

# PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

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## TEMPE ARTS & CULTURE COMMISSION

January 13, 2024

6:00 pm

Edna Vihel Arts Center  
3340 S. Rural Road, 85282

Public comment requests for any item on the agenda must be emailed to [joy\\_higgins@tempe.gov](mailto:joy_higgins@tempe.gov) prior to the start of the meeting.

### AGENDA

#### Call to Order

1. Public Appearances: The Arts & Culture Commission welcomes public comment for items listed on this agenda. There is a three-minute time limit per individual. Anyone wishing to agendize an item for an upcoming meeting should utilize the Public Appearances for consideration.
2. Approval: December 9, 2024 Tempe Arts & Culture Commission Minutes ACTION
3. Introductions: Welcome new members
4. Art and Culture Awards Update
5. Tempe Open Streets update
6. Edna Vihel Arts Center Tour
7. Danelle Plaza update and activation opportunity
8. Arts & Culture Commissioner activations
9. Retreat planning Discussion

Adjournment

Next Meeting: February TACC retreat date to be determined

*According to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the Arts & Culture Commission may only discuss matters listed on the agenda. The city of Tempe endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. With 72 hours advance notice, special assistance is available at public meetings for sight and/or hearing-impaired persons. Please call 350-4311 (voice) or for Relay Users: 711 to request an accommodation to participate in a public meeting.*

# Minutes

## TEMPE ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION

### December 9, 2024

Minutes of the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission (TACC) meeting recorded at 6:00pm on December 9, 2024, held at the Tempe Public Library.

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Kevin Godfrey-Chevalier  
Andrea Hanley  
Maureen Kobierowski – Chair  
Will Lucht  
Haylee Mills  
Lisa Roach  
Teresa Robinette  
Jennifer Song  
Justin Stewart  
Jacqueline Swan – Vice-chair

**City Staff Present:**

Maja Aurora, Manager – Tempe Community Arts  
Joy Higgins, Management Assistant – Arts & Culture Division  
Craig Hayton, Director – Community Services  
Christina Haase, PIO – Arts & Culture Division

**Guest(s) Present:**

Lynn Trimble

**(MEMBERS) Absent:**

Ginny Sylvester

**Call to Order**

- Maureen Kobierowski, TACC Chair, called the TACC meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances**

- None

**Agenda Item 2 – Update: Tempe Arts & Culture Deputy Recruitment**

- Craig Hayton, CS Director, announced the appointment of Brendan Abney as the next Deputy CS Director of Arts & Culture starting on December 30, 2024.

**Agenda Item 3 – Approval of the November 4, 2024 Arts & Culture Commission Minutes**

M. Kobierowski asked the commissioners to review an unapproved TACC minutes document dated November 4, 2024.

**MOTION:** Justin Stewart moved to approve the November 4, 2024 Tempe Arts and Culture Commission Meeting Minutes with edits.

**SECOND:** Jacqueline Swan seconded

**AYES:** Kevin Godfrey-Chevalier, Andrea Hanley, Maureen Kobierowski, Will Lucht, Haylee Mills, Lisa Roach, Theresa Robinette, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Jacqueline Swan

**ABSTAIN:** None

**NAYS:** None

**RESULT:** Motion passed with a 10-0 vote

**ABSENT:** Ginny Sylvester

**Agenda Item 4 – Approval: 2024 Arts & Culture Commission Annual Report**

M. Kobierowski asked the commissioners to review a Draft of the 2024 Arts & Culture Commission Annual Report.

**MOTION:** Jacqueline Swan moved to approve the 2024 Arts & Culture Commission Annual Report.

**SECOND:** Jennifer Song seconded

**AYES:** Kevin Godfrey-Chevalier, Andrea Hanley, Maureen Kobierowski, Will Lucht, Haylee Mills, Lisa Roach, Theresa Robinette, Jennifer Song, Justin Stewart, Jacqueline Swan

**ABSTAIN:** None

**NAYS:** None

**RESULT:** Motion passed with a 10-0 vote

**ABSENT:** Ginny Sylvester

**Agenda Item 5 – Election: 2025 TACC Chair/Vice-chair**

- Appoint Jacqueline Swan as 2025 TACC Chair – running uncontested.
  - Unanimous approval
- Appoint Haylee Mills as 2025 TACC Vice-chair – running uncontested.
  - Unanimous approval

