



Special Cultural Arts Commission Agenda

Wednesday, July 15, 2026, 5:30 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1 Civic Center Circle

Brea, California 92821

Erika Bernal, Chair **Ben Schultz**, Vice Chair

Robyn Price, Commissioner **Linda Shay**, Commissioner **Michael Tinio**, Commissioner

This agenda contains a brief general description of each item the Commission will consider. The Community Services Department has on file copies of written documentation relating to each item of business on this Agenda available for public inspection. Contact the Community Services Department at (714) 990-7738 or view the Agenda and related materials on the City's website at www.cityofbrea.gov. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Commission after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Community Services Department at 1 Civic Center Circle, Brea, CA during normal business hours. Such documents may also be available on the City's website subject to staff's ability to post documents before the meeting.

Procedures for Addressing the Commission

The Commission encourages interested people to address this legislative body by making a brief presentation under Matters from the Audience. State Law prohibits the Commission from responding to or acting upon matters not listed on this agenda.

The Commission encourages free expression of all points of view. To allow all persons the opportunity to speak, please keep your remarks brief. If others have already expressed your position, you may simply indicate that you agree with a previous speaker. If appropriate, a spokesperson may present the views of your entire group. Commission rules prohibit clapping, booing or shouts of approval or disagreement from the audience. Please silence all cell phones and other electronic equipment while the Commission is in session. Thank you.

Written comments may be submitted in advance of the meeting by emailing carrieho@cityofbrea.gov. Written comments received by 3 pm on the day of the meeting will be provided to the Commission, will be made available to the public at the meeting, and will be included in the official record of the meeting.

Special Accommodations

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Community Services Department at (714) 990-7738. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable City staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. (28CFR 35.102.35.104 ADA Title II)

1. General Session

1.A. Call to Order

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

1.C. Invocation

1.D. Matters from the Audience

2. Action

2.A. Approval of Minutes

3. Discussion

3.A. Department Fiscal Year-End Overview

3.B. Cultural Arts Recognition Update

4. Reports

4.A. Gallery Committee

4.B. Theatre Committee

4.C. Site Awareness Committee

4.D. Art in Public Places Committee

4.E. Country Fair Committee

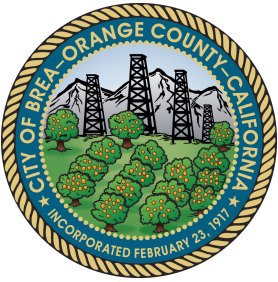
5. Informational

5.A. B. Information Memorandum/Staff Updates

5.B. Commissioner Requests

6. Adjournment

Date Posted: July 8, 2026



CITY *of* BREA

Special Cultural Arts Commission
Communication
July 15, 2026
Item No. 2A.

Approval of Minutes

TO	PREPARED BY
Chair and Members of the Cultural Arts Commission	Sean L. Matlock, Interim Community Services Director
DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL	CITY MANAGER APPROVAL
Sean L. Matlock, Interim Community Services Director	Kristin Griffith, City Manager

RECOMMENDATION

Approve.

Attachments

[05-13-26 Draft CAC Minutes.pdf](#)

**** The following document is a draft of the minutes and the not the official approved minutes ****

Minutes for the Cultural Arts Commission

1 Civic Center Circle

Brea, California 92821

May 13, 2026

Roll Call: *(The following members were in attendance)*

- **Erika Bernal, Chair** - Cultural Arts Commission
- **Ben Schultz, Vice Chair** - Cultural Arts Commission
- **Linda Shay** - Cultural Arts Commissioner
- **Michael Tinio** - Cultural Arts Commissioner

Absent:

- **Robyn Price** - Cultural Arts Commissioner

1. General Session

1.A. Call to Order

Chair Bernal called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Bernal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.C. Invocation

Chair Bernal asked for a moment of silence.

1.D. Matters from the Audience

None.

2. Action

2.A. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Shay made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice Chair Schultz.

