

State of California
CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL
PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES

California



Arts Council

Annual Meeting
Wednesday, January 31, 2007
Crocker Art Museum
J. Brown Maloney Room
216 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 264-5423

ATTENDANCE

CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL

Presiding: Marcy Friedman, Chair

Council Members: Michael Alexander, Vice Chair
Annette Bening
Eunice David
Phyllis Epstein
Malissa Feruzzi Shriver
Barbara George
Carlos Martinez

Members not in Attendance Chong-Moon Lee
Fred Sands
Michael Rubel

Staff: Muriel Johnson, Director
Marilyn Nielsen, Deputy Director
Josie S. Talamantez, Assistant Chief of Grant Programs
Scott Heckes, Chief of Administration
Mary Beth Barber, Communications
Patricia Milich, Arts Program Specialist
Lucero Arellano, Arts Program Specialist
Wayne Cook, Arts Program Specialist
Theresa D'Onofrio, Graphic Artist
Diane Golling, Executive Secretary
Kristin Margolis, Arts Program Specialist
Lucy Mochizuki, Contract and Procurement Administrator
Ray Tatar, Arts Program Specialist

Public Pamela Beecher, Madera County Arts Council
Shannon Brawley, California Indian Basketweavers Association
Danielle Brazell, Arts for LA
Janet Canty, Feather River Community Partnership
Lynn Cooper, Inyo Council for the Arts
Noelle Deinken, Mono Council for the Arts
Ellen Estilai, Riverside Arts Council, California Alliance of Local Arts Agencies
Bryan Ha, Office of Senator Jack Scott
Jerry Hiura, former CAC Vice Chair
Assemblyman Mark Leno
Gaye Mueller, Mono Council for the Arts
Juni Nicholson, Arts Council of Placer County
Crystal Olson, California State University - Sacramento
John Ostrout, National Endowment for the Arts

Lucy Parker, California Indian Basketweavers Association
Barbara Pieper, former CAC Director
Ela Robertson, Pliocene Improvement Business, Sierra Arts
Council

Alma Robinson, California Lawyers for the Arts

Juliette Smith, Crocker Arts Museum

Angela Tahti, Arts Council of Placer County, California Alliance
of Local Arts Agencies, Sierra Nevada Arts Alliance

Margaret Travers, Venture County Arts Council, California
Alliance of Local Arts Agencies

Roxanne Valladao, Plumas Arts

Louisa R. Vessell, former CAC staff

CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL
Summary Minutes

Call to Order

Chair Marcy Friedman called the meeting to order at 9:55 am and welcomed the members of the California Arts Council and the members of the public in attendance at the Crocker Art Museum.

Welcome Remarks from the Crocker

Chair Friedman gave a brief background on the Crocker Art Museum, noting that she and her husband are Co-Chairs of the Capital Campaign for the major expansion of the facility, and that Director Muriel Johnson had been the Chair for the last building campaign in the 1980s.

Friedman then introduced Scott Shields, chief curator of the museum, who provided information on the current and upcoming exhibits, including: work by California visual artist Betye Saar, photography of Ansel Adams and Georgia O'Keefe, award-winning and historical photos from the *Sacramento Bee*, and wood carvings called *palkee* from the Santal tribe of northern India. He invited the Council and the public to view both these new exhibits, as well as the permanent collection, recently displayed in "Salon" style (from floor to ceiling) as was done during the Victorian era. Shields added that currently the Crocker was able to display only 4 percent of their collection at one time; between 5 and 20 percent of the collection will be able to be displayed with the planned expansion.

Roll Call

Mary Beth Barber called the roll. Present: Alexander, Bening, David, Epstein, Feruzzi Shriver, Friedman, George, Martinez. Absent: Lee, Sands, Rubel.

Opening Remarks, Brief Introduction of Members of Public

Friedman invited the members of the public in attendance to introduce themselves with their name and affiliation.

