



## CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

June 12, 2025  
Agenda Item No. 3

**TO:** CITY ARTS COMMISSION

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

**PREPARED BY:** Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

**TITLE:** Cultural Arts Activities for May 2025

---



### CENTRAL LIBRARY GALLERY EXHIBITS

The Newport Beach Central Library is pleased to have on display the giclées of artist Joan Gladstone. Joan Gladstone paints the California Dreamin' lifestyle. She uses bold colors, clean lines, and minimalist compositions to portray coastal scenes in a contemporary style. Her favorite compliment is when people say her work is "beautiful, colorful, and happy."

This summer, the Newport Beach Central Library debuts three paintings in Joan's new series dedicated to historic Route 66. Joan and her husband Ed have traveled most of the road in search of iconic motels and cafes, just like millions of travelers who found adventure on America's first great highway. Sadly, many of these historic stops have disappeared or are fading away. To help preserve memories of the Mother Road, Joan's paintings imagine beloved signs as they may have looked in their heyday. Route 66 celebrates its 100th birthday in 2026.

An oil painter for over 25 years, Joan was honored to have eight paintings on exhibition at the Hilbert Museum of California Art. Her work has appeared in scores of juried art shows including John Wayne Airport, Crystal Cove Conservancy, City of Laguna Beach, and Huntington Beach Art Center. She exhibits at the Sawdust Art Festival in Laguna Beach each summer.

Joan's artwork is Route 66 Centennial Certified. The sale of paintings and prints will support an official Route 66 Centennial grant program designed to help revitalize and sustain Route 66 as a national icon and international destination.

### Upcoming Installations

#### 2025

- June 30 - August 22: Kathy Bambeck (Puzzle Paintings)
- August 25 - October 17: Joe Cladis (Lithographs)
- October 20 - December 12: Susan Neas (Watercolor Paintings)
- December 15 - February 6, 2026: Hugo Zhang (Photography)



## **CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT**

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO CREATE A HISTORIAN LAUREATE**

At their May 27, 2025, meeting, the Newport Beach City Council passed a resolution to create a Historian Laureate position. The Historian Laureate will collaborate with the Arts Commission to identify meaningful event opportunities, helping to bring awareness of the rich history of Newport Beach to the community and visitors alike.

### **CULTURAL ARTS CALENDER OF EVENTS:**

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

- **2025 CAC Regular Monthly Meetings:** ○ January 9, 2025 (canceled)
  - February 13, 2025
  - March 13, 2025
  - April 10, 2025
  - May 8, 2025
  - June 12, 2025
  - July 10, 2025
  - August 14, 2025
  - September 11, 2025
  - October 9, 2025
  - November 13, 2025
  - December 11, 2025
- **58th Annual Newport Beach Art Exhibition:** Saturday, June 28, 2025
- **Summer Concerts on the Civic Green:**
  - July 27, 2025 – Cassie B
  - August 17, 2025 – Pacific Symphony
  - September 14, 2025 – Tijuana Dogs
- **Fall Concert at Marina Park**
  - October 12, 2025 – 805 Social Club (The History of Pop)

### **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).