

# APPLICATIONS

CULTURAL & FINE ARTS COMMISSION



# City of Sonoma

## COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-22-77

**Received Date:** December 18, 2022

**Application Type:** Cultural and Fine Arts Commission

**NAME:** Lauren Brenner  
**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]  
**PHONE:** [REDACTED]  
**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Sonoma State University, 1977  
Extensive professional training and experience in the field of advertising, marketing, writing.

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** Mixed-media artist. Alternative education. Taught creative writing and art to homeschoolers. My partner and I write and and perform music for young children.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** I've been involved with humanitarian and animal rescue organizations for many years. Provided fundraising and promotional strategy and writing for many non-profits.

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### GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

No

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

To enhance, expand, and support the experience and quality of culture and fine art in Sonoma.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

To offer my expertise, experience, and skills to the Commission.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

I have a great deal of experience promoting programs and events to the public. I also have a lot of experience and enthusiasm for working with children esp. with art and music.

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*I certify that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted. I also agree that if appointed, I will serve on the Commission/Committee for which I have submitted this application.*

I AGREE

Lauren Brenner

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November 18, 2022

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# City of Sonoma

## COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-22-50

In Valley

**Received Date:** November 20, 2022

**Application Type:** Cultural and Fine Arts Commission

**NAME:** Tim Curley

**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**ARE YOU APPLYING FOR A YOUTH POSITION?** No

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** As I retired teacher in the Sonoma Valley Unified School District, I possess a BA degree, plus several post graduate courses.

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** I have served on the Sonoma Valley Citizen's Advisory Commission. Also, on the Sonoma County Civil Grand Jury.

Currently very active I the local music scene as a musician, a local newspaper writer, and talent booker.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** I served on the board (member, Vice President, President) of the Sonoma Sea Dragons, a long defunct local youth swim club.

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### GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

No, I have not. but I have followed the commission in the news.

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

Its role is to deliver the arts to the community. The approval, or disapproval, of projects important to that end are one of the Commissions charges.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

I am interested in bringing in a more youth focused direction. And I want to highlight the live music community in a bigger way.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

My connections at El Verano School are an entre to the youth concern, and the music this ....well, that is what I do.

**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

County commissions, listed above.

**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

As a 39 years resident of Sonoma Valley, retired teacher, and musician, my heart is in this.

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I AGREE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy W. Curley

\_\_\_\_\_  
November 20, 2022

## **Tim Curley**



Seeking position on the City of Sonoma's Cultural and Fine Arts Commission

### **Experience**

Staff Writer – Sonoma Index Tribune, Current

Member – Sonoma Valley Citizen's Advisory Commission (El Verano West), 2018-2020

Member – County of Sonoma Civil Grand Jury, 2020-2021

Teacher - Sonoma Valley Unified School District, El Verano School, 1996-2018  
Deliver lessons based on guidelines and personal insight. Respond to changing conditions and expectations. Shepherd student learning, understanding and growth.

Copywriter/Proofreader/Editor – The Kern Organization, Woodland Hills, CA  
Create effective written material; review and perfect for accuracy. Current.

Wine Educator -Ravenswood Winery Tasting Room, 1996–2017 Greet and host visitors, maximize sales, organize and orchestrate public events.

Owner/Proprietor - Verano Vintners, 1992-95 Create, promote, market and manage my own brand of wine, available throughout greater Bay Area.

Wine Counselor/Clerk – Lucky Stores, 1985-96 Lead industry store design crew. Manage selection and inventory in department, place and receive orders, assist retail customers, supervise staff.

Sonoma County Housing Authority - Lease Negotiator, 1978-81 Follow Federal guidelines, inspect properties, assist families and elderly clients obtain housing.

### **Education**

Teaching Credential, Dominican College, 1996

B.A., Sonoma State College, 1978, Environmental Studies and Planning

### **Life Experiences**

Northern California native, 39 year resident of Sonoma.

Father of four adult children.

Musician/Songwriter. Band leader/manager/promoter.

Pristine driving record



**RESIDENT**



## City of Sonoma COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-22-67

In Valley

**Received Date:** December 12, 2022

**Application Type:** Cultural & Fine Arts Commission

**Other Interest:** yes, Parks, Recreation & Open Space Commission

**NAME:** Deb Emerson

**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Master of Business Administration from the University of Chicago, Booth School of Business.