ACTION ITEM – Approval of November 2006 Meeting Minutes

Chair Friedman asked if there were corrections or amendments to the minutes from the November meeting in Irvine. None were offered. Martinez moved approval, David seconded, and the November 2006 minutes were approved unanimously.

Chair's Report

Chair Friedman asked for comments from the Council about the statewide arts conference *Reflecting, Reframing, Responding* on Tuesday, January 30, 2007, and shared some positive feedback from an email by Lisa Cullen Caretto, president of the California Arts Advocates (CAA). Councilmember George noted the enthusiasm from the attendees and the speakers, and that many people asked to have a statewide conference annually. Friedman added that the networking was invaluable. Bening felt that the remarks from Dana Gioia, Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, were the highlight of the event, especially what he's done for the arts in Washington, DC.

Councilmember Epstein asked if the conference had been recorded. Barber said that the Cal Channel video-taped the entire conference and ran Gioia's remarks on the same day, and that other parts of the conference would be shown on the Cal Channel the following week. CAC staff audio-recorded the conference, a high-quality recording will be available through the CAC website within days.

Introduction and Remarks by Guest Assemblywoman Betty Karnette

Director Johnson introduced Assemblywoman Betty Karnette, the recently appointed chair of the Assembly Committee for the Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media. Assm. Karnette represents the 54th Assembly District (Long Beach, Signal Hill and other areas), and is a retired schoolteacher with strong convictions in the benefit of the visual and performing arts in schools. Assm. Karnette stated that the committee will be holding informational hearings in March to discuss the arts in California, and she encouraged artists and representatives of arts organization to participate with concise, well-thought out testimony. Kelly Smith is the consultant to the committee and is available for questions and the committee's schedule.

Director Johnson also introduced Bryan Ha, Legislative Director for Senator Jack Scott, noting that Senator Scott is the chair of the Legislative Joint Committee on the Arts. She also introduced former Council member Jerry Hiura as a special guest.

Vice Chair Alexander commented that the success of the conference demonstrated the need for the arts community to meet regularly, and noted that there were representatives from the offices of Assembly Speaker Fabian Nuñez, Assm. Betty Karnette, Assm. Sally Lieber present. Alexander thanked Director Johnson and all the CAC staff for their hard work.

Councilmember Feruzzi Shriver noted the positive tone of the conference, which was set by having Gioia speak first, and commented that she wanted more of the public to have exposure to recordings of Gioia's and Bening's speeches. Councilmember Martinez said the conference demonstrated that the CAC had moved from an "ATM for the Arts" and into more of a leadership role.

Director's Report

Director Johnson shared a list of over 70 media outlets that ran an Associated Press story from the conference. She thanked the Council for coming to Sacramento and spending a significant amount of time – almost three days for some – in preparation for the conference and the meeting. She thanked the Council members who made introductions and participated on the conference panel, and thanked the staff for their hard work, especially Deputy Director Nielsen for her coordination and Lucy Mochizuki for handling the registration and production details.

Johnson said she was indebted to Chair Gioia for his participation in the conference and grateful that he took time to travel to California. She also commended the other presenters -- John McGuirk of the James Irvine Foundation, Andrea Faiss of The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, 2006 California Poetry Out Loud winner Ken Huffman, Anthony Radich of the Western States Arts Federation, Kathy Lynch from Lynch & Associates, Allan Zaremborg of the California Chamber of Commerce, and Attorney Steve Merksamer. The Sacramento Convention Center staff were also very helpful and professional with the execution of the conference, especially the technical aspects.

Director Johnson especially commended the Target Corporation for their sponsorship of the conference and donation of gift bags, materials, and series of scholarships for attendees. Johnson said she heard three comments consistently: Can the conference happen annually? Can it be held in Los Angeles or Fresno? Can the conference be held on two days so attendees can advocate with legislative members in Sacramento? Johnson said she would investigate collaborating with other organizations, foundations and government entities for future events and conferences.