Motion passed 4-0-1

Ayes; Bernal, Schultz, Shay, Tinio

Nays: None

Absent: Price

3. Discussion

3.A. Mid-Year Commission Goals Update

Community Services Manager Jenn Colacion provided an update on the mid-year goals adopted by the Commission in October 2025. The Art in Public Places Program is working on a comprehensive update to its policy manual, with completion anticipated by the end of the year. The Curtis Theatre is reviewing ticket pricing for select shows as part of efforts to generate additional revenue. The Gallery has plans to strategically test extended hours in conjunction with special events. Staff is also exploring special events with an emphasis on leveraging existing programming and alternative locations.

3.B. Cultural Arts Recognition Program Discussion

Community Services Manager Jenn Colacion introduced the Cultural Arts Recognition Program, which was successfully implemented last year. The Commission discussed potential improvements for the next nomination period, including extending the nomination time-frame and enhancing promotional efforts for the program.

4. Reports

4.A. Gallery Committee

No updates.

4.B. Theatre Committee

Community Services Specialist Elliot Forrester reported several updates regarding the upcoming Theatre season. He announced the selection of artists for the Latin Jazz series, including the return of Gabriela Martinez and La Verdad, who previously performed following the Theatre's pandemic reopening in 2021. Final scripts were also selected for the Page to Stage Playwrights Festival, and staff are currently pairing directors with productions.

Forrester stated that the Larking House Theatre Group will present The Crucible in October after rights were denied for their originally proposed production of Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.

Additionally, the Community Advisory Board and Theatre staff selected two "Amplify" productions for the season: Criers for Hire by Giovanni Ortega, a coming-of-age immigrant story, and A

Hollywood Horror Story by Ingrid Garner, a production exploring one of television's first horror television hosts. He also announced *A Lesson in Swimming* by Michael Shutt, an autobiographical and inspirational piece about Shutt's experiences as a three-time stroke survivor.

He further reported that the OC of OC repertoire had been finalized. Upcoming performances include the Summer Serenade chamber music event in June, the fall concert *Getting Personal*, featuring works inspired by personal moments and emotions, and the spring concert *American Stories*, themed around perspectives on America in recognition of America 250.

4.C. Site Awareness Committee

Community Services Manager Jenn Colacion apologized to the Commission for the lack of an update this meeting due to competing priorities and Public Works' role in upcoming implementation. She noted she will reconvene the subcommittee in the coming weeks for further discussion.

4.D. Art in Public Places Committee

No updates.

4.E. Country Fair Committee

Commissioner Shay reported that a recent walk through went well and preparations are progressing. Sponsorships are still being secured, but are ahead of last year at this stage.

5. Informational

5.A. B. Information Memorandum/Staff Updates

Gallery Director Katie Chidester provided updates on Gallery and Art in Public Places initiatives. She reported a successful opening reception for *Made in California*, recent media coverage, and ongoing efforts to expand accessibility and partnerships through programs such as *Museums for All* and *Hyper SoCal*.

Regarding the Art in Public Places Program, staff reported that volunteers inspected 14 public art pieces during *Go. Serve. Brea.*, helping identify maintenance priorities and engagement opportunities. Staff also noted that a replacement sculpture for a previously stolen piece was recently approved for installation.

Special Events Coordinator Alva Fox provided updates on recent and upcoming special events. She reported successful community participation in the *Spring Craft Boutique*, *Pet Expo*, *Go. Serve. Brea.*, and the City's first *Sister Cities* cultural event. Staff noted that the *Pet Expo* had record attendance, with 41 animals adopted. Alva also shared positive feedback from the *Sister Cities* event and noted preparations are underway for the *Family Films* series and the upcoming *Country Fair* celebration recognizing America's 250th anniversary.

5.B. Commissioner Requests

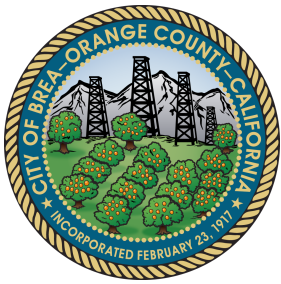
Chair Bernal requested an update on the Brea Distinguished Brea Athlete. Interim Director Sean Matlock reported that Jeanette Pohlen was selected as this year's honoree and was formally recognized by the City Council through adoption of a resolution. Staff is coordinating plaque design options and hopes to hold a presentation ceremony at the Brea Sports Park in August. Commissioners will be invited once details are finalized.