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** Served on Sonoma's Cultural & Fine Arts Commission since February 2018 in which time I served on the Student Artist award application process and rubric. Before moving to Sonoma, I served on the Board of Directors for Arts Education in Maryland Schools which supports providing art education support for programs where the arts have been stripped in our schools due to budget concerns.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** I serve on various Boards where education of diverse students are a focus of the organization and increasing students of color at the university level.

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### GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

yes, many since February 2018. We don't have a set meeting schedule but meet as needed and also have separate committee meetings.

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

In addition to The Treasured Artist facilitation of selection and the Student Artist Award, temporary art collection on the Plaza, our committee is looking to engage the public in looking to artistically "wrap" unsightly objects on City property throughout Sonoma and bring art to the attention of passers-by. For example, a metal utility box could be wrapped with art, designed by a local artist. This work has been done by neighboring cities.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

Some of my goals if allowed to continue as a Commissioner, would be to better support our local schools in their art education and provide more opportunities for young artists to thrive in our community; in addition, I would very much like to explore the artistic wrapping of areas where the display of the art would benefit our community. Another idea would be to replace the controversial garbage bins on the Plaza with devices which could also be "wrapped" with art.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

My time and dedication to working on the projects needed. Much of our committee depends on consistent dedication over many months of seeing a project come to fruition.



**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

Yes, I have served on the Cultural & Fine Arts Commission since February 2018.

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**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

If we have an abundance of applications and eager citizens wanting to serve, I would be happy to serve as an alternate. Although we do need some stability to the committee and experience to remain on the committee to continue the work we are doing, I also support welcoming others to serve and would be happy to take a backseat and serve as an alternate which is often needed when other members are not able to attend. We have had a very involved alternate on our committee the last few years and he should be asked to serve as a full member given his dedication.

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I AGREE

Debra C Emerson

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December 12, 2022

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**RESIDENT**



**City of Sonoma**  
**COMMISSION APPLICATION**

CA-22-65

In Valley

**Received Date:** December 9, 2022

**Application Type:** CFAC

**NAME:** Steve Hagstrom

**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**ARE YOU APPLYING FOR A YOUTH POSITION?** No

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

Education includes Technical Theater Training (stage mgt., scenic, lighting and sound)

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** IATSE Local 107 Stagehand

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

End World Hunger Foundation - Board Member  
Polly Klaas Community Theater - Theater Advisory Board  
City of Sonoma, Vice Chair CFAC

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**GENERAL QUESTIONS:**

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

Yes. All Zoom and in-person meetings, events and public appearances since appointed.

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

Maintain City mandated protocol for a Commissioner. Support the process of selecting a Treasure Artist and Student Award recipient.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

Maintain and expand the Commission per City Council guidelines.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

My experience in the arts, and as a parent to a former SVUSD student, have given me perspective on the creative process.

**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

2019 to present

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**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

I am an Theater and Event professional with many hobbies that are transferable to the position. Current and former positions include Transcendence Theatre Company, Sonoma Community Center, Sebastiani Theater,

Sonoma International Film Festival, Plein Air, Presentation School, City of Sonoma, Sonoma Arts Live, Pets Lifeline, Illusions Lighting and many other organizations, venues, & non profits in the Valley. I have lived and worked in Sonoma for 30 years and have family ties that date to the early 1970's. I feel that I can continue to make a valuable contribution to the CFAC. Thank you for your consideration.

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I AGREE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven E Hagstrom

\_\_\_\_\_  
December 9, 2022

**RESIDENT**



# City of Sonoma COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-22-66

In Valley

**Received Date:** December 12, 2022

**Application Type:** Cultural and Fine Arts Commission

**Other Interest:** Planning Commission

**NAME:** Lauren Kershner  
**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]  
**PHONE:** [REDACTED]  
**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]  
**ARE YOU APPLYING FOR A YOUTH POSITION?** No

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** (High School, College, Professional, Vocational, or other Schools Attended. Please include Major or Field of Study, Dates attended, Degree and date of Degree)  
Fort Bragg High School, Fort Bragg, CA 2007  
Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Academy, Certificate in Occupational Studies: Culinary Arts, Portland, OR 2009  
Santa Rosa Junior College, Associate's Degree in Political Science, Social and Behavioral Studies, and Latin American Studies, Santa Rosa, CA 2016  
+ course completions in Motivation/Empowerment, Project Management, and Skills for Manager, 2018

