

## Arts Council of Alachua County

August 4, 2025

5:30 pm

County Administration Building - County Manager's Training Room

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

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## **Arts Council of Alachua County**

Date: June 2, 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, David Morris, Queenchiku Ngozi, David Ruiz, Alexander Sanchez-Hamilton (alternate), Stephanie Silberman, and Carol Velasques Richardson

Members Absent: Amy Koester

New alternate member, Alexander Sanchez-Hamilton, was welcomed and introduced himself.

### **2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Dr. Queenchiku Ngozi nominated David Morris as Chair, but he declined. Carol Velasques Richardson and David Ruiz self-nominated for Chair and Vice Chair respectively. David Morris made a motion for Carol Velasques Richardson to serve as Chair and David Ruiz as Vice Chair; Christian Duran seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### **3. Approval of the Agenda**

David Morris made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Stephanie Silberman second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

David Morris made a motion to approve the April 7 minutes as presented; Stephanie Silberman second; unanimous approval; motion carried.

### **5. Poet Laureate Call to Artists Review - Leira Cruz Caliz**

Leira Cruz Caliz provided an OpenGov training, explaining the evaluation process, conflict of interest, and cone of silence. Submittals will be shared with

evaluation team members via email. Scores are due by close of business July 31.

**6. Art Loan Agreement - Teralyn Legall**

Stephanie Silberman made a motion to recommend the Board of County Commissioners approve the Art Loan agreement with Teralyn Legall; David Morris seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

**7. 4th Annual Artists Conference Post Event Follow Up**

The Council reviewed the survey responses.

**8. Art Grant Application Review**

The Council reviewed the DRAFT application, Final Report, and funding amounts. They had a robust discussion regarding how to handle grant defaults. Stephanie Silberman made a motion to include application language stating, "failure to meet grant requirements will result in ineligibility for two grant cycles"; David Ruiz seconded; unanimous approval; motion carried.

In 2026, the consensus was to use OpenGov for the grant submittal process and offer a session at the Artists Conference.

**9. Craftsmen's Guild Ideas Discussion**

Several ideas were discussed including adding links to the Arts Council website, collaborating with small cities, and highlighting craftsmen arts via art walk/festivals. Please email Gina Peebles your ideas for inclusion on our August 4 agenda.

**10. Fall Semester Meeting Time - Stephanie Silberman**

Stephanie Silberman reported that she has a conflict during the fall semester and asked if the Council would consider 6 p.m. meeting start times this fall. The consensus of the Council was to keep the meeting start time at 5:30 p.m.

**11. Call-to-Artist Update**

**11.1 Court Complex**

DA Clark was commissioned to create "Justice for All" a bronze sculpture.

**11.2 Fire Station 21 Bronze Sculpture**

The Fire Station 21 sculpture has not yet been installed. The ribbon cutting ceremony was May 30.

**11.3 Pleasant Street**

The County Attorney's Office is still incorporating minor changes to the agreement. Once finalized, it can be presented to the County and City Commission for approval/execution.

**12. Public Comment**

Oaklianna Caraballo reported the Florida Association of Public Art Professionals conference focused on Cultural Resilience. They also spearheaded a cookbook project which was incredibly well received. Next year's conference will be held in Palm Beach.

Barbara Mitola, UF College for the Arts Human Resources Director, offered to provide workshops on how to navigate and apply with UF. This could be a potential Artists Conference session.

Dr. Queenchiku Ngozi has published her latest book, "Whispering Lights Beyond Shaded Lenses" Infrared Photography available for purchase on lulu.com.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

**From:** [Christian Duran](#)  
**To:** [Gina Peebles](#)  
**Subject:** Gainesville, Arts & Crafts for Loan  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 3:32:40 PM

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**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

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Hi Gina,

I had a thought I wanted to share—how about organizing small-scale rotating exhibitions on the first floor of the Alachua County Administration Building to showcase our diverse local talent? We could theme each exhibit around different groups, such as quilters, ceramicists, printers, poets, designers, architects, etc.

It would be similar in spirit to the Jack Durrance Auditorium exhibitions but more accessible to the general public. The glass-encased soil sample area could provide a secure and visually interesting display area. Alternatively, we might consider using another County space that could benefit from some fresh energy and community engagement.

I'm definitely willing to dedicate time and care to help bring a project like this to life.

Please let me know your thoughts!

Thanks,

Christian

# FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME <b>Velasques-Richardson, Carol</b>	NAME OF BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY, OR COMMITTEE <b>Alachua County Arts Council</b>
MAILING ADDRESS <b>14437 NW 143 Place</b>	THE BOARD, COUNCIL, COMMISSION, AUTHORITY OR COMMITTEE ON WHICH I SERVE IS A UNIT OF: <input type="checkbox"/> CITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
CITY <b>Alachua</b>	COUNTY <b>Alachua</b>
DATE ON WHICH VOTE OCCURRED <b>August 5, 2025</b>	NAME OF POLITICAL SUBDIVISION:  MY POSITION IS: <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPOINTIVE

## WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving at the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law when faced with voting on a measure in which you have a conflict of interest will vary greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office **MUST ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which would inure to his or her special private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer also **MUST ABSTAIN** from knowingly voting on a measure which would inure to the special gain or loss of a principal (other than a government agency) by whom he or she is retained (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling organization of a principal by which he or she is retained); to the special private gain or loss of a relative; or to the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community redevelopment agencies (CRAs) under Sec. 163.356 or 163.357, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting in that capacity.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, coowner of property, or corporate shareholder (where the shares of the corporation are not listed on any national or regional stock exchange).

\* \* \* \* \*

### ELECTED OFFICERS:

In addition to abstaining from voting in the situations described above, you must disclose the conflict:

PRIOR TO THE VOTE BEING TAKEN by publicly stating to the assembly the nature of your interest in the measure on which you are abstaining from voting; *and*

WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER THE VOTE OCCURS by completing and filing this form with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who should incorporate the form in the minutes.

\* \* \* \* \*

### APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Although you must abstain from voting in the situations described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:

- You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

### APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

### DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Carol Velasques-Richardson, hereby disclose that on August 4,, 20 25 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- ☐ inured to my special private gain or loss;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, \_\_\_\_\_;
- ☒ inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, Erroll S. Richardson \_\_\_\_\_;
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of \_\_\_\_\_, by whom I am retained; or
- ☐ inured to the special gain or loss of \_\_\_\_\_, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.

(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

Alachua County Arts Council Members will be voting on the Poet Laureate position. I am disclosing a conflict of issue and a wish to recuse myself from any voting.

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

06-05/2025

Date Filed

Carol Velasques-Richardson  
Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.