

**CITY OF SAN JOSE ARTS COMMISSION:
ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR FY 2019-2020**

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

CHAIR (Candidate 1)

Ron P. Muriera

Position: Chair, San Jose Arts Commission

My fellow San Jose Arts Commissioners: As I approach my 7th year of serving on the Arts Commission, it would be my privilege and honor to serve as your Chair for the 2019-20 term. For those colleagues who are not familiar with my service on the Arts Commission:

- I am currently serving as the Vice Chair of the Arts Commission for the 2018-19 term;
- Presently in my 4th year serving on the SJ Arts Commission Executive Committee, currently holding the position of Chair;
- I served for 2 years as Chair of the Public Art Committee (PAC). During my time as PAC Chair, I have taken the lead on several policy and legislative issues related to Public Art funding in the City of San José, as well attending the launch/celebration of events focused on public art in San José;
- I served 2 years as a member of the PAC;
- Served as Chair for OCA Grants Appeal Review Committee (2016-17); • Served on Cornerstone for the Arts Selection Committee;
- I have served as liaison to the Arts Roundtable, and currently liaison to San Jose Creates and Connects;
- For the last 3 years, I have represented the Arts Commission on the San Jose Creates and Connects Advisory Committee;
- For the last 5 years, I have served on grant review panels for Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) grant programs (take pART; Festival, Parades & Celebrations);
- Participated at City of San Jose Resource Fair, staffing Arts Commission Table with Commissioner Ramona Snyder, and the District 2 Resource Fair, staffing Arts Commission Table with Chair Richard James;
- Represented the Arts Commission serving on the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Artspiration Strategic Plan Committee (2017-18);
- Invited to speak with SoFA artists and arts/cultural organization representatives at an informational convening at Café Strich, along with Commissioner Tina Morrill and former Arts Commissioner Peter Allen; and
- Represented the SJ Arts Commission at Americans for the Arts Convention in San Francisco (2017) and California Arts Convergence convening (2015).

In addition to my service on the SJ Arts Commission, I currently serve on the boards of two state arts organizations: California Arts Advocates (501c4), and its sister 501c3 affiliate Californians for the Arts, where I serve as Vice President of both boards, Chair the Fund Development Committee, and serve on the Advocacy Committee. I am presently the Development Director for San Jose Stage Company, and consultant to various arts and cultural institutions in San José and the greater SF Bay Area. As you can see, I am very passionate about representing and advocating for arts and culture in San Jose, our region, and throughout California. Given my background and experience, I ask for the opportunity to serve in the capacity of San Jose Arts Commission Chair for the 2019-20 term. I thank you for your consideration.

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CHAIR (Candidate 2)

Lynne Brown

I nominate Lynne Brown, Ph.D. for Chair of the San Jose Arts Commission for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. She has been a member of the Commission for five years beginning her term in July 2014. Lynne has served on Executive and Public Art Committees. Her community engagement background in various San Jose neighborhoods combined with her academic credentials make her an ideal candidate to lead the San Jose Arts Commission in its advisory role to San Jose City Council.

Lynne possesses critical thinking skills. Ever since she has been on the Arts Commission she has spoken earnestly of the opportunity and need to have art distributed throughout San Jose so that the arts can impact our whole community and the visitors who come here. Her active participation in Commission conversations demonstrate her continued awareness of and commitment to San Jose's cultural vitality. I have deeply appreciated Lynne's ability to distill information and ask meaningful, specific questions in order to provide clarity to issues and proposals which come before the Arts Commission, including but not limited to budget documents.

Lynne has demonstrated leadership in working with her council member and others in order to influence achieving more art in San Jose. Her council district has seen an increase of relevant Arts Commission announcements posted in the D10 newsletter as the result of her efforts. At the request of D10 Council member, Lynne has worked with D10 residents on art related projects. Lynne was influential in securing her council member's support to secure assistance for Airport art. In addition, Lynne has attended almost every Arts Commission meeting and is prepared every time. She is forthright yet fair when interacting with her colleagues and OCA Staff. She frequently takes on additional tasks and has served on sub-committees and grants panels. Lynne's skills and abilities will ensure that the Arts Commission is a thoughtful, deliberative and fully informed body.

Lynne is a non-profit consultant utilizing twenty-five years of experience in software and semi-conductor companies to assist non-profits with program evaluation, outcome research and fundraising. Selected volunteer activities include: Board of Directors, Fairground Heritage Foundation of Santa Clara, Franklin McKinley Children's Initiative Governance Committee, San Jose Arts Commission, Grant Evaluator, The 100 Women Foundation, and Secretary Elect, Los Gatos Morning Rotary; past Trustee and continuing volunteer for the San Jose Museum of Art; and past founding Director of Community Outreach, Silicon Valley Business Travel Association. Recipient of District 7 Certificate of Appreciation for Community Involvement and Service to the Santee Neighborhood, Lynne plays a key role in the ongoing revitalization of the Santee Community in South San Jose. She also serves as

an occasional advisor to several Silicon Valley start-up social enterprises. In addition, she is the Associate Director for Evaluation and Outreach of the Sunday Friends Foundation.

Lynne holds a BS and MS in Experimental Psychology and a PhD in Applied Statistics from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. She and her husband, a Senior Scientist at NASA Ames, are long-time residents of Almaden Valley.

(See next page.)

VICE-CHAIR (Candidate 1)

Ramona Snyder

I nominate Ramona Snyder for the position of Vice Chair of the Arts Commission for the 2019-2020 year. She served as Chair during the current fiscal year and for two years as vice-chair prior to that. It would be a shame to lose her leadership. The vice chair position requires a lot of additional time, which she can fulfill since she only works part-time. She has done much more than just show up for meetings. She has been fully engaged with a near perfect attendance record. There had not been a female chair of the Arts Commission for 6 years when she was elected. Ramona has actively participated in the arts for decades and is a talented singer. Some of her accomplishments are:

- Commissioner for 6 years in July and Chair for one year.
- Chair of the Executive committee for 2 years.
- Executive committee member for 1 year.
- Vice Chair for 2 years.
- Have attended all the Public Art installations since becoming a commissioner.
- Served on the festivals and grants and CIIF panels.
- Served on an Appeals panel.
- Served on the Public Art Committee for 1 year.
- Represented the commission when given the proclamation of National Arts & Humanities Month by council three times.
- Served on the Cornerstone for the Arts Committee Selection Committee (twice).
- Served at the Commissions Resource Fair.
- Served on the Airport Ad Hoc committee
- Served on the Public Art Ad Hoc Committee.
- Made the San Jose Airport a "Make Music Day" location for 2018.

Other qualifications: B.A. Theatre Arts, M.A. Special Education (emphasis in Deaf Ed). Currently serving on two arts related boards (San Jose Downtown Foundation & Tabard Theatre Company)

Other leadership positions: D1 Decides Participatory Budgeting Steering Team Chair, D1 leadership group Vice-Chair. Monroe School Site Council Vice – Chair, Junior League of San Jose Board, Wish Upon a Wedding Board, Community Chair for a KaBOOM playground at Sherman Oaks Park. Two time Courageous Kids Day Committee Chair for the American Cancer Society.