Vice Chair Schultz requested a budget update at an upcoming meeting, Chair Bernal and Commissioner Tinio echoed this request.

The Commission discussed the possibility of going dark in June and reconvening in July with updates from subcommittees.

6. Adjournment

Chair Bernal adjourned the meeting at 6:22 pm.



CITY *of* BREA

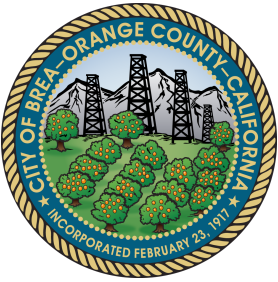
Special Cultural Arts Commission
Communication
July 15, 2026
Item No. 3A.

Department Fiscal Year-End Overview

TO	PREPARED BY
Chair and Members of the Cultural Arts Commission	Sean L. Matlock, Interim Community Services Director
DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL	CITY MANAGER APPROVAL
Sean L. Matlock, Interim Community Services Director	Kristin Griffith, City Manager

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Staff will provide the Commission with a brief financial overview of the Community Services Department for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2026.



CITY *of* BREA

Special Cultural Arts Commission
Communication
July 15, 2026
Item No. 3B.

Cultural Arts Recognition Update

TO	PREPARED BY
Chair and Members of the Cultural Arts Commission	Sean L. Matlock, Interim Community Services Director
DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL	CITY MANAGER APPROVAL
Sean L. Matlock, Interim Community Services Director	Kristin Griffith, City Manager

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

Staff will partner with the subcommittee to provide an update on plans for the upcoming Cultural Arts Recognition Program, including a timeline and marketing associated with this effort.

CURTIS THEATRE

MONTHLY REPORT 2026



CURTIS
THEATRE

JULY 2026
JUNE 2026
EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Prepared by
**KRIS KATAOKA &
ELLIOT FORRESTER**

