago. She joined Ingbretson Studio full-time after retiring where she studied art history, figure drawing, painting, and composition. Carol is a juried artist member of the Rockport Art Association and Museum and the North Shore Arts Association in MA, where she has received recognition for her works. These include a silver medal in 2019 from the Guild of Boston Artists, Newbury St., Boston, MA. She also exhibits at New Hampshire Antique Coop in Milford. She is a Nashua Arts Commissioner and Curator of the Sandy Cleary Community Art Gallery. *"I grew up spending much time in the outdoors studying nature. I appreciate handmade objects and tools, NH's countryside, Gloucester, MA coastlines, and flowers from my large gardens. They are among my favorite subjects to paint."* **Contact info:** crobeymd@mac.com.

Nashua Community Arts and the Nashua Arts Commission are collaborating to provide Spectacle Live, the operator of the facility, with planning, operation, and management of the gallery. Exhibitions include recognized local artists, emerging artists, and student artists with a goal of reflecting the demographics of Nashua, the most diverse city in New Hampshire.

The mission of the nonprofit Nashua Community Arts includes supporting the Nashua Center for the Arts to ensure it is a community cultural facility that enhances quality of life, serves as a resource and gathering place for the community and links the arts and cultural activities to the community at large, making them accessible to all. The Nashua Arts Commission includes support of the Nashua Center for the Arts in its Arts and Culture Plan adopted by the Board of Aldermen in 2022.

The Nashua Center for the Arts, managed by Spectacle Live, is located at 201 Main Street in downtown Nashua, NH. For program schedules, tickets and additional information go to www.nashuacenterforthearts.com

For more information please contact:

Judith Carlson, Gallery Project Manager
Nashua Community Arts
judcar603@gmail.com 603-305-0162



Lindsay Rinaldi <lindsay.rinaldi@nashuacms.org>

MEDIA ALERT: Paint, Passion, & Sunshine! 72nd Greeley Park Art Show weekend coming up - Nashua, N.H. - Aug. 16 + 17

1 message

Allegra Boverman <allegra.boverman@gmail.com>
Bcc: lindsay.rinaldi@nashuacms.org

Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 10:15 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contacts for show coordinators:****Sonia Lee Gilmore**, sonialeegilmore@gmail.com, 802-274-0340**Vicky Tkaczewski** vicktka.artist@gmail.com, 603-315-9045

Experience Art in the Open Air!

The 72nd Greeley Park Art Show coming up in August in Nashua, N.H.

WHO + WHAT: the 72nd Greeley Park Art Show hosted by the Nashua Area Artists Association, free and open to the public

WHERE: Greeley Park, 100 Concord St., Nashua, N.H.

WHEN: Aug. 16 + 17, 2025, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day

ABOUT:

The [Nashua Area Artists Association](#) will be holding its 72nd annual Greeley Park Art Show, a two-day outdoor juried art show, set for Aug. 16 and 17, 2025 at beautiful and historic Greeley Park in Nashua N.H. The show is open to all artists 18 and older working in 2D and 3D media. There are to be about 50 artists on hand from the region. While the historic park has some restoration work going on right now, there is plenty of room for the artists, their work, the activities, and for YOU, the art lover!

Awards will be given in several categories: 3D, acrylic, drawing/illustration, mixed media, oil, pastel, photography, watercolor, digital art, in addition to Best in Show (winner will have work placed on view at ArtHub and an artist's reception to be held in September) and Viewer's Choice. Prizes - monetary and non-monetary for adults is now valued at \$4000! The children's art contest is by age. One of the judges for their work will be Sandra Papadeas, a retired public school art teacher who taught for 21 years at Hollis/Brookline Middle School who likes to use watercolors and colored pencils and creates "what inspires me at the time ... animals, flowers, landscapes. I like to include abstract designs and patterns in the piece, too."

