



*City of Bristol
Arts & Culture Commission*

INFORMATION TO ACCESS THIS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/83837598503?pwd=7mmPQw4bSobMWVv0x40Niq9zNhCcqm.1>

The regular [AGENDA_OFFICAL_BODY] meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 6:00 PM. in City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Attendance
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of Minutes: November 19,2025, Special Meeting Minutes
3. Public Participation
4. Supervisor's Report
 - a. Arts and Culture Supervisor's Report
 - b. Project Spreadsheet
 - c. Year to Date Financials
5. Chairman's Report
6. Old Business
 - a. Conceptually approve the installation of public art wraps on four (4) traffic boxes located at the intersections of Broad Street and Central Street, Pine Street and Lincoln Avenue, West Street and Center Street, and Stafford Avenue and Washington Street, and refer to staff for the creation of an RFP.

- b. Accept donations through the Arts & Culture Commission Contribution Fund to offset the cost of the four (4) public art traffic box installations, to total approximately \$3,600.
 - c. Update on the Heart Sculpture Sponsored by the Broad View Fund
 - d. Ace Awards Update
 - e. Plaque for the Locks at Stocks Sculpture from the Artistic Bronze
 - f. By Commissioners
- 7. New Business
 - a. Approval of the 2026 City Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Calendar
 - b. Request for Official Community Impact/Alignment Award or Recognition for the Free Community Open Mic Series by the City Arts and Culture Commission
 - c. By Commissioners
- 8. Reports and Committee Reports
 - a. City Council Liaison Report
- 9. Adjournment

Per Order of the Chairperson
Walter Lewandoski



*City of Bristol
Arts & Culture Commission*

INFORMATION TO ACCESS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/85789070155?pwd=GTwFgEvzQSk6rbCUrZvknABkVoExN.1>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The regular meeting was held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 12:00 PM via Zoom.

1. Call to Order

Chair Walter Lewandoski called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

a. Attendance

Chair Walter Lewandoski
Vice Chair Andrea Adams
Commissioner Juliet Norton
Commissioner Maria Salice
Commissioner Nigel Wynter
Commissioner E. Brad Yancy
Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna
Therriault

Absent:

Commissioner Julie Carensa-Crist
City Council Liaison Greg Hahn

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes: November 5, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to approve the November 5, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Seconded by Commissioner Yancy; all in favor; motion carried.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Old Business

- a. **Conceptually approve the installation of public art wraps on four (4) traffic boxes located at the intersections of Broad Street and Central Street, Pine Street and Lincoln Avenue, West Street and Center Street, and Stafford Avenue and Washington Street, and refer to staff for the creation of an RFP.**

Arts and Culture Supervisor, Arianna Therriault presented the conceptual approval of the public art wraps on four (4) traffic boxes located at the intersections of Broad Street and Central Street, Pine Street and Lincoln Avenue, West Street and Center Street, and Stafford Avenue and Washington Street, and refer to staff for the creation of an RFP. Due to time constraints, the commission moved to table the conceptual approval until the December 3, 2025, regular meeting.

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to table the conceptual approval of the public art wraps on four (4) traffic boxes located at the intersections of Broad Street and Central Street, Pine Street and Lincoln Avenue, West Street and Center Street, and Stafford Avenue and Washington Street, and refer to staff for the creation of an RFP. Seconded by Commissioner Wynter; all in favor; motion carried.

- b. **Accept donations through the Arts & culture Commission Contribution Fund to offset the cost of the four (4) public art traffic box installations, to total approximately \$3,600.**

Due to time constraints, the commission agreed to revisit the acceptance of donations through the Arts and Culture Commission Contribution Fund to offset the cost of the four (4) public art traffic box installations, to total approximately \$3,600.00 until the December 3, 2025, regular meeting.

5. New Business

- a. **Consider a Request to Sponsor the Holiday Crawl Through the Cultural District on December 13, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

Chair Lewandoski presented the request to sponsor the Holiday Crawl through the Cultural District on December 13, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Supervisor Therriault described that the Bristol Holiday Stroll must be officially presented by the Arts and Culture Commission rather than the Economic and Community Development team because it focuses on restaurants and businesses within the cultural district. Commission members do not need to attend the event unless they choose to, but for the event to move forward under their name, they would need to vote to approve endorsing it. The topic can be discussed further at the December meeting.

