

## NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

11:00 a.m.

Via Conference Call

716 N Carson St., Suite A

Carson City, NV 89701

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<b>Present:</b>	<b>Board</b>	Julia Arger, Chair Edward Estipona Joseph O'Neill Gail Rappa Jerry Schefcik Ryrie Valdez Irma Varela
	<b>Staff</b>	Linda Ficklin, Interim Executive Director Teresa Moiola, Grants Program Director Cathleen Wyatt, Administrative Assistant Fran Morrow, Artist Services Director Stephen Reid, Artist Services Specialist/Installer Shoshana Zeldner, Community Arts Director Denise Duarte, Community Arts Specialist Maryjane Dorofachuk, Arts Learning Director Rebecca Snetselaar, Folklife Specialist
	<b>Excused</b>	Eric Strain Anna Zucker
	<b>Guests</b>	Sarah Bradley, Deputy Attorney General Claudia Vecchio, Director Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs

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### I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting convened in open public session at 11:00 a.m. Julia Arger, chair of the Nevada Arts Council (NAC) Board, welcomed everyone, and asked for introductions. (*Attachment A: Public Meeting Notice/Agenda*)

Arger took roll call/confirmed quorum.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment in person or submitted via email.

### III. APPROVAL OF NAC BOARD MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Arger requested approval of minutes from the NAC Board Meeting on June 16, 2017. (*Attachment B: Minutes from June 16, 2017 Board Meeting*)

**MOTION: APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES FROM June 16, 2017: Moved by Irma Varela; seconded by Edward Estipona. Passed unanimously.**

**IV. DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF FY18 FELLOWSHIP PANEL MEETINGS AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VISUAL ARTS ARTIST FELLOWSHIP GRANTS. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**  
(Attachment C: FY18 Fellowship Board Report)

Board member Gail Rappa presented the Artists Fellowship Grants:

This is the FY2018 Artist Fellowship Board Report. Artist Fellowship and Fellowship Project Grants review panel meetings Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.

ARTIST FELLOWSHIP VISUAL ARTS GRANT

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017

9 a.m. through 3<sup>rd</sup> Round

Truckee Meadows Community College, Dandini Main Campus, 7000 Dandini Boulevard, Red MT #214, Reno

Reviewed 47 applications, in the following areas:

- 5 Drawing
- 5 Mixed Media
- 16 Painting
- 13 Photography
- 1 Printmaking
- 4 Sculpture
- 1 Media Arts
- 2 Installation/Interdisciplinary/New Technologies

Number of Audience Members: 6

NAC PANEL CHAIR: Gail Rappa

PANELISTS:

- Matthew Chase-Daniel is the co-founder, co-owner, and co-curator of Axle Contemporary, a mobile gallery of art based in Santa Fe, NM. His photography and sculpture has exhibited across the U.S. and Europe.
- Visual artist, educator, and curator Julio César Morales currently is the curator of visual arts at Arizona State University Art Museum in Tempe, AZ. He was the founder and co-curator for Queens Nails Annex/Projects, an artist-run project space in San Francisco, and a former adjunct professor at The San Francisco Art Institute and associate professor in Curatorial Studies at The California College for the Arts in Oakland, CA.
- Phoebe Toland is an abstract painter and printmaker. She has taught visual arts at all levels, from college to preschool and was on the artist-in-schools roster in Montana for 20 years. She is a recipient of an Artist Trust Fellowship award from the state of WA, a Gottlieb Foundation Award and several grant awards in Montana.

PANEL PROCESS

Before the panel meeting: Panelists reviewed all of the work samples, wrote comments and scored each of the 47 applications using the Grants Online (GO) system.

Preview Round: Panelists viewed and/or listened to the 47 applicants' work samples.

Round One: was silent- using their scores from the GO System, panelists rated each application with scores of 1 to 5, with 1 the lowest and 5 the highest. Applications with cumulative scores of 8 and above went on to the next round.

Round Two: (discussion round) 20 applications were discussed and scored. Applications with cumulative scores of 8.3 and above went on to final round.

