

Date: Fri, 07 Jul 2006 13:00:22 -0700
Subject: Youth Cultural Arts Presentation & Motion
From: Tim Borquez <tborquez@haciendapost.com>
To: Cindy Cleghorn <cindy@cmprintmail.com>
Cc: John Lawler <mrjlawler@mac.com>, Claire Knowlton <claire.knowlton@gmail.com>
Thread-Topic: Youth Cultural Arts Presentation & Motion
Thread-Index: Acah//qd00dB9A3zEduXOQAUR3FkA==

Cindy-

I request that you please pass this on to the other members of the board and them all to consider this motion to be brought at our next meeting on July 12th.

Ms Knowlton (McGroarty Art Center) and Mr. Lawler (Verdugo Hills High) will both be present for the presentation and motion and will be available to answer any questions from the board and the community at the STNC on July 12th.

STNC Members- please feel free to call me with any questions you may have concerning the motion and the programs-

I look forward to your full support-

All the Best-

--

Tim Borquez
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Cultural Arts Group Representative
tborquez@haciendapost.com
818-262-7766

Agenda Item
1
New Business

Youth Cultural Arts Proposal for STNC

Fellow STNC Council members and community stakeholders,

I would like to present an idea and a purpose that this neighborhood council can get behind on an on-going basis that will really make a difference in the lives of the children and families in our community.

Published research and studies over the last 2 decades have pretty much substantiated that when consistently exposed to arts education, children and teens in schools have had their abilities in learning and achievement dramatically enhanced. Since the 1970's, our community unfortunately has suffered from severe cutbacks in arts programming in our schools. Arts education has been virtually eradicated from many of our local schools, in addition and most recently, the city and federal government have had to limit or even stop the funding of local programs. One local "free program" that has really started to make a difference in the academic development of a few hundred of our local students and citizens over the past couple of years is the **ART REACH Program** offered through the McGroarty Arts Center, here in Tujunga.

As you will learn in reading the 2 program descriptions to follow, there is a chance for the STNC to give arts poor students K-12 after school arts instruction that will enhance their personal achievement and learning.

Pt-1 Continued support of existing program, with requested contribution

Pt-2 Support of the development and expansion of program into Verdugo High, in support of its new Performing Arts program, with requested contribution.

My hope is that this program will expand onto our Verdugo Hills High school campus this next cycle and target instruction for those dedicated kids in need, and as an enhancement in support of the new Performing Arts Program offered this next year. This is an opportunity for the STNC to be an on-going sponsor of a program that's really working in our community. I request that you please read the attached information and background and then I urge all the STNC members to support the following motion and subsequent action.

Motion Presented by Cultural Arts Rep: Timothy Borquez

I THEREFORE MOVE: That in recognition of the McGroarty Arts Center **ART REACH** Program's success and vital service in the development of skills that enhance learning and leadership qualities of a few hundred students yearly in our Sunland-Tujunga community through instruction in the arts, I move that the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council vote to approve one or both of the following parts of this motion.

(Pt-1) To contribute \$5,000 from the STNC Outreach budget to the McGroarty Arts Center, as it has requested specifically, to continue the Art Reach Program in our community's local elementary and middle schools in the upcoming school calendar year.

(Pt-2) To contribute \$5,000 from the STNC Outreach budget to the McGroarty Arts Center in order to develop and implement with the director of the new Verdugo Hills High School Performing Arts Program, an ART Reach Program for the upcoming academic year, that will offer complimenting, free on-campus performing arts instruction, to students within the new performing Arts School who will be admitted on the recommendation of the high school program director, based on student's dedication to the Program.

The McGroarty Arts Center will credit the STNC as the Main Sponsor of one or both of these **ART REACH** Programs in all press releases, event programs and event signage concerning the program, if approved by these votes.

Current Status of ART REACH program funding from McGroarty Arts Center representative Claire Knowlton:

Art Reach began in 2003 with the help of a Federal Appropriation, which expired in 2005. It has been the most effective way to reach arts-poor children in our community. Many children do not have the financial ability or transportation needed to attend an arts class. *Art Reach* addresses both these issues by bringing quality art classes to the children for free... This program ...(*intends to*).. serve between 180 and 200 elementary or middle school students who do not have transportation to McGroarty Arts Center by offering after-school classes on their school grounds. Starting this fall, *Art Reach* will no longer be supported by the Department of Cultural Affairs either, our largest supporter over the last two years. We now require new funding sources to continue the *Art Reach* program. It is our hope that the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council will take over as the strongest backer of this essential program.