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Adams to Approve the Request to Sponsor the Holiday Crawl Through the Cultural District on December 12, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Wynter; all in favor; motion carried.

- b. **Consider a \$1,000 Donation from the Broad View Fund through the Main Street Community Foundation to support a new public art project**

Chair Lewandoski presented the \$1000.00 donation from the Broad View Fund through the Main Street Community Foundation to support the new public art project. The proposal is to install a lightweight resin heart sculpture in the city, fully funded by the Broad View Fund for an estimated \$1,333. Chair Lewandoski stated other cities have multiple versions of these, and this could encourage local businesses to sponsor other art projects. Bob Boudreau will also help find and pay an artist. The Commission just needs to approve starting the project and later decide on the location. There's also a question of whether Bob, as the donor, will have input on selecting the artist, which may require a clear process or rubric. The commission will invite Bob Boudreau to attend the December 3 meeting for any additional questions. Once approved, a written document should outline Bob's donation, what it covers, and potential locations. The Commission can make a motion to accept the donation, note Bob's input on the project, and clarify that final placement will depend on site approval (e.g., Public Works). This ensures everything is on record for reference.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Wynter to approve moving forward with the project now, while details like location, artist selection, and logistics can be discussed at the December 3rd meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Yancy; all in favor; motion carried.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amaris Estrada
Recording Secretary
City Arts and Culture Commission



Arts and Culture Commission
City of Bristol
111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT 06010
Arts and Culture Commission Supervisor Report

A. Financials:

- See attached financials

B. Project/General Updates

- Holiday Crawl - 9+ businesses have signed up to be a part of the stroll.
 - i. Link: <https://bristolallheart.com/holidaystroll2025/>
 - Arts and Culture Recreation Winter Classes:
 - i. "Make It With YARN!"
https://bristolct.myrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=29654
 - ii. "Introduction to Break Dancing"
https://bristolct.myrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=29655
1. Registration opens Dec. 2

C. Downtown Live:

Annual Report: *January 1, 2025 to November 13, 2025*

- 23 of DTL shows offered in 2025
- 1,854 of DTL patrons in 2025
- \$198,870 Revenue for 2025 (Reminder, to date from January 1 to 11-13-25)
- 35 active volunteers
- 29 inaugural members club members
- 53 hotel stays at the local DoubleTree By Hilton Hotel
- First sold-out show on 11-1-25
- Named Runner Up for Best Small Music Venue, Connecticut Magazine
- Press:
 - 5 Front Page stories in The Bristol Press this year, + numerous in The Bristol Edition (TBE), featured on Connecticut_Bucketlist Instagram (nearly 200K followers) Fox 61, NBC CT, WTIC News Talk Radio, and 99.1 PLR with Chaz & AJ
 - Newsletters sent to over 22,000 emails in our data base 2-4 times per year
- Sponsorships:
 - Sponsored by 10 business/groups/individuals, including Barnes Group, Whit & Jerre Betts, Wheeler Health, Main Street Community Foundation, D'Amato Construction, Thomaston Savings Bank, Torrington Savings Bank, Bristol Arts and Culture Commission, RV Enterprises, Weston & Sampson
- Cross promote and work closely with Iron Horse Sports Pub, Monterrey Mexican Restaurant, Creative Jam Art Co., Bristol Bazaar, Riverside Restaurant, Divine Health Juice Bar, Fork + Band Sling Shot, Spare Time
- Social Media:
 - Over 2.2 million views on our Facebook and Instagram content
 - 304,711 3-second views (up 344%)
 - 11,080 1-minute views (up 451%)
 - 735 NEW followers (UP 32% from last year (319 days ago))
 - 18,290 Interactions (up 114% from last year (319 days ago))
 - 14,532 content reaction, 1,537 comments, 2,221 shares
- **Black Friday Deal updates**