MEETING AJOURNED; RESUMED AT 9:30 AM FRIDAY, JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup>

Final Round: Panelists discussed the remaining 7 applications. The panelists recommend the following: **FY18 Visual Arts Artist Fellows each receiving \$5,000 grant:**

*Applicant #134, Paul Baker Prindle, Photography, Reno*  
Final Round: Average Score 13.6 – Recommended \$5,000

*Applicant #113, Matthew Couper, Painting, Las Vegas*  
Final Round: Average Score 12.6 - Recommended \$5,000

*Applicant #100, Bobbie Ann Howell, Drawing, Las Vegas*  
Final Round: Average Score 12.3 – Recommended \$5,000

*Applicant #106, Andreana Donahue, Las Vegas*  
Final Round: Average Score 11.3 – Recommended \$5,000

FY18 VISUAL ARTS HONORABLE MENTIONS each receiving a \$500 grant:

Applicant #114 – Final Round Score 10.6: Gig Depio, Painting, Las Vegas

Applicant #108 – Final Round Score 10: Jennifer Graham, Mixed Media, Reno

Applicant #103 – Final Round Score 8.6: Donald Corpier Starr, Drawing, Las Vegas

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE FY18 ARTIST FELLOWSHIP AND HONORABLE MENTIONS AS PRESENTED. Moved by Jerry Schefcik; seconded by Irma Varela. Passed unanimously.**

**V. DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF FY18 FELLOWSHIP PROJECT GRANT PANEL MEETING AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP PROJECT GRANT. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Attachment C: FY18 Fellowship Board Report)**

FELLOWSHIP PROJECT GRANT

NAC implemented this grant category in fiscal 2016. The Fellowship Project Grants are designed to support individual artists from all disciplines who have received the maximum allowed number of the NAC fellowships (two or more) and meet all Fellowship Program eligibility requirements.

Reviewed 6 applications, from the following applicants:

Dayvid Figler	Writer/performer from Las Vegas
Eugene Shapiro	Music professor at College of Southern Nevada, jazz composer, guitarist, bandleader of The Shapiro Project Jazz quartet in Las Vegas.
L. Martina Young	Reno dance artist
Matthew O'Brien	Author, journalist and adjunct professor at University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
Robert Leonard Reid	Carson City writer
Gailmarie Pahmeier	Teaches creative writing and contemporary literature courses at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Number of Audience Members: 1

NAC PANEL CHAIR: Gail Rappa

SAME PANELISTS: Matthew Chase-Daniel, Julio César Morales and Phoebe Toland

PANEL PROCESS

Before the panel meeting: Panelists reviewed all of the work samples, wrote comments and scored each of the six applications using the Grants Online (GO) system. They ranked applications using the following matrix: Up to 25 points for Potential Impact, up to 25 points for Feasibility, and up to 50 points, for Artistic Strength.

Round One: (discussion) Using their scores from the GO System, panelists discussed and rated the six application. Two applicants rated average scores of 83.3 and 82.3 so those applications went on to the final round

Final Round: Panelists discussed the applications for Matthew O'Brien and Gailmarie Pahmeier. The panelists recommend the following:

FY18 FELLOWSHIP PROJECT GRANT

Applicant: Gailmarie Pahmeier, poet, Reno

Final Round: Average Score 89.3

Proposal Summary: Requesting \$7,000 to travel throughout the state parks in Nevada, taking short residencies. She plans to spend two-three nights per park and while in residence, compose narratives about the residency experience, focusing primarily on the people she encounters in those often-remote places.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE FY18 FELLOWSHIP PROJECT GRANT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED. Moved by Gail Rappa; seconded by Edward Estipona. Passed unanimously.**

Julia gave a special thank you to Fran Morrow for her hard work and expertise on the panels. Fran responds and defers to Gail Rappa as this was her first time chairing a panel. Gail thanked Ariana, Pat, Stephen and Fran, who worked very hard and "the support was wonderful". Would love to have more people attend in person. Gail grateful for live panelists. Fran reminded the board to please do not call artists, this is Fran's pleasure to inform the artists of their awards/grants.

**VI. DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF FY18 HERITAGE AWARD GRANT PANEL MEETINGS AND FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY18 HERITAGE AWARD GRANT, 2 @ \$3,500 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**  
(Attachment D: Nevada Heritage Award)

Board member Irma Varela, chaired the review panel and presented the Heritage Award Grants to the board. FY2018 Folklife Panel Grant Recommendations  
The Nevada Heritage Award Panel held on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. via conference call.