Prepared for
**BREA CULTURAL ARTS
COMMISSION**

JUNE AT A GLANCE



Social Media



29.7K Impressions

5,121 Followers

+10 this month



100K Impressions

4,051 Followers

+238 this month

Volunteering

30 SHIFTS

113 HOURS

JUNE 25: 18 / 52

FYTD: 249 / 850

ACTIVITIES & ATTENDANCE

34 EVENTS

4,848 ATTENDEES

JUNE 25: 36 / 6,355

FYTD: 328 / 68,759

CHARITY PASSES

5 REQUESTS

10 PASSES ISSUED

JUNE 25: 0 / 0

FYTD: 28 / 56



Ticket Sales

\$51,556

JUNE 25: \$53,806
FYTD: \$352,810



Patron Donations

\$60

JUNE 25: \$10
FYTD: \$1689



Tip Jar Donations

\$57

JUNE 25: \$399
FYTD: \$2,299



Concessions

\$1,860

JUNE 25: \$968
FYTD: \$30,445

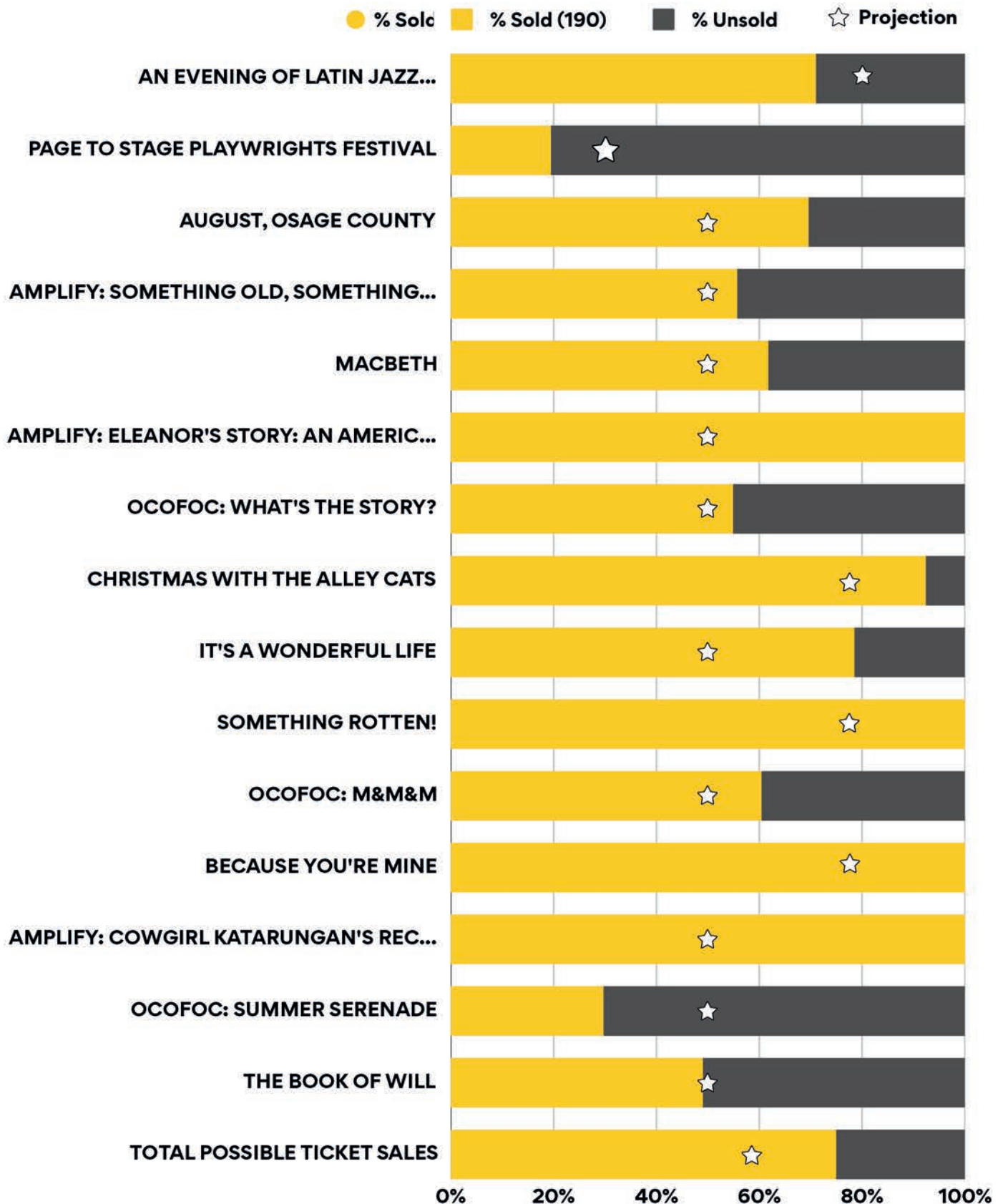


Rentals

\$6,844

JUNE 25: \$9,361
FYTD: \$197,562

2025 - 2026 TICKET SALES UPDATE





JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

OCofOC SUMMER SERENADE

Principal musicians from Orchestra Collective of Orange county took the Curtis Theatre stage on June 6th – along with the audience! This unique annual concert, performed indoors for the second time in its 5-year history, invited concertgoers onto the stage to enjoy chamber music in-the-round with an intimate, candle-lit setting. The program included music from Wilhelm Berger and Giovanni Bottensini.

THE BOOK OF WILL

Marking the final performances of the 2025-2026 Season, *The Book of Will* ran June 12 - 21 at the Curtis Theatre. The play, written by acclaimed playwright Lauren Gunderson, follows the courageous journey of Shakespeare's closest friends as they raced to preserve his written works and publish the First Folio. A celebration of the magic of theatre and the power of friendship, the production delighted audiences and garnered numerous positive professional reviews, including a recommendation from the Orange County Theatre Guild.

JUNE FEEDBACK

RENTAL FEEDBACK

One rental client completed a survey in the month of June. They described the venue as a “ Small venue that is good for small groups to rent”, and the staff as “Organized, professional, and easy to communicate with”. They described themselves as very likely to recommend the Curtis Theatre, noting “everything was great”.

SEASON FEEDBACK

72 patrons completed the post-performance survey in April, including 11 first-time and 61 returning patrons. Overall response was very positive.

HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR EXPERIENCE FINDING/NAVIGATING THE CURTIS THEATRE? (FINDING BUILDING/PARKING, ELEVATORS, SIGNAGE, ETC.)

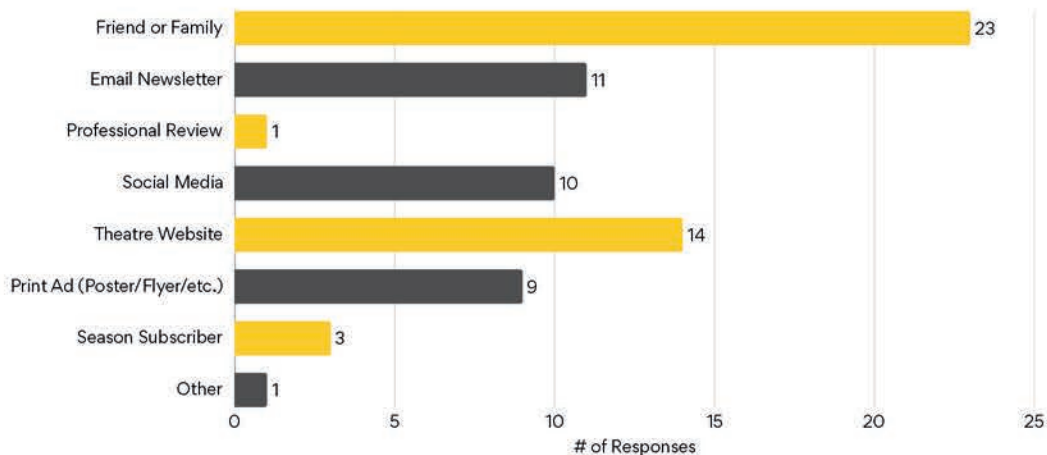
FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES ONLY | 1 - 5 (1 = VERY POOR, 5 = EXCELLENT)

11 Responses | 4.36 Average

WHAT COULD BE ADDED OR IMPROVED TO MAKE FINDING AND/OR NAVIGATING CURTIS THEATRE EASIER? (FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES ONLY)

Patron feedback focused on a need for signage directing people to the parking lot on arrival, and after the show. One patron found the proximity of parking unclear when planning their trip, noting this was important for persons with limited mobility. Two patrons interdependently responded that they struggled to find the stairs or an elevator upon arriving and when leaving the theatre.

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS PERFORMANCE?



JUNE FEEDBACK

SEASON FEEDBACK (CONTINUED)

HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO RECOMMEND THE CURTIS THEATRE?

1-5 (5 = VERY LIKELY)

72 Responses | 4.875

Average

PLEASE SHARE ANY ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE OR WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND MORE FREQUENTLY.

Patron feedback was overwhelmingly positive during June, both for the facility and its presented season. Survey responses called the theatre as “beautiful” and “intimate”, and its productions, including *OCoFOC*, *Because You’re Mine*, and *The Book of Will* as “professional” and “first-rate”. The Curtis Theatre staff received rave reviews, with patrons noting their friendly attitudes, helpfulness, and noting that they always “treat their audience with respect and courtesy”. Constructive feedback included a noted lack of signage for the theatre and parking lot, as well as difficulty parking. One patron also expressed frustration at having difficulty hearing during some performances.

THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO



CURTIS
THEATRE

2026/2027
SEASON

Special Events

Family Films

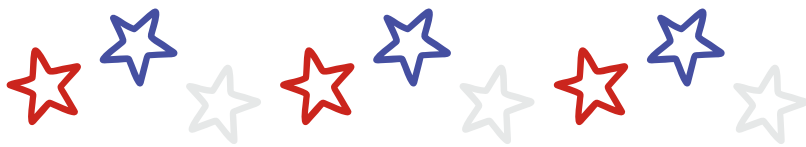
Special Events kicked off summer on Friday, June 19, with the first Family Films of the season. Community members came to City Hall Park for an 8:00 p.m. showing of *Early Man*. Family Films is proudly sponsored by the Sheila Bounauro Team, which provides popcorn, cotton candy, snacks, and drinks. In honor of this soccer-themed movie and the World Cup, the Sheila Bounauro Team also secured LA Galaxy defender Harbor Miller to make an appearance before the film for photos and autographs. It was a fun addition to the evening! We are looking forward to the remaining Family Films this summer.