**Agenda Item 6 – TACC Member Liaison Efforts**

- Recent Activations
  - **Will Lucht** – Sat on Artology panel for Gallery at TCA – appreciated meeting people and experiencing the process; saw Nutcracker ballet in Phoenix;
  - **Jacqueline Swan** – Attended Native Art Market, it was awesome, Tempe Festival for the Arts on two days, Hackett House activated with music was wonderful, attended exhibition at Danelle Plaza – beautiful art, Eisendrath House for Public Art open house, Tempe Jam was great;
  - **Jennifer Swan** – Attended Mummenschanze and had a blast;
  - **Andrea Hanley** – Attended Mummenschanze and it was fantastic, Estrada Park for Arts in the Parks – fantastic event, appreciate all of the native art coming through TCA;
  - **Haylee Mills** – Attended Eisendrath House Public Art open house, Stray Cat – wonderful and thought provoking, Arts in the Parks at Meyer Park, Tempe Jam – Jerusafunk was great
  - **Lisa Roach** –
  - **Kevin Godfrey** – Sat on Arts in the Parks panel – interesting to see how other panelists interpreted the criteria, saw Cyndi Lauper in concert.
  - **Justin Stewart** – Attended Tempe Jam – incredible event that grows year after year, Free Art Friday with son – lots to do, have been attending Community Arts classes, Tempe Festival of the Arts was fun, will be doing DJ work at Tempe Blooms on January 25-26, 2025.
  - **Teresa Robinette** – Saw the Ditch murals off of College, attended Clark Park Arts in the Parks and had a blast, Sunday at Festival of the Arts and Hackett House – had a great time.
  - **Maureen Kobierowski** – Participated in the A+C Deputy panel – it was run very well, attended Festival of the Arts, Tempe Jam – really cool art stations and well attended, spoke at Tempe Leadership Arts & Culture Day. Save the date – Neighborhood Olympics at Daley Park is scheduled for February 23, 2025.

**Agenda Item 7 – Reflections by Outgoing Commissioners**

- Parting thoughts:
  - Justin Stewart
    - Enjoyed experiencing Tempe Jam and Tempe Playlist;
    - We've had great chairs and commissioners; A+C is one of the best staffed divisions in the City of Tempe;

- Continue to advocate for the arts We really need to find a strong arts advocate on City Council;
- City of Tempe is doing great providing alternative venues and outlets for artists;
- Hoping the future commission pushes for those artists that hesitate to engage with municipal arts;
- Continually explore “what is a family event?” and how to engage different age levels at events;
- Sad to leave, there is still so much to do; have enjoyed sitting on panels and engaging with staff and artists;
- Maureen Kobierowski
  - The most unique aspect of commissions is the variety of voices and experiences that are shared.
  - Keep an eye on these things:
    - Signature event and consider Tempe Town Lake as a venue space;
    - Tempe Blooms is a creative event that brings many to Mill Ave;
    - Important to build culture amongst team; engage with one another;
    - Invite people to the commission that have qualities not yet represented;
    - Speak up and share your knowledge;
    - Visit events to understand what the broader A+C is in their own spaces;
    - Keep broadening the horizon of arts & cultural opportunities;
    - Continue to offer arts in areas that will help inspire people to create;
    - Offer your experiences to staff to help improve processes;
    - Marketing centralized for A+C is going to strengthen the message better.

**Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items**

- Danelle Plaza Development Update

**Meeting adjourned at 7:07pm**

Prepared by: Joy Higgins

# Tempe Arts & Culture Finances

January 2025

The annual budget development process for Fiscal Year 2026 is underway. We are working on operating budgets currently.

