

MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Aaron Johnson
Commission Chair
mac@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Agenda~

Megan Cherry
Staff Liaison
208.883.7036

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/452/Moscow-Arts-Commission>

Tuesday,
July 8, 2025

5:00 PM

Council Chambers
206 E. Third St.

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Reading of the Mission Statement

The mission of the Moscow Arts Commission is to enrich the community by celebrating and cultivating the expression of all forms of art and culture. Fulfillment of this purpose shall be based upon the following values:

- Recognition and promotion of artists' value by creating opportunities for work to be experienced.
- Facilitation and promotion of the social, educational, and economic value of all forms of art and culture in the community.
- Performance of leadership, collaboration, and outreach in the conversation between all forms of art and culture with partner agencies, city leaders, and the community.

2. Approval of Minutes from May 13, 2025 (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTION: Approve minutes, amend minutes, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and address for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

4. Peanut Project RFP (ACTION ITEM)

At the May 13th, 2025 meeting, the MAC discussed a small vinyl mural project to be located in the City Hall parking lot. Following the discussion, staff prepared an RFP document for the MAC's consideration.

PROPOSED ACTION: Recommend approval of the Peanut Project RFP, recommend changes to the RFP, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

NOTICE: It is the policy of the City of Moscow that all City-sponsored public meetings and events are accessible to all people. If you need assistance in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability under the ADA, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator by phone at (208) 883-7600, TDD (208) 883-7019, or by email at adacoordinator@ci.moscow.id.us at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting or event to request an accommodation. The City of Moscow is committed to ensuring that all reasonable accommodation requests are fulfilled.

5. Mural at City Shop (ACTION ITEM)

The MAC discussed the possibility of installing public art at the City Shop site at regular meetings on: November 12th, 2024; December 10th, 2024; and January 14th, 2025. Following those discussions, City staff groups met to evaluate what is feasible and compatible with the operation of the site. The MAC is now invited to consider a project scope including the installation of a concrete wall to replace a section of the existing chain link fence on the Polk Street side of the facility. The wall is proposed as a support for a new mural with an anticipated life span of 5-8 years. While the mural is anticipated to be a temporary feature, the wall would remain as a site for future mural installations. If the MAC votes to recommend the project concept, staff will solicit input on the project theme from staff members at the City Shop for the MAC to consider. Once both the MAC and Shop staff members have provided creative input, Arts staff will draft an RFQ document for consideration at a later meeting.

PROPOSED ACTION: Recommend the City Shop public art project concept, recommend changes to the project concept, or take such other action deemed appropriate.

REPORTS

1. Volunteer Hour Tally for May and June 2025 (Cherry)

2. Staff Report (Cherry)

June Artwalk
Portable Collection Exhibition
Moscow Poet Laureate
Palouse Plein Air

ADJOURN

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MOSCOW ARTS COMMISSION



Aaron Johnson
Commission Chair
MAC@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Megan Cherry
Staff Liaison
208.883.7036

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/452/Moscow-Arts-Commission>

**Tuesday,
March 11, 2025**

5:00 PM

**Council Chambers
206 E. Third Street**

Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:17 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Aaron Johnson, Chair: Cindy Barnhart, Sue Clark, Sonja Foard, Gail Martin, Sandra Stoops, Stefan Yauchzee
MEMBERS ABSENT: Michelle Chamberlain, Kim Crimmins, Erica Wagner, Jacob Wilson, Donna Woolston
OTHERS: Bryce Blankenship
STAFF: Megan Cherry, Jennifer Fleischman, Britany Luft

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Reading of the Mission Statement

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- *Recognition and promotion of artists' value by creating opportunities for work to be experienced.*
- *Facilitation and promotion of the social, educational, and economic value of all forms of art and culture in the community.*
- *Performance of leadership, collaboration, and outreach in the conversation between all forms of art and culture with partner agencies, city leaders, and the community.*

Foard read the mission statement.

2. Approval of Minutes from February 11, 2025 (ACTION ITEM)

Yauchzee moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Foard. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous (7). Abstentions: None. Nays: None. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

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None.