Each year, visitors enjoy seeing their favorite artists they're familiar with and seeing their new work, while also discovering new artists. Artists and visitors come mostly from New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Attendance varies depending on the weather, sometimes the event draws thousands of visitors! The GPAS started out first with artists hanging their work outside on a picket fence. Now artists set up their 10'x10' tents, each its own unique "microgallery."

Vicky Tkaczewski, of Greenfield, N.H., a participating acrylic artist and co-coordinator of the show said, "Artists tend to be introverts, working alone in their studios most of the time. The art show gives artists a chance to 'come out of the woodwork,' see what everyone is working on, get inspired, and connect with visiting art-lovers. The visitors get a chance to meet working artists and buy real hand-made art, on a summer day, at beautiful Greeley Park."

Sonia Lee Gilmore, of Nashua, vice president of the NAAA, GPAS co-coordinator and textile artist, said, "The show furthers our mission of supporting and promoting the arts, and it's a whole lot of fun!" And it is a whole lot of fun! In addition to the artists and their works, some of whom will also be working on pieces during the show, there are many other activities planned, including:

- A marionette show for kids at 11 a.m. each day to be presented by artist Teresa Moler and Laurel Powers.**
- New games and activities for kids this year including rock painting, artmaking, story hour, corn hole, giant Jenga and a life size Connect Four game, and more to come!**
- Contests and raffles**
- A longtime visitor favorite, Bedford resident Ron Marcoux of REM Woodworking will do his woodworking on site all weekend.**
- Guitarist George Parker will provide music both days, weather-permitting.**
- On Sunday, NAAA will award scholarship checks to at least one high school student who intends to pursue a degree in art.**
- Food trucks**

The Nashua Arts Commission has provided a grant to fund the show, recognizing how important it is to artists and the community. Many local organizations and businesses, including artists, have very generously sponsored the event and donated items to the raffles, prizes and more. A comprehensive list is available upon request.

ABOUT THE NAAA:

Since 1951, the NAAA has been an all-volunteer, non-profit, educational organization whose goal is the advancement of art in Nashua and its surrounding communities. Our membership is comprised of visual artists working in a variety of media as well as patrons of the arts. The NAAA welcomes members and non-members at any level of experience from students to established artists. Our goal to foster the advancement of art is met through our EAST (Emerging Artist Student Talent) shows and scholarship program. The ArHub Gallery, now at [98 Main Street](#) in downtown Nashua, just opened in May and provides opportunities for local artists to exhibit their work and the community benefits from art classes, demonstrations, workshops and interaction with other artists. The NAAA also has rotating art exhibits in several other locations including:

- Pheasant Lane Mall, 310 Daniel Webster Highway in South Nashua
- Ripano Stoneworks/Expert Design Solutions, [90 E. Hollis Street](#) in Nashua
- St. Joseph Hospital, 172 Kinsley Street in Nashua
- Campo Enoteca Italian restaurant, 969 Elm Street in Manchester
- Lyphos Family Health, 29 Riverside Street in Nashua

The annual Greeley Park Art Show, since 1953, now in its 72nd year, showcases artists from the NE region and is held in August. NAAA always welcomes new members, volunteers and donations.

For more information:

<https://www.nashuaarts.org>

NAAA on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NashuaAreaArtistsAssociation>

NAAA Artists and Friends: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/518248144259824>

14 attachments

Renaissance Park Mural



Summary

- ▶ Committee includes Liz Hannum, Amy Girard, several representatives from the city departments, Alderman Tom Lopez, Clocktower Place, the Richlieu Club and NAC (Judy, Faith and Laurie - chair)
- ▶ Twenty-one artist submissions
- ▶ Three finalists selected, including one local

Decision criteria

- Celebrates Nashua's heritage, including its French-Canadian roots.
- Helps make the Riverwalk a vibrant and welcoming public space.
- Suitable for the size and shape of the wall (70 feet long, 5 to 30 feet tall).
- Artist or artist team has experience with large-scale murals and community-oriented public art.
- Open to all artists, but preference may be given to those with a connection to Nashua or its cultural history.