## CURRENT YEAR EXPENSES

Operating expenses by cost center (workgroup) for December are below. CIP, contingency, and TCA roof debt service annual payment are not included. Please note that these are draft figures.

| Cost Centers                    | Budget               | Expense             | % Expended |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 3741 Arts and Culture Admin     | \$ 654,257.00        | \$ 283,148.29       | 43%        |
| 3742 Arts and Culture Marketing | \$ 665,506           | \$ 162,370.56       | 24%        |
| 3760 Tempe Center for the Arts  | \$ 7,091,696.00      | \$ 2,956,845.82     | 42%        |
| 3781 Museum & Historic Houses   | \$ 1,403,842.00      | \$ 616,944.72       | 44%        |
| 3785 Community Arts Engagement  | \$ 1,542,842.00      | \$ 893,307.29       | 58%        |
| <b>Grand Total</b>              | <b>\$ 11,358,143</b> | <b>\$ 4,912,617</b> | <b>43%</b> |

## CURRENT YEAR REVENUES

Revenues by cost center (workgroup) for December are below. Tax revenues are recorded a month after they are earned. Please note that these are draft figures and the November tax revenues have not yet been processed.

| Cost Centers                     | Revenue Estimate     | Recognized Revenue  | % Target   |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------|
| 3741 Arts & Culture Tax/Interest | \$ 12,540,427.00     | \$ 4,024,802.90     | 32%        |
| 3761 TCA Earned Revenue          | \$ 483,500.00        | \$ 224,608.50       | 46%        |
| 3781 Museum & Historic Houses    | \$ 74,500.00         | \$ 33,862.48        | 45%        |
| 3785 Community Arts Engagement   | \$ 140,000.00        | \$ 65,001.46        | 46%        |
| <b>Grand Total</b>               | <b>\$ 13,238,427</b> | <b>\$ 4,348,275</b> | <b>33%</b> |

More information about Arts & Culture Finances

[kara\\_osburn@tempe.gov](mailto:kara_osburn@tempe.gov)

# Tempe Center for the Arts

January 2025

## GALLERY AT TCA

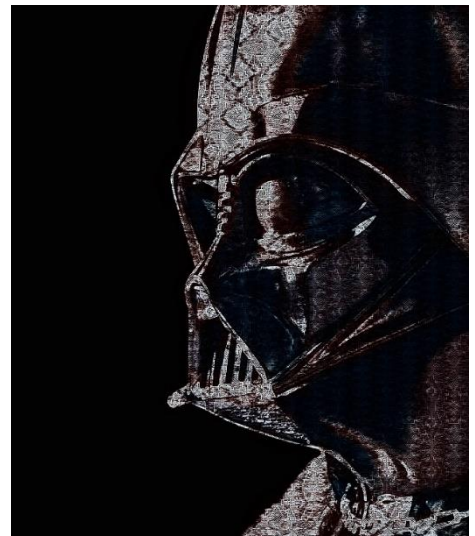
### The Return of the Force Exhibition

January 18 – May 18

Public Reception | January 24 | 6 – 9 pm

This newest showing of the exhibition focuses on the creative influences of Star Wars on contemporary Native artists and celebrates how these enduring stories and beloved characters from popular culture continue to resonate so strongly with Indigenous communities.

The Gallery at TCA is honored to work alongside artist and guest curator, Duane Koyawena (Hopi/Tewa), to bring together a compelling group of artworks. They reflect the deep connections and parallels these artists see between their own traditional cultures and the global phenomenon of the Star Wars films franchise.



## TCA PRESENTS

### 48 LIVE: Jesse Valenzuela and Friends

Thursday, January 16 | 7:30 pm | [INFO](#)

Join us for a special one-night-only performance with Jesse Valenzuela!

Guitarist and founding member of the Gin Blossoms—a band that defined a generation with their iconic 90s alt-rock sound—Jesse’s musical journey has continued with acclaimed solo albums, production work, and film/TV compositions. This special evening will feature songs from his celebrated solo career and more. Don't miss this chance to experience an intimate night of music with one of Tempe’s own.



## **Voctave**

**Friday, January 24 | 7:30 pm | [INFO](#)**

Voctave’s 11-member vocal ensemble delivers incredible harmonies in their concert featuring favorites that range from the Disney screen to the Broadway stage. The voices of this a cappella sensation represent a wealth of diverse backgrounds and musical experiences. The group has had over 150 million social media views of their videos and has appeared on countless recordings. Their popular show, “The Corner of Broadway and Main Street “, spawned a chart-topping album and is sure to be an unforgettable evening of music for the whole family.



