



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

November 13, 2025
Agenda Item No. 6

TO: CITY ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: Library Services Department
Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director
(949) 717-3801, mhartson@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

TITLE: Cultural Arts Activities – October 2025

CENTRAL LIBRARY GALLERY EXHIBITS

Susan Neas: Mosaic Watercolor Paintings
October 20, 2025 - December 12, 2025, Central Library



The City of Newport Beach Arts Commission is pleased to present the stunning artworks of local artist, Susan Neas. After retiring from a successful career as a graphic artist and co-owner of Thomas Printers in Costa Mesa, Susan transitioned her focus to her personal artwork, dedicating full-time to her craft. In 2020, she refined a distinctive “mosaic style” using either watercolor or acrylic paint.

This exhibit features whimsical patterns and vibrant colors of unique compositions that escape reality. Susan begins each painting without predictability, always resulting in a one-of-a-kind surprise. Many of her paintings may be hung vertically or horizontally. You can find her art on repeat when it’s printed on wallpaper or fabric.

Fun Fact: This unique style was born from fear of committing to starting and finishing an entire painting. Accessing her technical expertise and a deep love for the fluid, organic qualities of paint, this irrational fear created an exciting technique that fueled her inspiration and motivation to create.

Upcoming Installations

2025

- December 15 - February 6, 2026: Hugo Zhang (Photography)

2026

- February 9 - April 3: Soung Park (Digital Photography)
- April 6 - May 29: Dennis Carrie (Historical Figures/Portrait Painting)

FALL CONCERT AT MARINA PARK – 805 SOCIAL CLUB: THE HISTORY OF POP



On October 12, Marina Park hosted the 805 Social Club: The History of Pop. The concert was a non-stop musical journey through the history of pop music, covering seven decades of music from the psychedelic 60s to the new wave 80s to current hits today. Each decade was presented in a short set, introduced with an audio montage of news and pop culture sound clips to evoke the nostalgia from the era. Over 1,600 attendees enjoyed the beautiful weather at the concert.

8th ANNUAL SPOOKTACULAR AT MARINERS PARK

The City Arts Commission hosted a pumpkin painting booth for the second year at the 8th Annual Spooktacular. Attendees had two different sized pumpkins to choose from and enjoyed painting and drawing on their pumpkins. Over four hundred pumpkins were distributed during this successful event.



CULTURAL ARTS CALENDER OF EVENTS:

City Arts Commission (CAC) meetings are held at 5 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month.

- **2025-26 CAC Regular Monthly Meetings:**

- November 13, 2025
- December 11, 2025
- January 8, 2026
- February 12, 2026
- March 12, 2026
- April 9, 2026
- May 14, 2026
- June 11, 2026

- **Family Fun Night:** On December 19, 2025, the Marina Park Community Center will host a Family Fun Night with opportunities to view the Boat Parade, dinner, and crafts. The City Arts Commission will be giving away a special ornament at this event.

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).