Special Events

Home Beautification Challenge

Twenty Brea residents submitted photos of the outside of their homes, showing off their best patriotic flair for the Home Beautification Challenge. We loved seeing the creative ideas, especially the addition of America 250-themed décor. The Country Fair Steering Committee will vote for their favorite homes, with winners being announced at the Country Fair.



Special Events

Upcoming: Brea Fest

The City of Brea's 38th annual Brea Fest will take place on Friday, August 7, from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. throughout the Civic & Cultural Center. There will be live music, food and beverage samples from local restaurants, beer, wine, a Kidsville area, and so much more! Brea Fest admission and entertainment are free, and tickets for food and beverages are available for a nominal cost of \$4 each. This event helps support cultural arts in Brea, including Special Events, the Brea Gallery, and the Curtis Theatre. We are looking forward to our "tastiest" event of the year!



Social Media

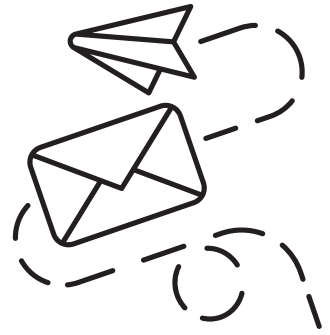
 **5.4K Followers**

 **10.4K Followers**



@breaspecialevents

Special Events



Correspondence

Thank you for making Brea a better
place to live.

-Steve

(Home Beautification Challenge
participant)

I appreciate your service to the city of
Brea!

-Jim

(Home Beautification Challenge
Participant)

MADE *in California*



Engagement



3,860

Unique Website Visitors

6,705

Page Views

9,370

My Emma Email Subscribers

Social Media Impressions

Instagram **185,027**

Facebook **4,154**

Followers Gained

Instagram ¹⁷⁹
Total: 23,957

Facebook ⁰
Total: 10,574

Twitter ⁰
Total: 439

The Gallery was open for **20 Days**
Total Guests 623

- 79 Brea Resident
- 116 General Admission
- 92 Students/Seniors/Military
- 66 Child
- 2 Member
- 46 Curtis Theatre Partnership
- 222 Closing Reception, Open House

Total Revenue for June
\$5,428.93



2 New Memberships, 1 Renewal
41 Total Members
2 Interns

SUMMER SERENADE

ENGAGE NEW
AUDIENCES
THROUGH
INCLUSIVE
OPPORTUNITIES
AND EXPERIENCES

In partnership with the Curtis Theatre, the Brea Gallery was open for late night hours before the evening performance of the Orchestra Collective of Orange County's annual Summer Serenade program. Concert patrons were granted free admission to the gallery and a gift shop sale before the performances. Over 60 patrons were able to enjoy a day of visual and performing arts through the collaboration.

ASP TOURS

CONNECT THE
COMMUNITY
THROUGH
ARTS



In collaboration with the Brea Community Center, campers from the summer and after school programs were invited to tour the gallery and participate in an arts and craft project based on the exhibition. Utilising collage techniques, campers created three dimensional abstract landscapes and portraits out of colored paper.

OPEN HOUSE



A special thank you goes out to the city staff who joined us on June 25th for the Gallery's Open House program. The private exhibition viewing, includes refreshments, a gift shop sale, and the opportunity for employees to pick their favorite work to be awarded the Popular Choice award.

UPHOLD
BREA'S
COMMITMENT
TO THE ARTS

PURSUE
SUSTAINABILITY
AND STIMULATE
LOCAL
ECONOMIES

JUNK JOURNALING

The Brea Gallery invited the public to a creative junk journaling session on June 27th from 2-4pm. This contemporary scrapbooking style encourages participants to compile memories into a casual visual format, spending an afternoon surrounded by inspiration. Light materials and supplies were provided, and sharing was encouraged.