4. Third Street Gallery 2026 Schedule

MAC members are invited to discuss potential exhibitions for 2026. The Third Street Gallery (TSG) currently features five new exhibitions per year, including the annual Palouse Plein Air exhibition. Palouse Plein Air will return to the Prichard Art Gallery when it re-opens, at which point the TSG will present new exhibitions on a quarterly basis, contingent upon the City's budget process. MAC members and Arts staff collaborate to determine the structure and topic of each show as well as the artists represented. TSG aims to keep audiences engaged by avoiding the repetition of media or thematically focused exhibitions that have been presented in recent years. Similarly, the Gallery schedule balances the presentation of invitational, juried, open call, and solo/two-person exhibitions. Exhibition timeslots are as follows:

January - April

April – July

July - September

September – October

October - December

PALOUSE PLEIN AIR

During a regular meeting of the MAC on April 9, 2024, members voted to approve the 2025 TSG schedule. Also at that time, members discussed an exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of Moscow Farmers Market (MFM) in 2026. Members noted that while full development of the 2026 TSG schedule would not take place until spring of 2025, the initial recommendation was to reserve the January – April 2026 exhibition slot for a community show entitled Produce.

Following the discussion, Arts Staff will create a 2026 TSG schedule which will appear on the next regular MAC agenda as an action item.

Johnson and Cherry discussed categories of exhibitions that are typically programmed for the Third Street Gallery in 2026, with the possible inclusion of a 50th anniversary celebration for Moscow Farmers Market. There was a discussion about some of the other area galleries and working around their typical schedules or incorporating different events that would not conflict. Staff mentioned that the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence will be in 2026 as well, and there is a potential to work with the Latah County Historical Society for an exhibition. There were some other ideas proposed for the 2026 gallery schedule.

Staff reviewed the 2025 Gallery schedule for the Commissioners. There was a discussion about creating variety in the proposed shows, including using different mediums and varying methods of soliciting art submissions. Cherry will work on the proposed 2026 schedule and bring back a tentative plan for the Commissioners' review and approval.

REPORTS

1. Volunteer Hour Tally for February 2025 (Cherry)

2. Staff Report (Cherry)

Arts Staff Update

Artwalk will be moving underneath the Chamber of Commerce's jurisdiction after the end of the 2025 season finale in June. Staff updated the Commission on some other changes that will be implemented over the next year.

March Artwalk

There are six registered host locations for the upcoming Artwalk.

Wild Light at the Third Street Gallery

The next TSG exhibit will begin in April.

Vinyl Wrap Update

There will be an update on Vinyl Wraps at the next meeting.

Moscow Poet Laureate RFP and selection timing

The next Poet Laureate Request for Proposals (RFP) is scheduled for June, closing in August.

Public Art Updates

The City is looking into adopting a digital art management system.

- *City Shop*

Staff will provide more information and design drawings once they are available.

- *East City Park Stage*

There was an open house meeting on Thursday March 6th soliciting comments from the public.

The replacement stage is tentatively planned to be built in 2026.

- *PUW Airport Terminal*

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.



2025 Call for Public Art Peanut Project Vinyl Mural at Moscow City Hall

Project Description

The City of Moscow and the Moscow Arts Commission invite artists to submit designs for a small-scale vinyl mural in the City Hall parking lot.

The subject matter and content of the design should reflect the following:

In the Moscow City Hall parking lot, a daily drama unfolds as Payroll Specialist Tara Lowe comes to work. She arrives before everyone else in the Finance Department, but the workday doesn't start in solitude. Waiting at her customary parking spot is a scurry of squirrels. They know her schedule, and they rush forward eagerly, having nothing to fear from *these* tires. As Tara parks, her hand reaches for the prize they've been waiting for: peanuts – and plenty of them. It's hungry work, being a squirrel in Moscow, but unsung heroes like Tara make it just a little bit easier. Piles of well-chewed shells stand, or lay, as it were, as a testament to this relationship between one public servant and a community of grateful, bushy-tailed squirrels.

Eligibility

This call is open to youth and adult artists who live in Moscow, ID. Preference may be given to artists who are under the age of 18. Artists are eligible regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital or familial status, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, and gender expression or identity. Artist teams are eligible to apply, including teams of artists from multiple disciplines. Selection panelists and their immediate family members are not eligible for participation. No artist sitting on a Selection Panel may submit a proposal for the project for which the Selection Panel was formed.