## **TAKE 6**

**Saturday, February 1 | 7:30 pm | [INFO](#)**

TAKE 6 - hailed by Quincy Jones as the “baddest vocal cats on the planet”- is the gold standard of a cappella perfection. With 10 Grammy Awards, this multi-platinum selling sextet dazzles with a new level of musical mastery. Their six voices blend in crystal-clear harmony, creating innovative arrangements and soulful grooves that masterfully fuse gospel, jazz, R&B, and pop. Don’t miss exciting vocal harmonies with the best a cappella group in the world!



## **OTHER UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS**

- An R-Rated Magic Show Jan 10
- Dance Tempe Jan 14
- MAC & Company: MAC NEXT Jan 18
- CONDER/dance: Breaking Ground 2025 Jan 24 &25
- Performance with a View: AriaPalooza III Jan 28
- The Bridge Initiative: Tiny Beautiful Things Jan 31 – Feb 7

**View the full [TCA Event Calendar](#)**

More information about Tempe Center for the Arts  
[tempecenterforthearts.com](http://tempecenterforthearts.com)



# Tempe Public Art

January 2025

## Celebrations and Events

### Envision Center Mural

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 5:00-6:30 pm | Tempe EnVision Center, 1310 E. Apache Blvd.

*Join us to celebrate the completion of this artwork!*

Artist Paige Reesor has completed a signature artwork for the new Tempe EnVision Center . We are thrilled to invite you to join us in celebrating this new artwork with the artist, City staff, and stakeholders from the Envision Center.

Tempe's EnVision Center opened in September to focus on employment, education, health and wellness, emergency preparedness and more. Reesor's design integrates the theme "Boundless Opportunity" into a mural that transforms Tempe's Mill Avenue Bridge and pathways into a metaphor for personal growth and exploration.





## Work in Progress

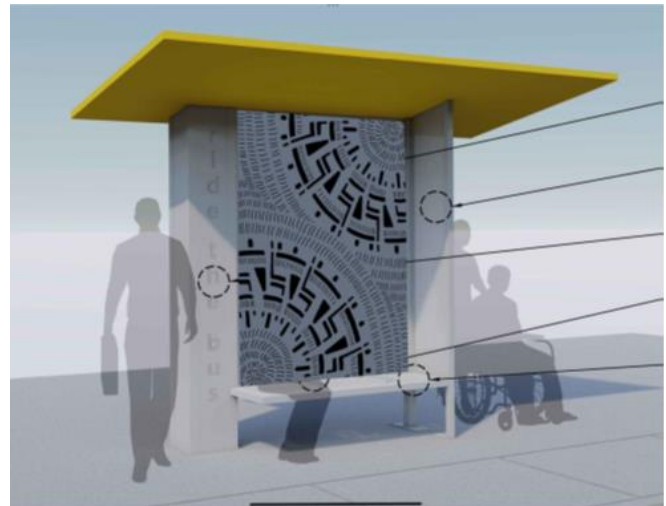
### Artist Designed Transit Shelters coming to Tempe

Local HEKIU artists Jacob Butler and Joshua Yazzie have spent the past 8 months working on designs to be integrated into Tempe's new transit shelter framework. The artist designed shelters will be integrated into the roll out for new shelters throughout the city, beginning with adding two new transit shelters as part of the Downtown Tempe Refresh Project at the Mill Ave. streetscape.

In an ongoing partnership between the City of Tempe and HEKIU, an Indigenous artist collective representing creatives from the area, Tempe is integrating art connected to the indigenous heritage of the region. Jacob Butler's transit shelter design depicts martynia, commonly known as devil's claw, which was a food source as well as medicine for the O'odham people. Joshua Yazzie's design incorporates traditional O'odham basketry patterns and landscape.

Each year Transit will be adding approximately 30 new transit shelters, replacing older shelters to bring more shade and comfort to the community. In partnership with Public Art, 4-6 of these shelters will include unique artist designed panels. The designs by Yazzie and Butler are the first of this effort.