The NEVADA HERITAGE AWARD honors and recognizes Nevada master folk and traditional artists who, at the highest level of excellence and authenticity, carry forward the folk traditions of their families and communities through practice and teaching. Panelists for the 2018 NHA included Deborah Boykin, folklife specialist at the Alabama Arts Council, veteran NAC panelist Francesca McCrossan, and Lilli Tichinin, folk arts specialist at the New Mexico Arts Council. Their biographical sketches are attached.

Meg McDonald of Carson City presented two nominations for panel consideration:

Flora Greene of Nixon is a member of the Cui-ui Ticutta Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. She was born and raised on the reservation and is the oldest living alumni of the Stewart Indian School in Carson City. Now 100 years

of age, she grew up speaking the Paiute language at home and learned about traditional food ways and crafts from her parents and family members. Her special knowledge includes tanning and sewing deer hides, traditional beadwork, and basketry. “She has dedicated her whole life to maintaining the American Indian culture and preserving the Indian traditions and Paiute language,” wrote nominator Meg McDonald. “Over the years she has always been eager to teach any and all young people that are willing to listen and learn the Paiute language and to learn the crafting skills, which are not as easy as she makes it look.”

Patricia Hicks, born on the Walker River Indian Reservation and grew up in Schurz. She has been involved in Indian dancing since she was a teenager and has remained involved with this art form for more than 50 years, currently as the director of the Agaidicutta Dance group in Schurz. Patricia, known for her beadwork and makes the traditional regalia for the dancers to wear – buckskin dresses for the girls, shirts and pants for the boys, deerskin moccasins for all. She knows and sings the dance songs and teaches these as well. “I love to hear her sing the beautiful songs of our Numu people. She is a very talented singer and dancer who has always been willing to share her knowledge of the culture and traditions,” wrote Alan Mandell, Vice Chairman of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, in his letter supporting this nomination. “Several generations have learned the Bear, Rabbit, Antelope, Eagle, Swan dances (just to name a few) from the youth dance group she leads. Her dance group has performed in many, many places, but more importantly, these generations of youth have learned the traditional ways of the Numu.”

The panel unanimously recommended that both of these important tribal elders receive a Nevada Heritage Award for 2018. Comments included:

The important thing about both of these nominations is that their engagement with the tribal traditions is not self-conscious preservation but is an ongoing part of their tribal lives. Both have a wide range of traditional knowledge; each well respected within her tribe; strong support materials and high quality work.

(RE: Flora Greene) - It's so obvious from the narrative that she is highly regarded and respected in her community as a culture bearer as well as for the traditional art forms in which she engages. It is remarkable that at 100 years old she is still active.

(RE: Patricia Hicks) – She takes a holistic approach to the culture and well-being of her people. This was a fantastic nomination; it is impressive to hear about everything that she has done for her community in addition to her dance, beadwork, and regalia making.

The Nevada Heritage Award Panel recommends unanimously that NAC present two (2) awards for the FY2018. Two (2) NHA's for \$3,500.00 each equals \$7,000.00. The two (2) awards will be funded as follows, \$5,000.00 from the Grants, \$2,000.00 from NAC administrative funds.

**Requested Nominations to award two Heritage Grant Award of \$3,500 each:**

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE FY18 HERITAGE GRANT AWARDS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS AS PRESENTED. Moved by Irma Varela; seconded by Joe O'Neill. Passed unanimously.**

**VII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Arger thanked Varela for serving on the NAC Board, and reminded the board that Irma Varela, current vice-chair, was resigning at the end of the month, and that the board would now need to nominate and elect her replacement. She then called for nominations. Ryrie Valdez nominated Joe O'Neill to replace Varela as vice-chair. Arger asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, Arger called for a motion.