Johnson updated the Council on other events she attended for the CAC: December 6, "Arts in the Balance" conference in Los Angeles. Johnson participated in a panel with Danielle Brazell of "Arts for L.A." and James Canales, CEO of the James Irvine Foundation; December 14, Johnson attended a L.A. Arts Funders meeting with speakers from the Pennsylvania Cultural Data Project.

Johnson let the Council know that she would be joining Gioia in the Los Angeles area for an NEA grants workshop in Representative Jane Harman's district on Friday, February 2, 2007. Other future meetings included the Irvine hosted session on the Pennsylvania cultural meeting in Oakland on February 6, 2007, and a Bay Area legislative update with California Arts Advocates on February 8, 2007. Johnson explained that the Pennsylvania Cultural Project is a program where all grant applications are centralized, making it easier for groups to apply. Alexander added that nonprofit development directors find that each foundation and granting organization asks for financial information in different formats, and that they have created a computer tool that reformats nonprofit financial information automatically to suit different requirements and granting organizations, and compiles the financial information to quickly produce an analysis of the field.

Johnson informed the Council about a meeting she and Alexander attended in New York City on January 19, 2007, with representatives of the National Endowment for the Arts, heads of arts agencies from border states, and Sergio Vela, the president of Mexico's National Council for Cultural and the Arts, to discuss international artist exchange issues. Director Vela informed Johnson and Alexander that he is planning on visiting Alexander in Los Angeles in the near future to continue discussions.

Johnson told the Council that the boards of the California Arts Advocates (CAA) and the California Association of Local Arts Agencies (CALAA) had not met since the last Council meeting, but discussions by phone continue. The three members of the finance committee – Johnson, Brad Erikson of Theatre Bay Area and Bruce Davis of Arts Council Silicon Valley – are speaking with the Irvine and Hewlett Foundations about sponsoring the facilitation of meetings. Councilmember Epstein asked if CALAA was still operating without a head director, and Ellen Estilai from CALAA confirmed that the operation had four regional leaders but no centralized leader for the entire state. Ms. Estilai added that the CALAA website was functional.

Public Comment

Chair Friedman invited public testimony.

Danielle Brazell, Managing Director, Arts for LA

Ms. Brazell congratulated the Council on a successful conference, and said that the visit to Sacramento led to a conversation between her organization and officials from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to discuss how the arts can play a role in graffiti prevention and other issues.

Roxanne Valladao, Executive Director, Plumas Arts

Ms. Valladao said she has worked in the arts administration field for over 20 years and thanked the Council in their leadership role to support the arts and culture in California. She highlighted the importance of the State and Local Partnership program. She also complimented CAC staff for their hard work over the years, specifically Lucero Arellano, Wayne Cook, Scott Heckes, Josie Talamantez, and Ray Tatar. Ms. Valladao submitted a written letter to the Council with her additional comments.

Pamela Beecher, Executive Director, Madera County Arts Council

Ms. Beecher thanked the Council for restoring the State and Local Partnership program, noting that by restoring funding for arts councils a small amount helps a lot, especially when asking the community for matching funds and additional support.

Lucy Parker, Chair, California Indian Basketweavers Association (CIBA)

Ms. Parker thanked the Council and CAC staff for the previous-day's conference, noting the inspiring tone in the event, adding that in her particular Native American language, the arts are so integrated into the daily lives that there is no separate word for "arts." Councilmember Alexander asked Ms. Parker whether the CIBA had significant outreach to other types of Native American artists groups like musicians, dancers, painters, etc., and Ms. Parker responded that CIBA is connected with the other Native American artists and can be a key point for outreach to all Native American artists in California. Alexander thanked Ms. Parker and others for preserving the California Native Americans' traditions, and for including all art forms in their organization's outreach. Councilmember Epstein asked where the CIBA was located, and Ms. Parker said the headquarters are in Woodland, CA, and she lives in Mammoth.