CLOSING RECEPTION

Brea Gallery's 41st annual Made in California juried exhibition wrapped up with a free closing reception on June 28. The event featured live music by The Cecilia's Band, a gift shop sale, and the final chance to view over 90 unique pieces created by local California artists. The Gallery is now closed after the closing reception to prepare for their upcoming collaborative exhibition with Los Angeles-based gallery, Thinkspace Projects, *A Look to the Future: America at 350*, opening July 25, 2026.



ELEVATE
BREA'S ART
EXPERIENCES

COMING UP NEXT



A Look to the Future: America at 350

Opening Reception: July 25

An investigative art exhibition imagining what America will look like 100 years from now. How will people relate, govern, create, remember, and care for one another? What new myths, systems, landscapes, and identities will define the country's next century? What will hold us together and help us look to the future?

CITY OF BRE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES



Marketing and Outreach



Jumping Deer by Carlos Terrés has been installed at Northwood Ave and N Berry St. Residents have reached out the Gallery over the last 12 months asking for information about their beloved deer. Artist Carlos was on hand to supervise the repairs and installation. Final inspections and review pending!

New artwork by Laddie John Dill was recently installed as a wall mounted sculpture on a new building at 3200 Nasa Street. Landscaping and lighting to be added soon as construction progresses. Final inspection and review pending!



Missing APP Works

- *Vicky*, Tanya Ragir (Whittier/Puente)
- *Porpoises at Play*, John Edward Svenson (Imperial Hwy./Lambert Rd.)
- *Jumping Deer*, Carlos Terres (Berry St and Northwood Ave.) - in process of repair
- *Just a Taste*, J. Seward Johnson Jr. (Placentia Ave and Kraemer Blvd.) - in process of replacement

Development Projects with Existing Sculpture

- Gaslight Square Redevelopment - *Lamplighter*, Robert Steinkamp
- Brea Mall Mixed Use - *Jupe d'Eau*, Pol Bury and *La Lune*, Niki de Saint-Phalle (reinstallation pending)
- Greenbriar Residential - *The Road Ahead*, Brad Howe
- Brea Plaza Apartments - *Pratu*, John Leighton
- Amazon Facility - *Stonework '82*, Seiji Kunishima

Development Projects Pending New Sculpture

- Brea Mall Mixed Use – Committee Approved / Installation Pending
- South Brea Townhomes – Committee Approved / Installation Pending
- 3200 Nasa St – Final Inspection Pending
- 424 Berry St – Application Pending
- Mercury Lane Apartments – Application Pending
- Brea 265 Planning Area I – Application Pending
- 250 S. Kraemer Blvd - Application Pending
- 2727 E. Imperial Blvd - Application Pending
- 895 Columbia Street - Committee Approved / Installation Pending