Project Overview and Key Dates

August 8	Selection of finalists
August 8	Notification of finalists
August 12	Meeting with finalists
August 27	Finalist submissions due
Sept 5	Artist selection and notification
Sept 12	Mayoral approval
Sept 17	Installation begins
?	Target completion
?	Unveiling/celebration











Photo by J. Gagnon Photography

PREPARED BY THE
NASHUA ARTS COMMISSION

Nashua Arts & Culture Plan

2022-2027

Nashua Arts & Culture Plan 2022–2027

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Introduction

Why an Arts and Culture Plan?

A vibrant arts scene is crucial to every city: enhancing quality of life and ensuring a strong stimulus to the economy.

Studies show that people and companies want to locate in cities where arts and culture is grounded in a dynamic downtown. Access to arts and culture makes citizens more attached to their communities in both feeling and action. Arts and culture provide jobs and draw visitors and tourists. The creative economy added \$804 billion (4.3%) to the national GDP in 2018, greater than the agriculture, construction and transportation and warehousing. According to Americans for the Arts, government funding for the arts at the local level is viewed favorably and seen as high public value by 60% of all Americans.

"We in Nashua recognize what is understood in cities across the world – arts and culture enhance quality of life. People want to live and raise their children in a community that offers a vibrant arts and culture scene."

–Mayor Jim Donchess

Benefits to the Community

- The creative economy is a community asset that strengthens the local economy and draws visitors to Nashua
- Arts & Culture provides a common language that brings diverse populations together
- A vibrant arts community requires collaboration between artists, arts organizations, municipal government, and business organizations with a strong citizen volunteer base
- As a Welcoming City, inclusion and access to arts & culture should be available to all

Plan Background

Where We've Come From

As part of its mission, the Arts Commission created an initial five-year Arts and Culture Plan that was accepted by the Board of Aldermen in November, 2014. This is an update of that plan designed to provide a framework for developing annual priorities, securing human resources and funding, and developing annual work plans. Due to an interruption in the normal cycle, this version is intended to cover 2022 through 2027.

The Arts Commission held an initial input session for the revised plan in 2019 with the arts community and interested citizens, facilitated by Ginnie Lupi, the Director of the NH State Council on the Arts in addition to regular planning sessions during late 2020 and 2021. The Commission's Arts and Culture Plan workgroup worked to actively align the Arts & Culture Plan with *Imagine Nashua*, a long-range citywide strategic plan.

Where We're Going

This updated plan envisions possibilities for growth in the arts and culture sector and addresses internal challenges to achieve plan goals. This includes some redefining of the role of the Arts Commission, developing policy that fosters arts and culture development, long-term financial commitment to support the goals, and strategic inter-departmental collaboration by the City.

87%

...of Americans believe "the arts & culture are important to quality of life."

Source: Americans for the Arts' 2016 public opinion survey by Ipos Public Affairs

Vibrancy at Work

Nashua is HOME to...

- More public art than any city in NH
- The only City with an International Sculpture Symposium in the United States
- NH's only professional symphony orchestra and multiple award-winning community theater companies
- Southern New Hampshire's largest arts festival and oldest juried art show
- The Winter Holiday Stroll, bringing 30,000 people to downtown Nashua each year
- Active Public Library and SummerFun arts programs

For all these reasons and more, Nashua was selected by the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts as the state's Creative Community at the Governor's Awards in 2017.

Exciting Things To Come

The City is moving ahead with the construction of The Nashua Center for the Arts, a new 750 seat theater on Main Street as well as renovating our community arts facility at 14 Court Street with improvements to the main theater, new artist studios and reopening its small black box theater.

The Nashua Arts Commission will oversee the execution of this plan. Plan **actions** and related **recommendations** are introduced by **top goal** and according to anticipated year of completion. The Arts Commission reserves the right to extend **timeframes** to best serve the project once in motion.

Plan Reference

Timeframes

- Near-term: 2022-2024
- Mid-term: 2023-2025
- Long-term: 2025-2027

Our Vision

Nashua is a creative city where the arts energize life and enhance experiences for residents and visitors alike with ongoing Citywide support.