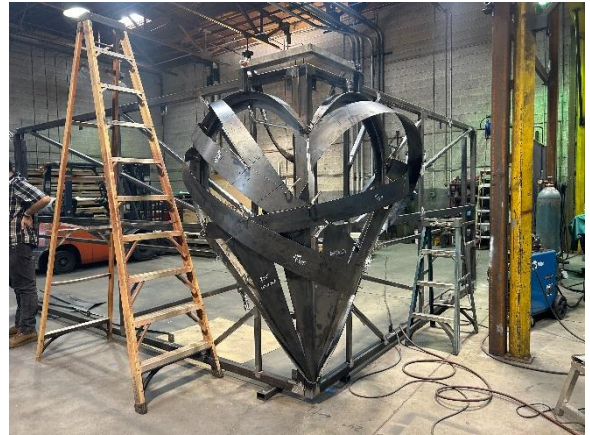
There will be three artist designed transit shelters included in the Mill Streetscape project with the exact locations to be determined within the streetscape project. Final installation timeline will be determined as part of the overall construction.



## Upcoming Installations

### Fire Station 2 Memorial

Artist Kevin Berry has been working with the Fire Station 2 design team in creating a site-specific memorial artwork for the new station. Firefighter Tommy Ariaga passed away due to work related illness and with the new station, the Fire Team has collaborated with Public Art to create a monumental artwork in his honor. The station and the artwork are expected to be installed and open to the public in late January or early February. Details on the opening event will be shared with TACC as soon as possible.

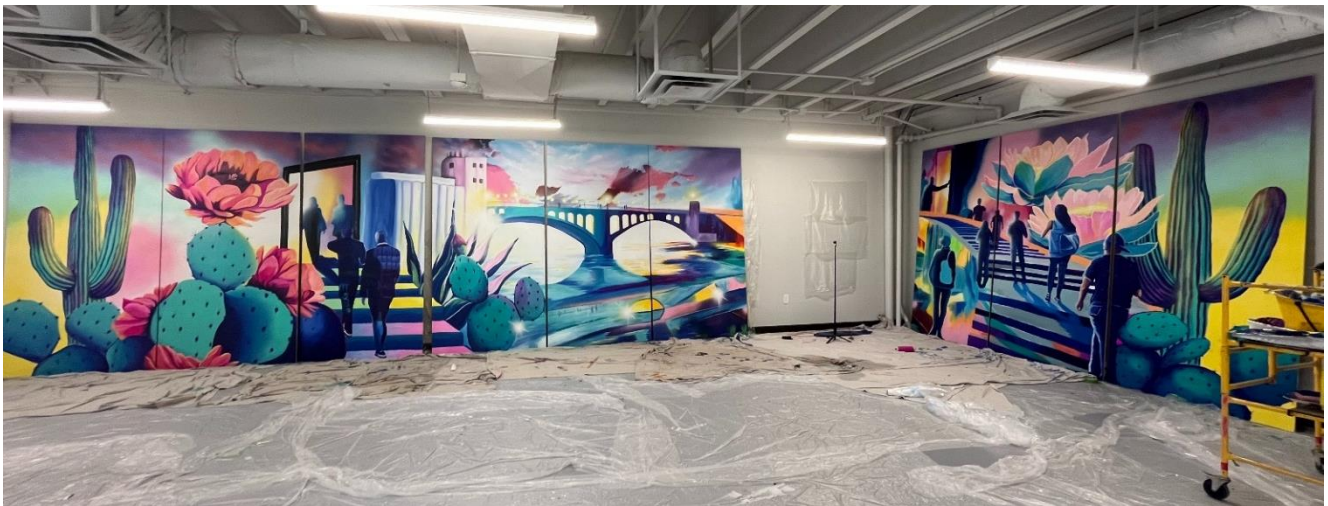


### Envision Center Mural

**January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 5:00-6:30pm | Tempe EnVision Center, 1310 E. Apache Blvd.**

*Join us to celebrate the completion of this artwork!*

Artist Paige Reesor has completed a signature artwork for the new Tempe EnVision Center and will be installing the work on site on December 14th. Tempe's EnVision Center opened in September to focus on employment, education, health and wellness, emergency preparedness and more. Reesor's design integrates the theme "Boundless Opportunity" into a mural that transforms Tempe's Mill Avenue Bridge and pathways into a metaphor for personal growth and exploration.





## Maintenance updates

The Hardy Street Tree was irreparably damaged in a vehicular accident at the end of the summer. Staff and the artist reviewed the tree damage and determined that it would be ideal to revisit the site for a new design that is safer and still within the same “flavor” of the older artworks. The flowers on the transit shelters will be refreshed as part of this project.