Barbara Pieper, former Director of the CAC

Ms. Pieper congratulated the CAC on the successful conference, and that she hoped Senator Jack Scott will take advantage of the informational hearings in March. She thanked the Councilmembers for their dedication to the arts, especially Councilmember George for her longtime leadership on the CAC. Director Johnson thanked Ms. Pieper for volunteering to serve on an advisory group to the Council as a former CAC director.

Ellen Estilai, Executive Director, Riverside Arts Council; CALAA Regional Director

Ms. Estalai complimented the Council on the conference, noting that the connections she made at the event were invaluable. She also thanked the Council for assisting with scholarships for CALAA members from rural regions, noting that Holly Austin of the arts council in Del Norte County was able to attend because of the scholarship assistance. She thanked the Council for

restoring funding for the State/Local Partnership program, noting that since the program was suspended four years previous there were 13 organizations that lost their staff, but that CALAA members were prepared to assist in any way they could. Director Johnson noted that one of the counties to lose their arts council was San Bernardino. Recently a local representative of the Governor's Office, Larry Grable, has taken an interest in the matter and spoke with San Bernardino County supervisors about possible restoration of the county's arts council.

Margaret Travers, Executive Director, Ventura County Arts Council

Ms. Travers said she felt the networking opportunities were extremely helpful at the conference, and asked if future conferences could be two days and include breakout sessions where the State/Local Partners meet and discuss key issues. She added that she appreciated Ms. Bening's speech, saying that her personal story of the impact of the arts was an important one.

Angela Tahti, Executive Director, Placer Arts Council

Ms. Tahti let the Council know that early that morning from 8am until approximately 9:30 am, some of the members of the arts community met with legislators and staff in the basement cafeteria of the Capitol. While the group was small, it set a good precedent for potential future meetings. Ms. Tahti asked the Council to utilize the local arts agencies in the public awareness and advocacy portions of the Strategic Plan, and informed the Council of the newly formed Sierra Nevada Arts Alliance.

Noelle Deinken, Mono Council for the Arts

Ms. Deinken thanked the Council for the conference and restoring the State and Local Partnership program, noting that artists and arts administrators can be isolated in the rural eastern Sierra region, and that she got many ideas and encouragement from the speakers and attendees.

Alma Robinson, Executive Director, California Lawyers for the Arts (CLA)

Ms. Robinson congratulated the Council on the conference, especially noting the remarks by Dana Gioia of the NEA.

Ms. Robinson said that CLA had recently been funded for outreach needs in the arts, and that Michael Masucci of the professional production facility EZTV Media in Los Angeles created a public service announcement for the arts in California. Ms. Robinson showed the Council the PSA via a laptop computer. Ms. Robinson said that CLA also recently hired a public-relations firm that assisted in discussions with newspaper editorial boards, including for the *Fresno Bee*, which wrote an editorial supporting funding for the arts in California.

Ms. Robinson noted that Assemblyman Mark Leno had joined the meeting and thanked him for his dedication to the arts in California. She also noted that Assm. Leno was recently appointed as the Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee and Assemblyman John Laird was the Chair of the Budget Committee.

Ms. Robinson continued to explain CLA's public outreach for the arts, noting an audio PSA that the organization has made available to 200 radio stations throughout the state. Chair Friedman asked if video email and website like uTube had been utilized, and Ms. Robinson said that these outlets as well as others like email lists from CAA and CALAA would be utilized. Director

Johnson complimented Ms. Robinson for her advocacy for the arts and dedication to the arts in California.

Director's Awards

Director Johnson announced the annual "Director's Award" recipients: long-time arts supporters Assemblyman Mark Leno and Senator Jackie Speier for their tireless advocacy for the arts for all Californians, and to celebrated artist Wayne Thiebaud, who designed the classic California Arts License Plate with the palm tree and sunset motif. Assm. Leno accepted the Director's Award at the meeting, and Director Johnson, Councilmember George and other Council members thanked him for his efforts to restore funding for the CAC and the Arts in California.