Event Numbers as of 11-25-2025

Event	Status	Issued	Remaining	Revenue
The Nashville KING Starring John Beardsley Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Dec 13, 2025 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	329 	287 	15,783.91
MATINEE - The Nashville KING Starring John Beardsley Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sun Dec 14, 2025 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	292 	324 	14,161.63
The Soul Session 2026 Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Jan 17, 2026 5:00 PM - 10:30 PM	✓ Published ▼	22 	594 	665.87
Harvest & Rust - A Neil Young Experience Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Fri Feb 6, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	99 	517 	3,894.19
HUSH Crew - KPop Dance Crew Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Mar 7, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	72 	544 	2,531.68
Fleetwood Macked: The Ultimate Tribute to Fleetwood Mac Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Mar 14, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	159 	457 	7,421.06
M•PACT Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Apr 25, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	37 	579 	1,842.45
Taylorville Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 2, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	46 	570 	2,039.05
Hey Nineteen Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 9, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	49 	567 	2,243.20
EagleMania Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 30, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	✓ Published ▼	72 	544 	4,082.44

Event numbers as of 10/30/2025 -

Event	Status	Issued	Remaining	Revenue	
UMX: The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Nov 1, 2025 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	600	0	27,456.13	
The Evolution of Joni Mitchell: Starring Lauren Fox Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Nov 8, 2025 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	67	549	2,931.65	
The Police Experience Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Nov 15, 2025 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	70	546	3,386.51	
The Nashville KING Starring John Beardsley Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Dec 13, 2025 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	255	361	12,580.23	
MATINEE - The Nashville KING Starring John Beardsley Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sun Dec 14, 2025 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Published	215	401	10,588.34	
The Soul Session 2025 Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Jan 17, 2026 5:00 PM - 10:30 PM	Published	2	614	72.33	
Harvest & Rust - A Neil Young Experience Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Fri Feb 6, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	36	580	1,508.25	
HUSH - K Pop Dance Crew Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Mar 7, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	9	607	349.77	
Fleetwood Macked: The Ultimate Tribute to Fleetwood Mac Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Mar 14, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	75	541	3,772.83	
M•PACT Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat Apr 25, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	19	597	972.99	
Taylorville Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 2, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	13	603	674.54	
Hey Nineteen Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 9, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	26	590	1,219.45	
EagleMania Downtown Live at The Rockwell Theater Sat May 30, 2026 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Published	43	573	2,534.51	

Active Projects	Description	Anticipated Cost	Type of Project	Funding Source	Location	Artist(s)	Completion Date Goal	Maintenance Dates	Notes	Fiscal Year	Status
Pocket Park Sculptor	Choose an artist and design for the planned pocket park on North Main Street	Unsure	Sculpture	City of Bristol Grant	Corner of Riverside Ave. and North Main St.	Undecided	2027			2026	R&D of artist and design
Cultural District Acorn Stickers	Stickers for new businesses within cultural district	\$163.17		A&C	N/A	Rep Email: sethg@decals.com Direct Number: 320-391-5309 Main Number: 320-391-5250	n/a	n/a		2025	Waiting on remainder of budget
Cultural District Map	Drawn map of Cultural District	\$1,500	District Map	A&C & Fundraising from Advertising	N/A	Sarah May	By Spet. 2025	Yearly Print Outs/Updates	Funding to be provided from A&C commission and also from advertising on the map with different businesses	2025	In process
Projects Completed July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025	Description	Anticipated Cost	Type of Project	Funding Source	Location	Artist(s)	Completion Date Goal	Maintenance Dates	Notes	Fiscal Year	Status
Heart Lock Sculpture	Heart Sculpture with grids for locks and carabiners to attach	In kind for sculpture, \$4,500 for cement pad	Sculpture	In kind Farmington metal, cement paid through A&C Commission	Stocks Entrance from Lake Ave	Farmington Metal	2025			2024	completed - awaiting plaque
Throwback Thursday Film Sponsorship	Film Sponsorship to Downtown Live	\$ 2,000.00	Donation	ACC Fund	DTL	N/A	2024-2025	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
Hidden Figures Throwback Thursday Film	Melina Floyd asked for a sponsorship for the Women's History Month film	\$ 350.00	Donation	ACC Fund	DTL	N/A	Mar. 27, 2025	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
2024 Halloween Spooktacular	Halloween Event held at BAIMS Field	\$ 3,164.00	Sponsorship	ACC Fund	BAIMS Field	N/A	Oct. 26, 2024	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
The Soul Session	Maxine Bowden requested and received a sponsorship for a talent showcase at DTL with independent artists, including painters, photogs, musicians, & poet laureates	\$ 5,000.00	Grant	ACC Fund	DTL	25 independent artists from CT	Jan. 18, 2024	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
Cultural District Walk Through Lunch	\$400.00 for Cultural District Walk through Lunch allotted	\$ 400.00	Donation	ACC	Cultural District	N/A	13-May-25	N/A	N/A	2024-2025	PAID
Future Project Considerations	Description	Anticipated Cost	Type of Project	Funding Source	Location	Artist(s)	Completion Date Goal	Maintenance Dates	Notes	Fiscal Year	Status
Canvas Benches	Benches made from wind turbines	\$4-\$7K	Bench installation	ACC fund	TBD	TBD	TBD			TBD	non-priority
Welcome to Bristol Signs	Signs to welcome the public to Bristol	TBD	Signs	ACC Fund	TBD	TBD	TBD			TBD	In discussion
Heart Sculpture	Public Art Sculpture(s) outside of the	\$15,000.00	Sculpture	ACC Fund/Fundraising	exact location requires Park	Robert Hudson (TBD)	TBD			FY24	PENDING
Interactive Mural 1	Pride/Rainbow Mural	\$500.00	Mural	ACC Fund/Other	Carousel Museum?	Brandi Pichette	TBD		Partnership w/ CT Mura	TBD	PENDING
PAN Am Mellen St Bridge	Mural	TBD	Mural	TBD	Mellen St Bridge	TBD	TBD	Resident requested Hannah Hintz. Bridge is not p		TBD	PENDING
Interactive Mural 2	"Mama Bristol" Mural	\$500.00	Mural	ACC Fund/Other	None identified	Brian Triccolo	TBD		Partnership w/ CT Murals	TBD	PENDING
Heart sculpture like lobster landing	Waiting for New idea Check List										
Heart Sculpture	Waiting for New idea Check List										
Cultural District Street Sign											