New Sculpture Pending Installation

- Centennial Door - Carlos Terres

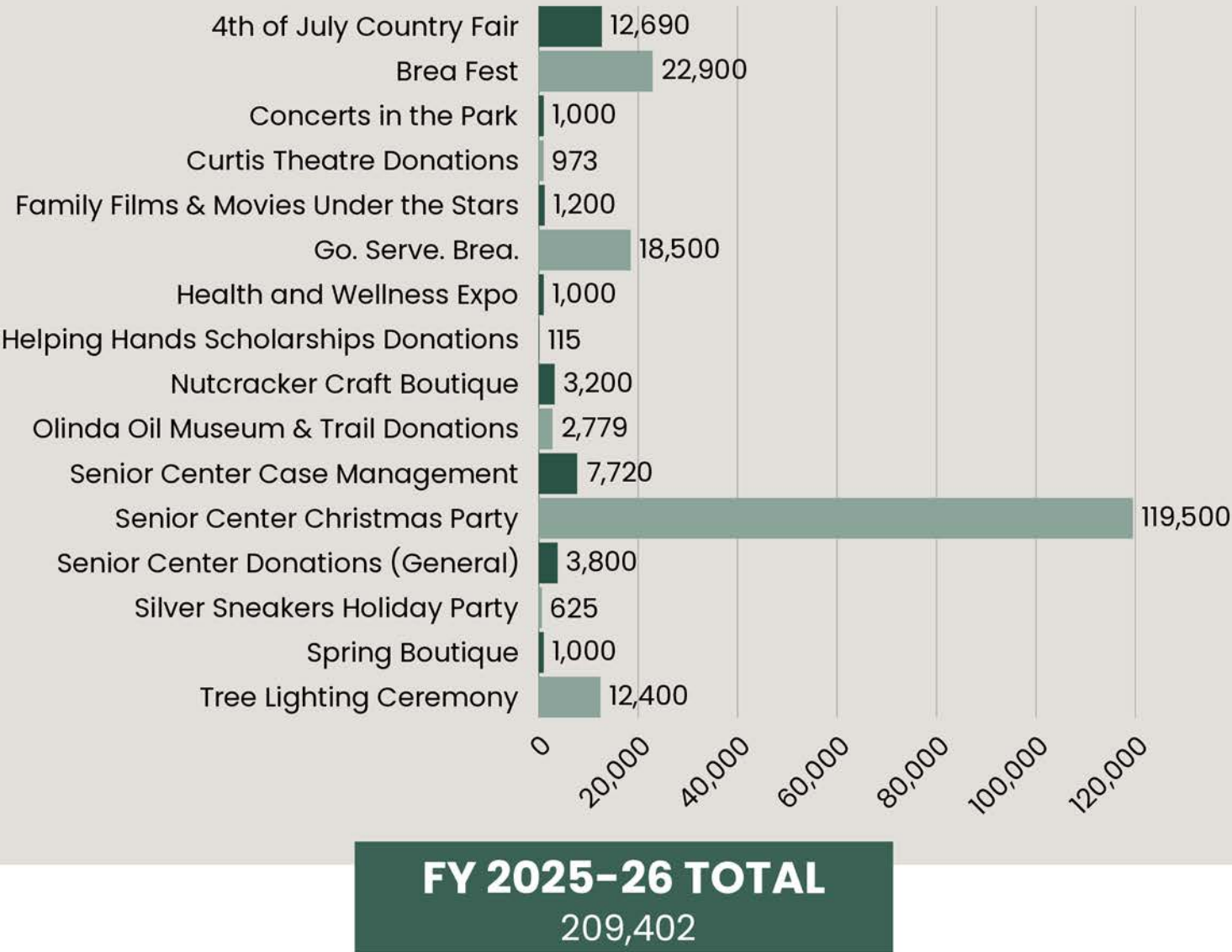
FISCAL YEAR 2025-26

SPONSORSHIP & DONATIONS RECAP

OVERVIEW

The summary below highlights the total contributions received by the Community Services Department during fiscal year 2025-26. Sponsorships and donations combined for a total of \$209,402 across all program areas, with the largest contributions supporting Senior Center programs, including the Christmas Party and Case Management.

Moving forward, sponsorship information will be shared monthly to provide regular updates on new support. The City of Brea’s Sponsorship Program is being further developed with stronger marketing tools to better connect with potential partners.



Community Services Important Dates (CAC)

Date	Event	Location
July	Parks Make Life Better Month	
July 8	Concerts in the Park: Symphonic Winds of the Pacific Wind Ensemble - Salute to America 250	City Hall Park
July 10	Family Films: Miracle	City Hall Park
July 15	Concerts in the Park: Country Nation	City Hall Park
July 17	Family Films: Elio	City Hall Park
July 21	Summer Youth Baseball Program Ends	
July 21	City Council Parks Make Life Better Proclamation	City Council Chambers
July 22	Concerts in the Park: An Evening of Latin Jazz Soul3Sixty/1960s Motown & Soul	City Hall Park
July 25	Opening Reception: America 350	Brea Gallery
July 29	Concerts in the Park: Soto Band/R&B/Latin/Old School	City Hall Park
July 31	Distinguished Brea Athletes Induction Ceremony 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.	Brea Sports Park
Aug 5	Concerts in the Park: y2k2k!/2000s Pop/Rock	City Hall Park
Aug 7	Brea Fest	Civic Center
Aug 8	An Evening of Latin Jazz	Curtis Theatre
Aug 14 - 16	Page to the Stage Festival	Curtis Theatre
Aug 22 - 23	Artist in Residence Weekend	Gallery