Presentation from John Ostrout, Director of State and Regional Partnerships for the NEA

Mr. Ostrout, Director of State and Regional Partnerships for the National Endowment for the Arts, made a brief presentation to the Council. He said that both he and Chair Gioia enjoyed participating in the conference. He said that his previous experience as head of the Connecticut arts agency gave him insight on the complexities of creating a partnership between the NEA and the state arts organizations, but that progress has been made. He noted that the Poetry Out Loud program is a good example of a successful partnership.

Mr. Ostrout gave an overview of the distribution of NEA's \$140 million budget, noting that 40 percent of program financing (approximately \$45 million) is distributed to the states, regional organizations – the Western States Arts Federation, for example – and other parts of the United States including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the American Virgin Islands, and the territories of Samoa, Guam and the Mariana Islands. Of that amount, the California Arts Council receives approximately \$1 million. Additionally, some of the NEA budget is slated for dedicated programming by Congress such as "Challenge America" and other programs

Mr. Ostrout credited Gioia for making significant strides with Congress, saying that before Gioia's tenure as Chair, most of Congress didn't believe that the National Endowment for the Arts was a relevant agency. With NEA funding now reaching every Congressional district, Congress has increased the Agency's funding each year.

Mr. Ostrout added that California is not alone in funding issues for the arts, pointing out the significant cut experienced in the state of Massachusetts from \$32 million to \$2, and the almost complete elimination of the arts agency in Colorado. Massachusetts recently had its arts funding restored and Colorado brought its budget up to \$1 million recently. He complimented the CAC and the California arts community for the conference planning and enthusiasm the previous day, saying that events such as that can make a difference and that the NEA would assist in any way it could.

Director Johnson thanked Mr. Ostrout for attending the Council meeting, for his hard work with programs like Poetry Out Loud, and for his hard work in Washington, DC. Johnson added that because of the high number of high schools and students in California, she hoped there would potentially be more funding for Poetry Out Loud available to broaden the outreach of the program in California. Heckes thanked Mr. Ostrout and complimented NEA staff Andi Mathis' work abilities and efforts in assisting the CAC.

Mr. Ostrout complimented the Council again, and said that the NEA is always in need of panelists for its grant programs and invited qualified individuals from the CAC and elsewhere in California to serve on an NEA panel in Washington DC, and Director Johnson noted that Chief of Programs Talamantez had done so the previous week.

Programs and Grants

Talamantez presented program-related action items to the Council.

ACTION ITEM: Funding Recommendations for AIS Recipients

Talamantez presented the panel funding recommendations for the Artists in Schools program. The Artists in Schools Peer Review Panel recommended funding through the 3- rank representing 90 arts organizations for a total of \$778,534. The in-house Program Staff Peer Review Panel recommended funding for 12 Planning Grants for a total of \$30,000. Total expenditure recommendation for the Artists in School Program for 2006-07 is \$808,534. Talamantez noted that the correct amount for the California Poets in the Schools-Santa Barbara is \$6,900, and not \$10,000 as listed in the council-book. The Council noted the amendment.

George moved, Epstein seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of \$5000 to the Williams James Association to Facilitate Conferences for AIS Recipients

Talamantez asked the Council to approve the staff recommendation of \$5000 to partner with the Williams James Association to provide technical assistance and professional development for the contractual obligations of the Artists in Schools grantees. The proposed conferences will benefit the artists and arts organizations by providing professional development in the Visual and Performing Arts Framework and Standards from the California Department of Education.

Bening moved, Epstein seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of \$3000 for the CSUS Mosaics Project to support the "Arts Resource Faire 2007" for teachers and student teachers

Talamantez asked the Council to approved the staff recommendations of \$3000 to support the California State University-Sacramento "Mosaics Project" (needed due to CSUS budget cuts) in their successful one-day arts in education conference entitled "Arts Resource Faire" in 2007. The conference provides strategies and demonstrations for 600 or more teachers and student teachers from the greater Sacramento area. Funds would be used for program materials and parking.

