



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY ARTS COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

August 13, 2026
Agenda Item No. 4

TO: CITY ARTS COMMISSION

FROM: Library Services Department
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PREPARED BY: Rebecca Lightfoot, Library Services Manager

TITLE: Central Library Gallery Exhibit Additional Artwork – August 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

The Art in Public Places Ad Hoc Subcommittee request the City Arts Commission approve the eight “Ballerina Series” paintings and reject the remaining additional submissions by artist Eleana Kealy for display in the Central Library Lobby Gallery Space.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Newport Beach maintains two exhibit spaces at the Central Library. The Lobby Gallery in the Central Library has approximately 38 feet of linear wall space designed for two-dimensional pieces of art. Additionally, artists may apply to exhibit three-dimensional works in the two display cabinets that were added to the Central Library display offerings in 2010. The display cases are approximately 24” high x 24” deep x 24” wide.

Artists who want their work to be considered for display submit a completed Application for Exhibition of Art at the Central Library Lobby Gallery.

The City Arts Commission’s Art in Public Places Ad Hoc Subcommittee meets periodically to review artist's submissions. Staff notifies artists of acceptance and arranges the staging of the art. The City Arts Commission approved exhibit artwork by Eleana Kealy at their April 9, 2026, regular meeting. Since this approval, Artist Kealy has submitted additional pieces for exhibit consideration. The Art in Public Places Ad Hoc Subcommittee met to review and discuss these additional works. They are recommending the City Arts Commission approve the eight black and white “Ballerina Series” paintings for display and reject the remaining paintings and vases for the exhibit.

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).

ATTACHMENT A: Artist Eleana Kealy’s additional pieces