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** Santa Rosa Junior College, Student Body Government 2014-16 which included a seat on several college-wide Commissions

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Food Drive Help with Food for Thought, Santa Rosa, CA 2014-2018  
ESL Tutor for La Luz, Sonoma, CA 2018-2019 & 2022  
President of the Sonoma Young Professionals, a group associated with the Sonoma Chamber of Commerce, 2018-2022  
Event Organizer for Wig Out!, an annual fundraiser for Cancer Support Sonoma, 2019-2022

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## GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

Yes, several since I've been a member of CFAC since 2018. I have never attended a Planning Commission meeting.

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

It is the Commissioner's responsibility to deliberate and select the city's Treasure Artist each year followed by planning their award ceremony and be with them in the 4th of July parade. It is also their duty to deliberate

and select the student artist scholarship each year. In general, it is the responsibility of the Commission to ensure there is a rich culture of arts in our community and they do this by upholding high standards for our Treasure Artist and Student Scholarship, and collaborating with other art-focused organizations on community projects.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

I would like to ensure our arts culture is inclusive and diverse. I also have a goal to gain hands-on experience in public policy so that I can practice my passion for local politics in the future.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

I bring a youthful perspective to the Commission, often recognizing wants and needs of our community beyond the status quo. I have a pulse on the art culture of today that might be lost on an aging community.

**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

Yes, Cultural and Fine Arts Commission, 2018-present

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**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

I have really enjoyed the opportunity to be a part of CFAC and think I have really grown into the position. At this point, I have historical reference on CFAC matters that help me contribute to the Commission in a well-rounded, thoughtful way.

Additionally, I have been a business owner in Sonoma for 6 years and love serving my community both professionally and philanthropically.

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I AGREE

Lauren Kershner

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December 12, 2022

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# LAUREN KERSHNER

## SKILLS

The ability to take a challenge and turn it into a learning experience, communicate a clear company vision, and execute strategic goals in a timely manner have been the cornerstones of my success as a business owner.

## EXPERIENCE

Exec. Chef | Beltane Ranch | 06/2014- 11/2017

Developed a diverse culinary program from scratch including farm-to-table dinner parties, food and wine pairings, and in-house event catering. Elevated the culinary experience for the company with a global perspective to food.

Owner | Goodness Gracious Catering, Songbird Parlour, and Valley of the Moon Kombucha Co.

2016-present

Manages the various departments and staff to ensure the company is fulfilling its mission and goals.

## EDUCATION

Associates in Occupational Studies: Culinary Arts

2019 | Le Cordon Bleu, Portland, OR

Attained great knowledge on all aspects of culinary arts and hospitality management.

Associates in Political Science, Social/Behavioral Studies

2016 | Santa Rosa Junior College

Student Government's Vice President

All-American Academic Team Award

Ulysses S. Grant Leadership Award

## OBJECTIVE

To envision and implement projects and programs that facilitate a happy, healthy community for all.

To reinvent the Wine Country experience to be inclusive of all members of our community.



## ACHEIVEMENTS

North Bay Business Journal's Forty Under 40 Award, 2022

Press Democrat's '23 to Watch' Award, 2022



**RESIDENT**



# City of Sonoma COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-23-3  
In Valley

**Received Date:** January 2, 2023

**Application Type:** Cultural & Fine Arts Commission

**Other Interest:** No

**NAME:** Morgan Momsen

**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**ARE YOU APPLYING FOR A YOUTH POSITION?** No

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Sonoma Valley High School 2009 - 2013  
California Polytechnic State University - Art & Design, Concentration in Photography 2013 - 2017 - Bachelor of Fine Arts  
Sonoma State University - Multiple Subject Teaching Credential - 2019 - 2020

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** Worked at Cal Poly's art gallery  
Volunteered at the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art  
Worked with photographers from the area  
Volunteer each year at the Sonoma Plein Air Art Festival  
Taught art at St. Francis Solano School  
Teach art in my own classroom  
Attending other commission meetings  
Attending school board meetings  
Being a teacher and listening to all sides of a variety of issues, having endless patience, attending many meetings, being a part of a decision making team

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Boys and Girls Club volleyball coach

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## GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

No

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

Helping establish and maintain an equitable and balanced arts and cultural program in the valley. Helping to enrich, expand, and draw attention to the art community in the valley. Attending meetings, participating in discussions, critiquing and selecting artists to win awards.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**



Bringing more attention to the art scene in Sonoma, making the art community in the valley accessible to all, highlighting the art community in the valley, and exploring and recognizing the different cultures in the valley through art.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

Bringing fresh ideas and a younger perspective to the team. Involvement in the Springs community and the children of the community through my work as an educator at El Verano School. Desire to see the enrichment of the art community in the valley as a young person seeking more diversity and more involvement through art in the valley.