George moved, David seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of the Panel Pools for the State Local Partnership, the Creating Public Value, and the Statewide Program-Statewide Service Networks and Multicultural Infrastructure Programs

The State Local Partnership, Creating Public Value, and Statewide Programs-Statewide Service Networks and Multicultural Infrastructure program applicants will be reviewed in March through the panel process. Talamantez asked for Council approval of the staff recommendations for the panel pools for these programs.

David moved, Bening seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of Funding for Second-Year Contracts or Augmentations for the American Masterpiece Projects in California: Jazz Tap Ensemble (Tap Dance Project) and Pacific Artists Representatives Consortium (Mission Era Choral Music)

Talamantez gave the Council an overview of the agency's current participation in the American Masterpieces initiative--a national initiative. She requested approval of the staff's recommendation for funding to support the continued development of the CAC's two-component project--*Tap Dance Project*, illuminating the grand period of Hollywood; and *Mission-era Choral Music*. Specifically, Talamantez requested approval of a \$33,400 grant to Jazz Tap Ensemble in support of the *Tap Dance Project*, and \$10,000 to the Pacific Artists Representative Consortium in support of *Mission-era Choral Music*. Alexander asked if the funding came from the National Endowment for the Arts. Talamantez noted that the CAC provides a match for NEA award, including dedicated staff time. Heckes noted that participating presenting organizations also contribute funds to fulfill the program objectives.

David moved, Epstein seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of \$49,000 grant to support the continuing development of the California Music Project (CMP)

Heckes gave an overview of the California Music Project (CMP), noting that the CMP recently acquired 501(c)3 nonprofit status. Director Johnson complimented George on her dedication and hard work for the establishment and success of the CMP. George said that she was indebted to former CAC Chief of Administration Joe Alameida for taking on the role of treasurer. George added that the CMP is seeking a project coordinator and encouraged the Council and CAC staff to provide recommendations. George also gave an overview of the successful CMP project with California State University-San Jose that provides music instruction in K-12 public schools in low-income areas near the university and asked if there were questions about the CMP grant before the Council.

Bening moved, David seconded. Aye: Alexander, Bening, David, Epstein, Feruzzi Shriver, Friedman, Martinez. Abstain: George. Motion passed.

Budget Update

Heckes gave the Council a brief overview of the Governor's 2007-08 Budget proposal, noting that the proposed budget remained consistent with the 2006-07 budget for the CAC of overall \$5.1 million. The CAC would be able to provide approximately \$2.7 million for programming funds with the proposed budget, as they did in 2006-07. Heckes said that the revenue from the Arts License Plate Fund had remained steady, but noted that there had been a small decrease in the sales and renewals recently, and that if the trend continued it could present a future budget issue.

Alexander asked about the operating cost expenditures in the CAC budget, and Heckes said that the CAC proposed budget was slightly lower than the current year's budget due to agency salary adjustments and other factors. George encouraged the marketing of the Arts License Plate, especially through outreach in California museums, as had been done in the past. Patricia Milich said that staff was updating the museum database for outreach.

Remarks from Lial Jones, Executive Director of the Crocker Art Museum

Chair Friedman introduced Lial Jones, Executive Director of the Crocker Arts Museum. Ms. Jones welcomed the group and said that both Chair Friedman and Director Johnson had been past presidents for the board for the Crocker. She said that two exhibitions mounted by the Crocker had opened in Laguna Beach and Santa Barbara, part of the museum's effort to create exhibitions of the highest quality with an interest throughout the state.

General Discussion

Councilmember David said that the "ART LVR" signage for the Arts License Plate is confusing to some members of the public, who mistakenly believe they can get the same letter/number configuration on their plates. David suggested that this misperception be taken into account when devising and designing public awareness materials. Council members commented that the word "ART" does not appear on the Arts License Plate and asked if it could be added.