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	REVISED					AVAILABLE	PCT
001 GENERAL FUND	APPROP	BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES		BUDGET	USED
0017021 PARKS ADMINISTRATION								
0017021 583120 ARTS & CULTURE COMM	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	81.0%
TOTAL PARKS ADMINISTRATION	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	81.0%
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	81.0%
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00		950.00	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD EXPENDED	MTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USED
GRAND TOTAL	5,000	5,000	4,050.00	.00	.00	950.00	81.0%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Amaris Estrada **

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:	ORIGINAL	REVISED				AVAILABLE	PCT
175 ARTS & CULTURE FUND	APPROP	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	MTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USE/COL
1757033 ARTS & CULTURE							
1757033 422004 FEES	-216,540	-216,540	-126,984.14	.00	.00	-89,555.86	58.6%
1757033 470000 CONTRIBUTIONS	-32,000	-32,000	-6,450.00	.00	.00	-25,550.00	20.2%
1757033 514000 REGULAR WAGES & SAL	70,795	70,795	28,747.75	.00	.00	42,047.25	40.6%
1757033 515200 PARTTIME WAGES & SA	4,800	4,800	62.83	.00	.00	4,737.17	1.3%
1757033 520700 F.I.C.A.	4,390	4,390	1,684.41	.00	.00	2,705.59	38.4%
1757033 520750 MEDICARE INSURANCE	1,030	1,030	394.84	.00	.00	635.16	38.3%
1757033 531000 PROFESSIONAL FEES &	121,400	121,400	85,027.50	.00	23,261.56	13,110.94	89.2%
1757033 557700 ADVERTISING	12,600	12,600	7,978.31	.00	.00	4,621.69	63.3%
1757033 561800 PROGRAM SUPPLIES	0	0	2,600.00	.00	.00	-2,600.00	100.0%
1757033 591500 TRANSFER OUT INTERN	33,525	33,525	10,129.42	.00	.00	23,395.58	30.2%
TOTAL ARTS & CULTURE	0	0	3,190.92	.00	23,261.56	-26,452.48	100.0%
TOTAL ARTS & CULTURE FUND	0	0	3,190.92	.00	23,261.56	-26,452.48	100.0%
TOTAL REVENUES	-248,540	-248,540	-133,434.14	.00	.00	-115,105.86	
TOTAL EXPENSES	248,540	248,540	136,625.06	.00	23,261.56	88,653.38	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2026 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	MTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	3,190.92	.00	23,261.56	-26,452.48	100.0%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Amaris Estrada **

BOB BOUDREAU DONATION PROPOSAL:

SIZE: 38" HEIGHT, 40" WIDTH, 18" DEPTH

WEIGHT: 40 LBS. **MATERIAL:** RESIN

COST: \$833.75 **SHIPPING:** \$400-500

COMPANY: ICON POLY, GIBBON, NEBRASKA



EXAMPLES

FRAMINGHAM, MASS.