Project Timeline (subject to change)

July 14 – August 29, 2025	Submission Period
September 9, 2025	Artwork Selection, Notification, and Agreement
September – October 2025	Artwork Installed

Honorarium and Image Use Agreement

1. Selected artists will complete an Image Use Agreement.
2. The selected artist will receive an honorarium of \$300 upon completion of the artwork.
3. The City of Moscow will incur all costs related to the installation of vinyl on the aluminum sign.

Submission Requirements

1. Artwork submissions will be accepted via Submittable, the City's online submission management system. No emailed or hand-delivered submissions will be accepted.
2. Artists may submit one design for consideration, to include both the front and back of the sign.
3. Each design submission must be presented to the scale of the 44" x 24" sign.
4. Submit a JPEG file(s) at 72 DPI and a full-size, print-ready EPS file.

Selection Process and Criteria

The Moscow Arts Commission and one staff member from the City of Moscow Finance Department will select a design based on the work's alignment with the following criteria:

1. Formal & Conceptual Quality
 - a. The artist presents a compelling concept.
 - b. The proposed design is original to the presenting artist.
2. Content & Context
 - a. The artwork's subject matter and content is appropriate for public exhibition and does not contain advertising, religious references, sexual content, negative imagery, or convey political partisanship.
 - b. The content of the proposed design is relevant to the City of Moscow's values, culture, and people.
 - c. The proposed design reflects the project description.

About Moscow, ID

Moscow is settled on the rolling hills of the Palouse, a rich landscape long inhabited by the Nimiipuu (Nez Perce), Palus (Palouse), and Schitsu'umsh (Coeur d' Alene) tribes indigenous to the region. The City of Moscow was incorporated on July 12, 1887, and its modern history is rooted in agriculture; the surrounding region produces top-quality wheat and pulses. The presence of farming in the community goes far beyond commerce, however, as grain silos and other architectural features announce agricultural endeavor as part of the community's aesthetic identity.

Moscow is home to the University of Idaho, a land grant institution established in 1889. School spirit influences the atmosphere of the city, imbuing it with the balance of gravitas and celebration that characterizes educational experience. University arts programs like the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival and the Prichard Art Gallery have greatly contributed to Moscow's identity as a cultural center. The community is rich not only in visual and performing arts events, but also in recreational and culinary opportunities. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the Palouse landscape at recreational features like Moscow Mountain and the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail, followed by tastes of the region at area restaurants, wineries, breweries and the Moscow Farmers Market.

City of Moscow Public Art

The City of Moscow Arts Department and the Moscow Arts Commission (MAC) share a mission to enrich the community by celebrating and cultivating the expressions of all forms of art and culture. The MAC has fostered artistic excellence and public access to the arts in the city since its founding on October 2, 1978. Programming includes curation of exhibition space at the Third

Street Gallery inside City Hall, a biennial Mayor's Arts Awards, Moscow Poet Laureate programming, and a comprehensive public art program.

The City of Moscow's acquisition of public art began in the 1980s and is supported by a 1%-for-the-Arts fund established in 2004. A Public Art Master Plan, adopted in 2015, guides the incorporation of new works into the City's landscape. Stewardship of the collection is a collaborative effort, with artistic advice from the MAC, direction from City Council, and operational details managed by Arts Department staff. The Public Art program aims to reflect the character of Moscow by fostering relationships between individuals and institutions in the community. Whether part of the University, business community, or the agricultural tradition, the City's creative partners generate aesthetic excellence, civic identity, and economic strength by supporting the arts.

The Public Art collection is currently comprised of more than 220 temporary and permanent features. Temporary artworks include vinyl-wrapped utility boxes and bus shelters as well as a sculpture garden featuring artworks on loan to the City. Artworks in the permanent collection range from mosaic murals and sculptures-in-the-round to framed pieces in the Portable Collection. Each new piece in the permanent collection joins others by celebrated regional artists including Harold Balazs, David Govedare, Miles Pepper, Robert Horner, Melissa Cole, J. Casey Doyle, Jay Rasgorshek, and artist team Jennifer Corio and Dave Frei.

Moscow is a community rich with diversity of thought, inhabited by minds open to possibility and creative interpretation. As such, the Public Art program not only celebrates the artist as a professional and valued business partner, but also welcomes a broad range of appearances, media, and art-making processes into its collection.



2025 Call for Public Art **Peanut Project** Vinyl Mural at Moscow City Hall

Site Details

Sign front (facing east)





Sign Back (facing west)