Director Johnson gave a brief update on the proposal for a specialty plate with the "Snoopy" image to benefit California museums, saying that the CAC and the California Association of Museums (CAM) would not be proceeding on partnering for a plate because of the narrowness of the law concerning what programs the CAC can support, i.e. arts museums but not zoos or aquariums. Ms. Jones thanked Director Johnson for investigating the matter.

ACTION ITEM: Election of Council Officers for 2007

Chair Friedman announced the Council's Nominating Committee report for proposed officers: Michael Alexander, Chair, and Malizza Feruzzi Shriver, Vice Chair. David moved, Epstein seconded, and the motion passed unanimously with congratulations.

Friedman said that she felt it was a privilege to serve the people of California as the Chair and Member of the California Arts Council, noting that when she first joined the Council the responsibilities of and input from the Council on the agency and the arts in California were much less. The current Council is active and involved, and she believes the efforts will ignite a grassroots campaign to strongly support the arts and creativity in California. She recommended that the Council seriously consider the creation of an independent "Friends of the California Arts Council" as a nonprofit 501(c)3. She suggested that the arts and creative industries in California heed the advice from the conference's advocacy panel and create a political action committee. She complimented new Council Chair Michael Alexander, and said she had faith he would lead the Council and the arts to a bright future.

Chair Alexander, noting a Council tradition of a gift to outgoing Chairs, presented a framed print from Self Help Graphics in Los Angeles to Friedman. He thanked past Council members for their hard work, thanked the Council for trusting him with the Chair position, and emphasized his dedication to serving the people of California. He also thanked the CAC staff for the flower bouquet he received in the fall after a surgical procedure.

Feruzzi Shriver thanked the Council, saying it was an honor and a privilege to serve as Vice Chair. She would work full time to promote further funding of the CAC and its programs, and for the advocacy and public awareness of the arts in California.

Director Johnson introduced Mort Friedman, husband of Marcy Friedman, and said that in Sacramento Mort and Marcy are known as a dynamic team and were voted "Sacramentans of the Year" in 2006. Johnson also introduced Chief Justice Ron George, who said his wife Barbara George has felt a kinship and sense of family with the Council and CAC staff since her first appointment in 1994.

Presentation to Outgoing Council Members

Director Johnson presented a hand-blown paperweight on a mirrored base to B. George for her dedicated years of service on the California Arts Council and as Chair of the Council and CMP. George thanked the Council, gave accolades to the hardworking CAC staff, and thanked Feruzzi Shriver for her discussion and negotiation with representatives of the Target Corporation concerning marketing the CMP's compact disc. She said that she's experienced a tremendous amount of personal growth since joining the Council, and would continue to support the arts in California.

Johnson presented a paperweight to Epstein, noting that she had an excellent attendance record, was a founder of the California Music Project and on its board, and was a joy to work with. Epstein thanked the Council and staff, and said that the experience was personally rewarding, especially being part of an "Artists in Residence" panel with Arts Specialist Wayne Cook. She thanked Governor Gray Davis for appointing her to the Council, and asked Councilmember Bening to advocate for the arts in San Diego.

Johnson presented a paperweight to former Vice Chair Jerry Hiura, noting how important his tenure on the Council was and his service as Vice Chair, and how integral he is to the arts in the San Jose area. Hiura thanked Johnson and the Council, and said that he's noticed a change in the Silicon Valley in how creativity is discussed. He said he learned a great deal from serving on a State and Local Partner panel in the past.

Johnson presented a paperweight to Marcy Friedman for her dedication to the CAC and for being an outstanding Chair these past two years. Friedman thanked Johnson and said that when she was first appointed, she had requested the California Arts Council over other commissions and councils in state government, and that serving on the Council had changed her life. Chair Alexander said that he would be calling on Friedman for advice and assistance during his tenure as Chair, and noted that many Councilmembers had been waiving their per diem and travel expenses in order to fold the funds back into the CAC budget.

Adjournment

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting in the memory of Harry Fonseca, well known Native American artist, with a moment of silence, and Lucy Parker from CIBA leading the Council and guests in a traditional Native American spiritual song.