The original artist, Melissa Martinez, will work with the city this spring and keep the neighborhood updated once a plan has been determined.



## Art In Private Development

### Hayden Ferry Lakeside

Located at 40 E. Rio Salado Parkway, is in the process of renovating the current site. As part of this process, they have removed a fountain designed by artist David Brandt (with the artist’s permission). To align with the Art In private Development ordinance, this development was required to replace the artwork with one of like value. They chose to replace the artwork with two works, one by artist Phil Proctor. The artwork will be installed in mid-December and is a kinetic, wind driven sculpture that uses natural materials to represent the four classical elements of Earth, Air, Fire and Water.



### Electric Pickle

The Electric Pickle, located at 8688 South Emerald Drive, is a new business that combines pickle ball, recreation, and sports bar all in one. In the development process, they chose to combine the city’s requirement of adding a transit shelter on the property with the Art in Private Development requirement and commissioned Laura Spalding Best to work on a unique shelter for the site. Best’s designs include icons such as the Saguaro Cactus, South Mountain, and the Arizona Sunset. Using the City’s shelter structure, Best added an extra pop by making the entire shelter bright orange. The Electric Pickle is now open and easily accessible using Tempe’s transit system.



More information about Tempe Public Art  
[tempe.gov/PublicArt](https://tempe.gov/PublicArt)

# Tempe Community Arts

January 2025

## Recap

### Free Art Friday: Gifts Galore

On Friday, Dec. 13, Community Arts welcomed 550 young children and their grown-ups to the final Free Art Friday of 2024! This event is ideal for children aged 6 months to 5 years. It provides caregivers and their little one's a welcoming space for imaginative play, music and movement while creating art together.

We give thanks to the Tempe Diablos for partially funding this program through one of their grants!

**Next Event – Friendship Party!**

**Friday, February 14 | 9am – noon | Courtyard | [INFO](#)**



## Upcoming

### Dance Tempe Showcase

**7-8:30 p.m. | Tuesday, Jan. 14 | Tempe Center for the Arts | [INFO](#)**

Mark your calendars for Dance Tempe at the Tempe Center for the Arts! The showcase will premiere pieces created by artists Spencer Dennis, Trinity Gracia and Evadney Saelens during their fall 2024 residencies in all six Tempe Union High School District Schools. The showcase will also feature additional pieces by each high school and performances by the Resident Artists' professional companies.



## Edna Arts Winter Class Session | [INFO](#)

January 18 – March 8, 2025

Registration is now open for winter art classes with offerings for people of all ages and skill levels. Take inspiration from your furry friend in pet portraits or get cozy with wool felting. Busy schedule? Try one of our exciting single-day workshops. Have a creative kiddo in your life? Explore messy masterpieces with your little one in a parent/child class or let them adventure on their own in an independent class. Register online or call our front desk (480-350-5287) to enroll!



## Community Arts Grant Recipient Events

Join the Community Arts team in supporting our grantees.

- **MAC & Co Performance:** Jan. 18 at TCA | [INFO](#)
- **The Ladies Performances:** Jan. 25-26 at the Eisendrath House | [INFO](#)
- **FABRIC Tempe Presentation:** Jan. 30 at FABRIC Tempe | [INFO](#)
- **The Bridge Initiative Performances:** Jan. 31 – Feb. 7 at TCA | [INFO](#)

More information about Tempe Community Arts

[tempe.gov/CommunityArts](https://tempe.gov/CommunityArts)

# Tempe History Museum

January 2025



## RECENT

### Christmas at Petersen House 2024

The first three weeks in December drew a total of 1,804 visitors to the annual Christmas at Petersen House open house events. This is an increase of 131 visitors from the 2023 Christmas at Petersen House event season. The museum enhanced the festive atmosphere by welcoming various performers each weekend, including the Marcos de Niza Madrigal Singers, Trevon Powell and Victorian reenactors, dulcimer player Tryn Rose Seley, and harpist Madilyn Ellsworth.

