

Arts Council of Alachua County

April 7, 2025

5:30 pm

County Administration Building - Grace Knight Conference Room

12 SE 1 Street, 2nd Floor, Gainesville, FL 32601

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## Arts Council of Alachua County

Date: March 3, 2025  
Time: 5:30 pm  
Location: County Administration Building - Grace Knight Conference Room  
12 SE 1 Street, 2nd Floor, Gainesville, FL 32601

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Christian Duran, Amy Koester (Vice Chair), David Morris, Queenchiku Ngozi, David Ruiz, and Carol Velasques Richardson

Members Absent: Stephanie Silberman (Chair) and Jacob Case

### 2. Introduction of New Member - Jacob Case

As Mr. Case was not in attendance, this item will be tabled until our next meeting.

### 3. Approval of the Agenda

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Queenchiku Ngozi second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### 4. Approval of Minutes

David Ruiz made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Queenchiku Ngozi second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### 5. Court Complex Sculpture Ranking

We received 10 Court Complex sculpture submittals. Ranking members provided comments about the submittals. David Ruiz made a motion to recommend J. Garrett Gallery, DA Clark Sculpture LLC, and Daniel Borup Studio LLC as the top ranked submittals and invite them to provide a sketch for \$150, due in 30 days of notification; David Morris seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### 6. 4th Annual Artists Conference Discussion

David Ruiz made a motion to accept the Spacially Fed proposal; David Morris seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

The attached DRAFT schedule was shared with all speakers. All have confirmed except Myqueal Lewis.

Visit Gainesville, Alachua County has again agreed to be our lunch sponsor. If you know of anyone who would like to be our breakfast sponsor, please encourage them to submit the Sponsorship Form on our website.

Mr. Ruiz suggested that we include in the post-conference survey a question regarding attendees preference for concurrent sessions and if they would attend if the conference was offered on the weekend.

For next year, it was suggested that our Call for Presentations specify that we are looking for a "hands-on" art project session and a facilitator to allow small groups to discuss various topics affecting local artists.

## **7. National Endowment for the Arts Discussion**

Kim Mullins had the same score as C. Case, which was not noticed at our February meeting. However, we have since been notified that our National Endowment for the Arts grant was fully funded and all projects have been approved, so staff is in the process of issuing purchase orders so recipients can complete their projects/programs.

## **8. Call-to-Artist Update**

### **8.1 Animal Shelter**

None.

### **8.2 Armory**

None.

### **8.3 EPD Conservation Lands Building**

None.

### **8.4 Fire Station 21 Bronze Sculpture**

The artist anticipates delivery/installation in May.

### **8.5 Fire Training**

The artist will be on site next week to begin the mural.

### **8.6 Parking Garage**

None.

### **8.7 Pleasant Street**

Staff is working to develop an agreement with the City of Gainesville for this joint project.

**8.8 Poet Laureate**

The Call to Artists is expected to be advertised later this week or early next week.

**9. Public Comment**

None.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.



## FOURTH ANNUAL ARTISTS CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

*“Where Nature and Culture Meet”*

Friday, April 25, 2025

9 am – 1:30 pm

Extension Auditorium

22712 W Newberry Rd, Newberry, FL 32669

<b>Registration &amp; Continental Breakfast</b> Sponsored by <b>TBD</b> Registration Open, Networking, and Continental Breakfast	8:45 am – 9:00 am
<b>MEETING ROOM A</b>	9:00 am – 9:10 am
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> Chair Charles S. “Chuck” Chestnut – Alachua County Commissioner Chair Stephanie Silberman - Arts Council	
<b>MEETING ROOM A</b>	9:15 am – 10:15 am
<b>(SPARC 352) Space for People Arts Research and Creative Community Collaborations</b> Carla S. Lewis – UF Center for Arts Migration and Entrepreneurship Join SPARC for a dynamic story circle showcasing the SPARC 352 Humanities in Place Project, featuring powerful video highlights of past work. Then, get moving with an interactive dance activity led by a local choreographer!	
<b>CONCURRENT SESSION – MEETING ROOM A</b>	10:20 am – 11:05 am
<b>OpenGov: Submit a Call to Artist</b> Leira Cruz Cáliz – Alachua County BoCC Learn how to navigate OpenGov and successfully submit a Call to Artist response in this hands-on session led by Alachua County Procurement. From release to final proposal, discover how OpenGov streamlines the process. Bring your laptop for an interactive experience!	
<b>CONCURRENT SESSION – MEETING ROOM C</b>	10:20 am – 11:05 am
<b>Quality of Life</b> Myqueal Lewis – Queality Productions Discover how NAACP Award-winning director and FAMU Social Work graduate Myqueal Lewis merges his passion for filmmaking and social work to create powerful, love-filled narratives. In this session, he’ll share his journey with Queality Productions and how film can be a force for change. <b>How to be an Industry Disruptor and gain followers</b>	