Art Reach Program Budget 2006-2007

ART REACH Elementary and Middle School Program

Instructors' Salaries (180 hrs. @ \$30/hr):	\$ 5,400
Administrative Assistant (80 hrs. @ \$10/hr):	\$ 800
Teachers' Aide wages (72 hrs. @ \$10/hr):	\$ 720
T-Shirts (200 @ \$8 each):	\$ 1,600
<u>Art Supplies:</u>	<u>\$ 2,000</u>
Total:	\$10,520

We respectfully request \$5,000 from the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council to help cover:

Instructors' Salaries:	\$4,000
<u>Art Supplies:</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>
Total:	\$5,000

Current ART REACH Program Abridged Description from McGroarty's Claire Knowlton:

The three 6-week sessions are offered to coincide with the school calendar: fall 2006, winter 2007 and spring 2007. Each session will include a visual arts class and a dance class taught by McGroarty teachers during after-school hours at local elementary schools or middle schools. Classes will meet twice each week for one hour per class meeting. Youth are admitted to this program on the recommendation of classroom teachers, the child's desire to participate and on the basis of need. The dance class will create a foundation for students to begin their dance education by exploring rhythm, tempo, and basic ballet. It will continue by providing basics in modern, jazz, ethnic, and hip hop. The art classes will provide orientation and instruction in painting, paper cut projects, wall hangings, and mixed media. Each session culminates in a performance and exhibition at McGroarty Arts Center. *ART REACH* also serves older teens through the *Teacher's Aide* program, designed to supplement *Art Reach* by hiring teens to assist the teacher with classroom duties. Elementary school-aged children are most affected by the behavior of older children who they see as role models. Conversely, teenaged students are often challenged to find positive activities to engage in during after-school hours. In addition, many teenage students find it necessary to take after school jobs to supplement the family income. This program addresses all of these needs through a *Teacher's Aide* methodology that has been successfully used by countless organizations including 4H Club and What Children Can Do.

Two teacher's aides per session will be selected from a pool of underserved students who participated in the McGroarty Scholarship program or who are referred by Art Instructors. The Aides will be hired to work with the art or dance class for the entire six week session. These aides will work with art instructors to give guidance and personal attention to each child. In addition, they will be given responsibilities such as setting up the classroom space, preparing the supplies and taking attendance.

Sunland-Tujunga is a particularly underserved area in the City of Los Angeles in terms of municipal services, parks (only 0.66 acres of park per 1,000 residents), and after-school programs for children. McGroarty's programming seeks to provide kids with music, dance, art, and theater education, which have been severely reduced from the school curriculums since the 1970's. 90% of the students who take classes at the McGroarty Arts Center come from the Sunland-Tujunga community, and 75% of our students are between the ages of 3-14. Offering strong, consistent, positive after-school activities in our neighborhood, the McGroarty Arts Center is a community necessity.

Verdugo Hills Performing Arts Program described by John Lawler Director of Performing Arts Smaller Learning Community and Instructor at Verdugo Hills High School:

Mr. Lawler is out of town on a family emergency, but has described his vision for the new program and is very supportive of the idea to receive help from the STNC and the rest community through *ART REACH*, in order to make this new program a great success. As will be evident by all of the data presented in this packaged proposal, there has been a serious decline in funding for curriculum, and programs in the arts at Verdugo High School since the early 1980's. Even with the fantastic McGroarty Auditorium at its disposal, the high school has not been able to develop a viable performing arts program up until the last few years. Thanks to some dedicated instructors, administrators and community supporters, in the past few years the high school has been able to develop the essence of a true performing arts department, with about 3 dozen student performers musicians and technicians now vitally focused on the performing arts through events and classes already developed. The school has finally taken the step to establish a group of Smaller Learning Communities on campus, one which will be dedicated to the Performing Arts and will be offering its program this coming school year. Student response has been overwhelming with close to 300 students interested in becoming a part of this Smaller Learning Community. Since there is limited funding for this program at the school, basic instruction in the fundamentals of the performing arts: dance/movement and vocal performance is sorely needed. Having an *ART REACH* after-school program instituted on-campus, will be what VHHS will needs to compliment and provide a well-rounded program . We've fashioned a budget for the high school that mirrors about 1/2 of the budget projected in 2006/07, for *ART REACH* as it currently stands. We strongly appeal to the STNC to become a strong supporter of this motion and *ART REACH's* efforts to service this dedicated and inspired group of students at Verdugo Hills High.

ART REACH Verdugo Hills High School Performing Arts Program

STNC Cultural Arts Rep and Verdugo Hills High School Performing Arts Program respectfully request of \$5,000 for the development and expansion of the *ART REACH* program into its school, for dedicated kids in need and as an enhancement to its program.

Instructors' Salaries (2 instructor Program):	\$ 4,000
Administrative Assistant (50 hrs. @ \$10/hr):	\$ 500
<u>Supplies:</u>	<u>\$ 500</u>
Total:	\$ 5,000

McGroarty Arts Center History:

McGroarty Arts Center has a rich history in the community. Built in 1923, the Center was originally the private residence of John Steven McGroarty: U.S. Congressman, poet, historian, dramatist and journalist. This beautiful home, alive with mementos of California's colorful history, was declared a Historic-Cultural Monument (#63) by the City of Los Angeles on February 4, 1970. In 1974, the City began operating McGroarty as an arts center, but in 1995, budget cuts forced the city to divest six community art centers, including McGroarty. The Center has been operated by the Friends of the McGroarty Arts Center (a non-profit organization), in partnership with the City, ever since.