A variety of vendor booths and activities were available each weekend on the grounds and included:

- Tempe History Museum Pop-Up Shop
- Tempe History Society
- Free holiday craft activity (Tempe History Museum)
- Guess that Gadget activity (Tempe History Museum)
- Friends of the Tempe Library
- Connected Tempe
- Tempe Garden Club
- Tempe Artist Guild
- Wood carver Mark
- Swedish American Chamber of Commerce (SACC)



## UPCOMING

### AAAC Book Club

*The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni: 1968-1998*

Wednesday, Jan. 29 | 5 pm | Zoom | [INFO](#)

Dr. Felicia Durden will lead the first discussion for *The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni: 1968-1998*. This is the first and only session for this title.

All participants are welcome to partake in this book club series that meets monthly via Zoom to discuss works written by Black authors. Email [museum@tempe.gov](mailto:museum@tempe.gov) to indicate your interest and receive the Zoom link.

THE COLLECTED  
POETRY OF  
**NIKKI**  
GIOVANNI  
1968-1998  
INTRODUCTION BY VIRGINIA C. FOWLER





## Performances at the Museum

### *Tindal Muzic*

Friday, Jan. 17 | 7 pm | Museum Community Room | FREE | [INFO](#)

Tindal Muzic is an alternative soul duo that met while teaching songwriting and instrumentation at a rock camp for youth. They were brought together by their shared love of musical influence such as Sade, Erykah Badu, the trip-hop/alternative movements of the 1990s and soul music from the '70s and '80s. This free event will be held in the museum's Community Room.



## Black History Month Events

### Black History Month Kids Activity Day

Saturday, Feb. 1 | 1-3 pm | FREE | Tempe History Museum | [INFO](#)

Join the African American Advisory Committee of Tempe History Museum for a fun, interactive kids' day to celebrate Black History Month! There will be hands-on activities, games, a book vendor, a food truck and more. This fun, free event is for the whole family. [tempe.gov/aaac](https://tempe.gov/aaac)



### Faith in Action Prayer Breakfast

Friday, Feb. 7 | 9-11 am | FREE | Tempe Center for the Arts | [INFO](#)

The African American Advisory Committee of Tempe History Museum invites you to join in the Faith-in-Action Prayer Breakfast to unite faith and civic leaders for the good of our city. Breakfast will be held in the Lakeside Room at the Tempe Center for the Arts, tickets are \$25 (plus service fees) and are [available at the TCA box office](#); 480-350-2822.

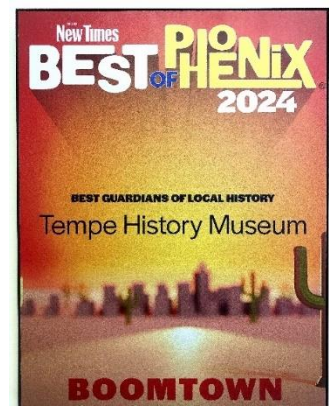
## AWARDS

### Tempe History Museum Recognized as Best of Phoenix 2024

Tempe History Museum received a Best of Phoenix 2024 award from *Phoenix New Times*. They named the museum the "Best Guardians of Local History" in recognition of our work collecting and preserving Tempe's artifacts and historic photographs, as well as our innovative exhibits.

*Phoenix New Times* frequently uses the museum's archives to research stories and as a source for images to publish. Their write-up of the museum says in part "The Tempe History Museum's staff work hard to catalog and showcase as much of the city's past as possible, preserving its legacy for future generations." and "What sets Tempe History Museum apart from other local historical institutions are its engaging and fun exhibitions."

The award plaque (pictured at right) will be displayed in the museum lobby. See the full write-up here: [Best Guardians of Local History 2024 | Tempe History Museum | Megalopolitan Life | Phoenix](#)





## COLLECTIONS

### Watson's Flowers Sign

Tempe History Museum has completed the restoration of the neon lettering that was once mounted to the north side of the historic Watson's Flowers building on Apache Boulevard. Museum staff worked with COT Historic Preservation Officer Zach Lechner to access the building and have the damaged neon glass removed. Local sign company Bootz & Duke repaired the glass and replaced the electrical wiring and transformers. They then created metal mounts for the two sign sections that replicate the texture and painted lettering of the original building. The result is two working, 13-foot-long neon signs that are now stored safely at the museum. Staff are currently devising a plan to display them publicly.



More information about Tempe History Museum  
[tempe.gov/Museum](https://tempe.gov/Museum)