**MOTION: TO ELECT JOE O'NEILL TO REPLACE IRMA VARELA AS VICE-CHAIR: Nominated by Ryrie Valdez; seconded by Gail Rappa. Passed unanimously.**

**VIII. DAG – REPORT SARAH BRADLEY – OPEN MEETING LAW/PUBLIC RECORDS UPDATE (DISCUSSION ONLY)**

Bradley, began by noting that there was a case pending in the supreme court right now, discussing the use of personal phones, how cell phones may be discoverable, and how board have been cautioned on the use of text, emails, as they can become a serial quorum. Three (3) or more Members speaking, emailing or texting, can be a serial quorum, remember to keep this in mind. Reminding board not to speak about Arts Council outside of board meetings.

Arger, asks about information on upcoming meetings or informational items. Bradley, says in terms of relaying information about upcoming meetings should be done only if it comes from staff, board members should not initiate information. The board should not be communicating with each other at all unless in a meeting. Staff will send out blind copies, so as not to create a rolling discussion. If board finds something, they would like to share with other board members, send to staff with a request to send out to the board. The staff will send out as blind copies. When in doubt, direct questions to staff and not each other, feel free to contact Sarah Bradley with questions as well.

Varela, thanks Bradley for serving NAC and notes that she appreciates Bradley's assistance, and training. Bradley, notes that usually in October there will be a board training, on open meeting laws and communications. Arger requests the possibility of having this training at an in-person board meeting.

**IX. DTCA DIRECTORS REPORT (DISCUSSION ONLY)**

**Update on Executive Director Recruitment**

Executive Director Recruitment for NAC, has taken a little longer than anticipated, the application deadline was June 20, 2017. There were 104 submissions; some have absolutely no qualifications for this job. I want to thank Julia Arger and Nettie Oliverio for their assistance in weeding through the first round of applications. Julia, Nettie, and Claudia will do interviewing initially. Staff and the remainder of the board will get to ask questions of the finalists. Moving through the resumes methodically, WESTAF is looking through the applicants and giving opinions as well.

**Update on Governor's Portrait process**

Vecchio gave an update on the Governor's Portrait project. RFP to be distributed this week. The type and requirements are very specific, per the NRS. Hopeful to have the portrait done by March 2018.

**Brief overview of department-wide grants review process**

Vecchio, said there are two agencies within DTCA that administer grants, the Arts Council and the Division of Tourism. Looking at DTCA grant procedures, regulations and practices; a grants review agency will review the DTCA grants, to assure DTCA is following all rules and regulations. This will probably be about a year-long process. Hopefully this will start very quickly, scope of work will be developed by DTCA.

**Cultural Tourism – Scope of Work**

Vecchio discussed the Cultural Tourism funds placed in NAC's budget, \$100,000. This initiative to largely be driven by Tourism in creating the scope of work, she wants this cultural tourism to include NAC, and as it

pertains to the arts and artists experiences. Brenda will be working with vendor, and Bethany will be working on the public relations side, an integrated marketing approach, want to identify NAC staff to assist.

Vecchio, appreciates all of NAC staff and board and the great job on the grants and panels, thank you. She said, “Last week I attended the American Advertising Federation’s Advertiser of the Year Award Ceremony”, and I want to congratulate Edward Estipona and The Estipona Group for being named the Community Contributor of the year, for all the good the organization has done as champion for Northern Nevada and Reno. Vecchio, also noted that we were very lucky to have Edward on the NAC board. Edward said, “Complements are hard for us to take, we just work, thank you.”

## **X. CHAIR’S REPORT (DISCUSSION ONLY)**

Arger announced that Edward Estipona and Jerry Schefcik have been reappointed to the Board, and that Mark Salinas has been appointed to replace Irma Varela.

### **Board Updates:**

*Edward Estipona:* Is working on finding funding for Arts4Nevada.org. CAN (Cultural Alliance Nevada) has informed that they will no longer be funding the website moving forward, and that funding has ended from all funding sources. Needs a donor or new partners to keep going. The website needs a contractor to vet events on the statewide arts calendar, used by artists and organizations to publicize their upcoming events. Also, needs security updates so that it doesn’t get hacked. Rappa asked if this was something we could approach DTCA with, Estipona replied possibly. Estipona believes the website started in 2006/2007 with the goal of raising funds for the arts in the budget, of which \$500,000 raised for the biennium. Has continued to grow and evolve, and has survived on minimal dollars for over ten years. Puts out a weekly email on Thursdays letting constituents know of upcoming events. Rappa states what an important resource it is for Nevada. Arger thanked Estipona for his hard work, expertise, and his pro-bono work on the site.