Each year the McGroarty Arts Center serves thousands of children and adults in the community by providing low cost and affordable classes in the literary, fine and performing arts, held on-site at the McGroarty Arts Center and in the Sunland-Tujunga Library. Additional classes are conducted free of charge in local schools as part of the Center's **Art Reach Program**. Since 1995, the Center has served close to 100,000 people through art classes, events, and exhibits. The McGroarty Arts Center is committed to providing affordable art instruction for children and adults; to promoting the fine, literary and performing arts through instruction; to providing a venue in which artists can display or perform their work; and to supporting and promoting the legacy of John Steven McGroarty and his home as a local center for the literary and fine arts.

Sunland-Tujunga is a particularly underserved area in the City of Los Angeles in terms of municipal services, parks (only 0.66 acres of park per 1,000 residents), and after-school programs for children. McGroarty's programming seeks to provide kids with music, dance, art, and theater education, which have been severely reduced from the school curriculums since the 1970's. 90% of the students who take classes at the McGroarty Arts Center come from the Sunland-Tujunga community, and 75% of our students are between the ages of 3-14. Offering strong, consistent, positive after-school activities in our neighborhood, the McGroarty Arts Center is a community necessity.

More on ART REACH...

The objectives of our program are based on the belief that arts education has a fundamental impact on a students' ability to learn. In recent years many studies have been conducted that confirm this belief. In 1999, Champions of Change: The Impact of the Arts on Learning was published. It is a report that compiles seven major studies to provide new evidence of enhanced learning and achievement when students are involved in a variety of arts experiences. As a result of their varied inquiries the Champions of Change researchers found that learners can attain higher levels of achievement through their engagement with the arts. Moreover, one of the critical research findings is that learning in and through the arts can help "level the playing field" for youngsters from disadvantaged circumstances.

One researcher, James Catterall, analyzed the Department of Education's NELS:88 database of 25,000 students and demonstrated that students with high levels of arts participation outperform "arts-poor" students by virtually every measure. Because arts participation is highly correlated with socioeconomic status, the most significant predictor of academic performance, this comes as little surprise. The size and diversity of the NELS database, however, permitted Catterall to find statistical significance in comparisons of high and low arts participants in the lowest socioeconomic segments. This closer look showed that high arts participation makes a more significant difference to students from low-income backgrounds than for high-income students.

Another researcher, Shirley Brice Heath, spent a decade studying dozens of after-school programs for disadvantaged youth. These programs were broadly clustered into three categories: sports/academic, community involvement, and the arts. This research shows that the youth in all these programs were doing better in school and in their personal lives than were young people from the same socioeconomic categories, as tracked by NELS:88. To the researchers' surprise, however,

the youth in the arts programs were doing the best. Skeptical about this finding, Heath and her colleagues looked more closely at the arts programs and the youth participating in them. Although the youth in the arts programs were actually at greater “risk” than those in other programs, the researchers found that the characteristics particular to the arts made those programs more effective.



Gold Graphics

Manufacturing Company

12450 Montague Street, Pacoima, CA 91331
818-899-1183 * Fax 818-899-2430

Quote

Print Date: 6/26/2006

Time: 9:11:58AM

Page 1 of 1

Customer: Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Estimate # 012322

Contact: Dan McManus

Rep: Scott Greenwald

Estimator:
Nadja Diedrich

Phone: 818-355-0069

FAX: 818-575-2105

Image TBD

Notes:

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Extension Price
001	35" x 96" d/f CLPBs - 2c 35" x 96" s/f screenprint 2c (blue and yellow TBD) on 12 oz. white vinyl - gray back, trim to bleed, join two faces back to back (common image), 4 1/2" sleeves top and bottom, poly loops at sleeve ends, bulk for single-unit install (included).	40	\$149.15	\$5,966.00

*Agenda Item # 2
New business*

**SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BUDGET 2006-2007**

Funds	
Yearly Allocation	50,000
Rollover	27,278
Total	77,278

Budget	
Account Category	Annual Total
OPERATIONS	
Staffing (Apple One)	18,000
Mt. Gleason rent	720
Telephone	2,700
Agenda printing	3,000
General Operations	8,580
OPERATIONS TOTAL	33,000
OUTREACH	
Postcards	7,800
General outreach	15,000
OUTREACH TOTAL	22,800
DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE	3,000
SAFETY	8,000
ELECTIONS	8,000
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS	2,478
GRAND TOTAL	77,278