<p>Corey T. Williams – Superior Moves Records, LLC          With over 20 years as an industry disruptor in media, art, and entertainment, Corey has challenged norms and earned recognition for his unique approach to television, painting, and poetry. Now, he’s seeking support for his next bold projects—two films, <i>The Battle of Gainesville (The B.O.G.)</i> and <i>Guns in Da Swamp</i>—with screenplays ready to share.</p> <p><b>Khoury Family Center for the Arts - DANB Updates</b>          Judy Skinner - Dance Alive National Ballet          Get the latest updates on the Khoury Family Center for the Arts, including exciting opportunities, benefits, and community impact. Hear highlights from the upcoming 2024-25 season and a sneak peek at what’s ahead for 2025-26!</p>	
<p><b>CONCURRENT SESSION – MEETING ROOM A</b></p>	<p>10:35 am – 11:35 am</p>
<p><b>Mapping Alachua County's Arts</b>          Kim Tanzer - Artist, Architect          Explore 75 years of artistic legacy in Gainesville and Alachua County in this engaging panel discussion, uncovering the connections between artists, institutions, and creative movements. Join artists, curators, and collectors as we trace themes across media, genres, and generations to better understand our region’s rich artistic history.</p>	
<p><b>CONCURRENT SESSION – MEETING ROOM C</b></p>	<p>10:35 am – 11:35 am</p>
<p><b>The making of a more accessible contemporary art space--Pennant Place</b>          Flounder Lee – Curator/Director, Pennant Place; PhD Candidate, University of Plymouth, UK          Discover Pennant Place, an outdoor contemporary art space created as part of Flounder’s practice-based PhD project, redefining how art is experienced beyond traditional galleries. With 10 exhibitions to date, this unique space invites pedestrians and bikers to engage with art in an open, everyday environment.</p>	
<p><b>CONCURRENT SESSION – MEETING ROOM A</b></p>	<p>11:35 am – 12:05 pm</p>
<p><b>Disabled Creatives Alliance Pilot Program: Garden of Self</b>          Jennifer McCloskey – Disabled Creatives Alliance          Discover the Garden of Self project, a groundbreaking initiative supported by the Gainesville chapter of the Awesome Foundation, blending art, wellness, and disability advocacy. This session will showcase insights from the Disabled Creatives Alliance pilot program, global disability-centered wellness research, and a hands-on art activity, concluding with key findings that align with ACAC’s mission.</p>	
<p><b>CONCURRENT SESSION – MEETING ROOM C</b></p>	<p>11:35 am – 12:05 pm</p>
<p><b>Early-Stage Community-Centered Research for the Sarah's Sweetwater Greenway Loop</b>          Harley O'Neill / Kristin Kozelsky Reed / Tessa Skiles – Spatially-Fed</p>	



<p>Explore how arts-based research is shaping the proposed Sarah’s Sweetwater Greenway Loop through community feedback gathered at the Spatially-Fed festival. This session highlights key themes of connection, preservation, and inclusivity, showcasing collaborative renderings that bring local voices into the future of Gainesville’s public spaces.</p>	
<p><b>MEETING ROOM A</b></p>	<p>11:35 am – 12:30 pm</p>
<p><b>TBD</b> Samual Hannah – Gray Robinson</p>	
<p><b>MEETING ROOM A</b></p>	<p>12:30 pm – 1:30 pm</p>
<p><b>Group Photo &amp; Lunch</b> Sponsored by <i>Visit Gainesville, Alachua County, FL</i></p> <p><b>Ethical Use of AI in Arts</b> Stephanie Silberman – Arts Council Chair Join a thought-provoking discussion on the ethical use of AI in art and creative spaces, exploring its impact on originality, authorship, and artistic integrity. Artists will discuss the balance between innovation and ethics, addressing how AI can empower creators while ensuring fair practices in the evolving digital landscape.</p>	