Top Goals

1 Enhance Economic Impact

Support arts related ideas, projects and infrastructure enhancements that promote positive, measurable economic growth

2 Cultivate Collaboration

Foster collaboration between arts organizations, the public sector, local businesses, and civic organizations to work together, share resources and leverage opportunities to enhance Nashua's arts community

3 Support Arts Education

Cultivate artistic endeavors through the development of arts enrichment programs that foster arts education for all ages

4 Increase Awareness

Expand the number of residents and potential visitors who know about, appreciate, and participate in Nashua's lively art scene

Enhance Economic Impact

Support arts related ideas, projects and infrastructure enhancements that promote positive, measurable economic growth

Action 1:

Create a foundation of reliable economic data to use as an evaluation tool for new art projects and investments

Recommendation A Complete

Timeframe: Near-term

Present Americans for the Arts 2019 economic impact study of the Nashua area as baseline for measurement to arts organizations, Board of Aldermen, City Department heads Downtown Improvement Committee, Chamber of Commerce, and other civic organizations.

Recommendation B 40%

Timeframe: Near-term

Sponsor and facilitate the 2022 and 2025 Americans for the Arts economic impact study with funding and support from the Economic Development department of the City.

“

The nonprofit arts and culture sector is a \$11.3 million industry in the Nashua Region—one that supports 361 full-time equivalent jobs and generates \$1.1 million in local and state government revenue.

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY 2019

”

Enhance Economic Impact

Continued

Action 2:

Maintain affordable space for Nashua's artists and arts organizations

Recommendation A 0%

Timeframe: Mid-term

Make necessary improvements to Greeley Park Bandshell such as upgrading sound system, using local artists to beautify existing structure

Recommendation B 10%

Timeframe: Long-term

Complete repairs and renovations of 14 Court Street

Recommendation C 10%

Timeframe: Long-term

Preserve the Keefe Center for the Arts for continued access and use by Nashua's nonprofit arts organizations and as a venue for fundraising

Enhance Economic Impact

Continued

Action 3:

Capitalize on new and existing resources that facilitate audience development

Recommendation A 90%

Timeframe: Near-term

Support successful completion and operation of the Nashua Center for the Arts and integration into the community.

Recommendation B 0%

Timeframe: Near-term

Continue support of measurable audience development of the arts organizations through the Commission's grant program.

Recommendation C 0%

Timeframe: Mid-term

Add listings of artists by category that sell their work or provide private performances to ExperienceNashuaArts.org.

Recommendation D 10%

Timeframe: Mid-term

Expand available funding for arts projects and programs by increasing City's arts grants, publishing a list of arts funding opportunities, and sharing any funding opportunities on the Art's Commission's Facebook page.

Recommendation E 0%

Timeframe: Long-term

Investigate using Spectacle Live to book performances at Keefe and Holman Stadium to share profits to fund the arts.

Cultivate Collaboration

Foster collaboration between arts organizations, the public sector, local businesses, and civic organizations to work together, share resources and leverage opportunities to enhance Nashua's arts community.

Action 4:

Track information on projects, goals and missions of Nashua arts organizations and establish a method of pooling resources.

Recommendation A 75%

Timeframe: Near-term

Continue annual Collaborate Arts meeting with both nonprofit and for-profit arts organizations and individuals to produce annual arts calendar and discuss missions and goals.

Recommendation B 25%

Timeframe: Near-term

Provide a city intern or AmeriCorp member to facilitate this initiative.

Recommendation C 0%

Timeframe: Mid-term

Create an accessible public or on-demand listing of resources that organizations are willing to share including practice spaces and arts job openings.

Cultivate Collaboration

Action 5:

Annually recognize collaborative work between arts organizations and supporting businesses.

Recommendation A ^{Continued} 10%

Timeframe: Near-term

Create a "Nashua Arts Commission" membership program with benefits for participating organizations.