*Joe O’Neill:* The Children’s Performing Art Series is kicking off the summer. O’Neill is programming the Scorpius Dance Theatre from Phoenix, AZ, who is coming to Las Vegas as part of a regional exchange program for Western Arts. Also corrected a name error from the last board meeting, the public art project named Bam Project, which is putting art on utility boxes, was incorrectly called Zapp Project.

*Gail Rappa:* Poet Katherine Case did a wonderful workshop in Tuscarora. Rappa has been working on digital exchange webinars through Art of the World, of which today’s webinar was about arts engagement with community health care, and how arts and culture integrate with health issues and health care in rural areas.

*Jerry Schefcik:* Working on a couple of new exhibitions on the UNLV campus.

*Ryrie Valdez:* Is working on the project “Take me Home Huey” with the Reno Nevada Museum of Art, showing Sept 28–30. A documentary about a Vietnam “Huey” helicopter that was shot down on a medivac mission in 1969. It was rediscovered in a boneyard in AZ in 2014 by Dave Baron of Lighthorse Legacy, a non-profit organization specializing in aviation and PTSD. They were able to track down two crew members, and the pilot who has carried the guilt of the deaths of two other crew members since the crash. The helicopter has been turned into an art sculpture, the song written for the film was inspired by this Huey, and the songwriter will be present for the exhibit. She hopes it to be a catalyst for discussion and healing to our large veteran’s community, and all of us, as it has begun the healing process for the pilot. She’s getting an education on service members, has met the Carson City Mayor, and went to a veteran’s awards ceremony. Attended Flag Day, went to a flag retirement ceremony, and actually got to burn a flag. Is spending a lot of time at the capitol for this project.

*Irma Varela*; Has been catching up on her work at Winchester Cultural Center as Patrick Gaffey is retiring. Attended an award ceremony for the national PTA, which gave her an opportunity to see how many children were involved in the arts.

**XI. INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT (DISCUSSION ONLY) (Attachment E: Interim Executive Directors Report)**

Arger: Could you send us a brief summary of your report? Especially the economic impact information, because that impact information could be valuable for our advocacy efforts.

Ficklin: We're disseminating part of that now, and will have it up on the website. We'll have the big reveal in September with our partner, the City of Reno, at the EDAWNs Lunch, before the Arts@theHeart Conference in November.

Arger: Something to think about, perhaps we could have an in person Board meeting in conjunction with Arts@theHeart. No decision needs to be made on that at this point, but just make a note as a consideration. Kill two birds with one stone, so to speak. That might be a possibility to consider. Any questions for Linda?

Rappa: As you move into FY18, are there any issues the Board needs to be aware of, as far as how you move forward with a new Director not in place? I know that you have deadlines that start immediately in July, and I wonder if there's anything we need to be aware of?

Ficklin: We're doing business as usual. The deadlines for the NEA information; I may have Julia review the application that I have to have submitted. Other than that I don't think there's much you can do.

Rappa: I know with the grants cycle there's a tight turn around that you're on, so I just wanted to make sure there's nothing the Board needed to do as far as supporting you.

Ficklin: We appreciate it your support. Just knowing that you are aware of our dilemmas.

Arger: Thank you again Linda for the job you're doing as Interim Executive Director. Plus you're doing your regular job. Thanks to the whole staff for making sure that we maintain the integrity of the Nevada Arts Council, and the rich legacy that we're all apart of. Thank you so much. Is there any public comment, agenda item twelve?

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

No public comment in person or submitted via email.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

Arger requested a motion to adjourn.

**MOTION: TO ADJOURN MEETING: Moved by Irma Varela; seconded Edward Estipona. Passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,  
Cathleen Wyatt, Administrative Assistant III  
Nevada Arts Council

**List of Attachments on file with original minutes in NAC offices:**

- Attachment A: Public Meeting Notice/Agenda
- Attachment B: June 16, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes
- Attachment C: FY18 Fellowship Board Report
- Attachment D: Nevada Heritage Award
- Attachment E: Interim Executive Directors Report