



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

June 12, 2025
Agenda Item No. 5

TO: CITY ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: Library Services Department
Melissa Hartson, Library Services Director
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PREPARED BY: Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

TITLE: Ben Did Go 10.0 Paddle Event Concert

RECOMMENDATION:

Review, discuss, and approve the Music and Live Entertainment Ad Hoc Subcommittee suggestion for selecting a band to perform at the Ben Did Go 10.0 paddle event on Saturday, September 13, 2025.

DISCUSSION:

On July 6, 2014, Newport Beach Lifeguard Ben Carlson tragically passed away while performing a rescue. Ben was the first and only Newport Beach lifeguard to die in the line of duty since the inception of the department in 1923. The Ben Carlson Memorial & Scholarship Foundation was started to honor his memory and help raise funds for scholarships for student athletes as well as supporting lifeguard operations throughout the world. Every year the foundation hosts a 30-mile paddle from Catalina to Newport Beach to raise funds to support their mission.

Staff is seeking the City Arts Commission to approve moving forward with the Music and Live Entertainment Ad Hoc Subcommittee's recommendation that the City Arts Commission select a band to play a concert at the Ben Did Go 10.0 event on Saturday, September 13, 2025.

The Music and Live Entertainment Ad Hoc Subcommittee will choose a band and return to the City Arts Commission meeting on July 10, 2025, for approval, in order for staff to take this recommendation to City Council for approval at the July 22, 2025 regular City Council meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding for the live band, stage, sound, and marketing will be expensed to the Cultural Arts Division Programming Budget for FY 2025-26.

NOTICING:

This agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the Board of Library Trustees considers the item).