Recommendation B 0% 0%

Timeframe: Mid-term

Recognize collaborative arts organizations and supportive businesses via social media, external signage, and other channels

Recommendation C 0%

Timeframe: Long-term

Inspire arts groups to create large scale events by combining resources

Action 6:

Create multiple strong points of arts advocacy

Recommendation A 50%

Timeframe: Near-term

Increase communication and involvement in the arts with the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations

Recommendation B 10%

Timeframe: Mid-term

Provide representation to the New Hampshire Creative Communities Network and join Arts4NH; cooperatively support their missions of arts advocacy.

Support Arts Education

Cultivate artistic endeavors through the development of arts enrichment programs that foster arts education for all ages.

Action 7:

Explore the process and funding measures used to establish arts-related programs for individuals and organizations

Recommendation A 0%

Timeframe: Near-term

Support arts festivals already in place by expanding their range, reach, and educational components

Recommendation B 10%

Timeframe: Long-term

Encourage accessible low-cost classes, mentorships, internships, and artists in resident programs

Action 8:

Collaborate with local arts organizations, schools, and colleges to identify opportunities for artistic growth

Recommendation A 0%

Timeframe: Mid-term

List and maintain all local and area arts classes and arts summer camps on ExperienceNashuaArts.org

Recommendation B 10%

Timeframe: Long-term

Encourage opportunities for adult education through traditional and nontraditional art forms

Increase Awareness

Expand the number of residents and potential visitors who know about, appreciate, and participate in Nashua's lively art scene.

Action 9:

Communicate the availability and value of local arts programs and projects

Recommendation A 30%

Timeframe: Near-term

Fund and staff further development and maintenance of ExperienceNashuaArts.org as a stand-alone website with clear identity. programs

Recommendation B 0%

Timeframe: Mid-term

Form public/private sector Steering Committee to develop and fund a citywide marketing plan to promote Nashua as a Destination for the Arts and Downtown Nashua as an Arts District by utilizing the resources of the NH Department of Tourism.

Action 10:

Public recognition of artistic excellence and support

Recommendation A 0%

Timeframe: Near-term

Continue to honor and celebrate contribution to the arts and cultural life of the city at the Meri Goyette Arts Award Luncheon

Recommendation B 0%

Timeframe: Long-term

Establish a Nashua Poet Laureate and Artist Laureate program with award and recognition at the annual gala for the Performing Arts Center.

The Nashua Arts Commission

The Nashua Arts Commission, formed by City Ordinance O-10-36 in November 2010, is a volunteer commission of the City of Nashua appointed by the Mayor. Its mission is to serve the community as Nashua's resource to facilitate, advocate, coordinate and educate on behalf of the art and cultural assets of the City of Nashua.

The Arts Commission is classified as a local arts agency by the National Endowment for the Arts and the NH State Council on the Arts. As is the nature of local arts agencies in the US, public support for the arts is more than the transactional function of grant-making. Local arts agencies have a developmental role, providing guidance and advice, and to serve as guardians of the public trust to procure and deliver equity and excellence in managing the City's arts and cultural resources. As an agency of the City government, that guardianship is charged with balancing social accountability to demonstrate civic and economic impact of allocating tax dollars to fund arts and culture projects.

What does the Arts Commission do?

- Acts as the key arts advisor to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen
- Makes recommendations and proposes policies that support the development and preservation of the arts in Nashua
- Leads the creation and execution of the City's Arts & Cultural Plan
- Facilitates Nashua's annual Arts Project Grant Cycle
- Hosts workshops and events that connect, educate, and support local arts organizations

Digital Appendix

Visit

Nashuanh.gov/346/Arts-Commission



Get Involved

Contact:

NashuaArtsCommission@NashuaNH.gov

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Acknowledgements

This plan was prepared by the
Nashua Arts & Culture Plan
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the Nashua Arts Commission:

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Date approved by the
Nashua Arts
Commission 3/8/22

Date adopted by Mayor
Donchess and Nashua's
Board of Aldermen:
5/10/22

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