SUGGESTED LOCATION:

HOPE STREET



BOB WILL COVER THE COST OF THE HEART. ARTS AND CULTURE WILL COMMISSION AN ARTIST, APPROVE ART IN CONJUNCTION WITH BOB AND ARRANGE FOR MOUNTING ON A SMALL BASE IN AN APPROVED LOCATION.



City of Bristol
Office of Town and City Clerk
111 North Main Street
Bristol, Connecticut 06010

To: Town & City Clerk

From: City Arts & Culture Commission
(Name of Board or Commission)

Contact Person: Amaris Estrada Telephone Number: 860-584-6160

Address: 51 High Street, Bristol, CT 06010

E-mail Address: AmarisEstrada@bristolct.gov

In compliance with Section 1-225 of the Connecticut General Statutes the following is a listing of dates of the regular meetings of the City Arts & Culture Commission
(Name of Board or Commission)

MONTH	DATE	TIME & PLACE OF MEETING
February 2026	4 th	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
March 2026	4 th	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
April 2026	1 st	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
May 2026	6 th	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
June 2026	3 rd	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
July 2026	1 st	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
August 2026	5 th	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
September 2026	2 nd	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
October 2026	7 th	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
November 2026	4 th	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
December 2026	2 nd	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually
January 2027	6 th	6:00 p.m.– City Hall Meeting Room 1-3 & Virtually

Yours truly,

(Signature) **Chair**

(Signature) **Recording Secretary**

(Date)

Dear Bristol Arts and Culture Commission,

Creative Jam Art Co. has deeply valued the support and partnership we've received from the City, particularly through Arianna Therriault's office and our collaboration with Bristol's Poet Laureate, Tom Lagasse.

We are writing to respectfully request consideration for an official **Community Impact/Alignment Award or Recognition** for our **Free Community Open Mic Series**, which we have hosted since January.

The Program's Impact

This monthly series quickly became a vital, well-attended fixture in Bristol's cultural landscape.

- **Attendance:** We consistently drew a steady audience of **25-50 attendees** and provided a platform for **10-15 performers** each month, demonstrating a clear community hunger for accessible arts programming.
- **Creating a "Third Place":** The series functions as a critical **"Third Place"**—a safe, inclusive, and encouraging space for local residents to gather, connect, and develop their creative identity outside of home and work.
- **Creative Synergy:** As Poet Laureate Tom Lagasse noted, Creative Jam offered "a unique setting, unlike any other in Connecticut, that pulsed with energy and allowed freedom of voice," fostering significant synergy within Bristol's growing creative community. The ownership team (Brenda, Irmie, and Marlo) worked hard to create a truly welcoming, low-barrier space.

Strategic Rationale for Recognition

As a for-profit entity that performs extensive non-profit-like services, formal recognition from the Commission would be a crucial strategic asset for our sustainability:

1. **Grant Readiness:** Official acknowledgment serves as **third-party validation** of our community impact and the value of the "Third Place" we provide, which is often a fundamental requirement for securing arts grants and foundation funding.
2. **Future Sustainability:** To ensure the longevity of the series, we will be implementing a nominal **\$5 entry fee starting in 2026**. Recognition from the Commission helps justify this necessary structural change to the community and to potential future funders.
3. **Fiscal Sponsorship Alignment:** We are actively pursuing non-profit fiscal sponsorship to scale our programs. A Commission award demonstrates the **legitimacy and community trust** required to secure this critical partnership.

In short, this recognition is essential to help us secure the resources needed to keep growing our service to Bristol's creative community. We would be honored to discuss this request further with the Commission at your convenience.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing dedication to Bristol's arts and culture scene.

Sincerely,

Marlo Marrero Fernandez, Brendaliz Ayende, and Irmie Sauntinez