**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

No

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**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

I love to create art, critique art, admire art, question art. I think art has the power to bring people from all different ages, backgrounds, cultures, economic status, etc. together. I would love to help Sonoma really expand on, broaden and deepen the art community we already have here to engage more of the community in the arts.

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I AGREE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Morgan Christie Momsen

\_\_\_\_\_  
January 2, 2023

# morgan momsen



## EDUCATION

### **Bachelor of Fine Arts** — California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obsipo

SEPTEMBER 2013 - JUNE 2017

### **Multiple Subject Teaching Credential** — Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park

JANUARY 2019 - MAY 2020

## WORK HISTORY

### **Elementary Teacher** — Sonoma Valley Unified School District

AUGUST 2021 - PRESENT

I am currently a fifth grade teacher at El Verano Elementary School. I teach all subject areas including English language arts, mathematics, science, art, social studies, and social-emotional learning. I have established strong relationships with my students, families, and the El Verano community. I have created a welcoming, safe, and productive learning environment. I plan and teach engaging lessons, teaching students not only curriculum, but technology, self advocacy, and coping skills. I provide whole class instruction, small group instruction and support, and one-on-one instruction and support. My class is responsible for the creation of a school wide newspaper. I assess student learning and social-emotional wellbeing regularly. I attend staff meetings, student IEPs, and professional development days.

### **Garden Coordinator** — Sonoma Valley Unified School District

AUGUST 2021 - PRESENT

I am also El Verano's garden coordinator. In this position I am responsible for building the school a garden. I have worked with maintenance and grounds to secure, fence, and bring irrigation into a space on campus. With support from colleagues I have secured tables and seating for the garden space to facilitate outdoor education. I successfully created a Donors Choose grant to receive garden beds for the school garden. I have reached out to multiple companies and organizations interested in supporting my efforts to build the garden and from them have received plants, soil, and a garden shed. I have organized meetings with members of the community who are donating to the garden. I attend garden coordinator meetings and ensure that the school garden consistently is moving forward.

### **Volleyball Coach** — Boys and Girls Club

OCTOBER 2021 - PRESENT

As a volleyball coach for a 5th and 6th grade team at the Boys and Girls Club I am responsible for teaching the fundamentals of volleyball, running drills, helping the players improve their form and skill set, making sure the team treats one another with respect, and maintaining a positive team spirit. I also collaborate with coaches on line ups for games, positioning players based on their strengths and areas needing improvement. Creating a safe and supportive environment for the players to improve their skills in is the key to the teams' athletic success.

### **Photographer**

JUNE 2017 - PRESENT

I photograph a variety of portraits and events. This ranges from maternity shoots to self portraits. I use both digital and film cameras and use both Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop to process my work.

## SKILLS

Creating developmentally appropriate and engaging lessons

Connecting learning to student interest and background knowledge

Implementing a universal design for learning

Maintaining relationships between staff, teachers, students and families

Creating safe, supportive, and positive environments

Classroom and time management

Integrating technology in the classroom

Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom



# City of Sonoma

## COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-22-41

In Valley

Received Date: November 10, 2022

Application Type: Cultural and Fine Arts Commission

**NAME:** Veronica Napoles

**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**ARE YOU APPLYING FOR A YOUTH POSITION?** No

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** BA Fine Art--University of Miami 1973; BArch--University of California at Berkeley 1978

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** I have been on the CFAC commission since 2017. Currently I am the chair.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Board of Trustees Headlands Center for the Arts, Youth in Arts Board of Directors, Board of Directors MarinArts, Chair, Springs Community Alliance

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### GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

Yes--many.

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

To develop and establish a balanced arts and cultural program that enriches, and advances the cultural and fine arts community.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

To bring together existing community arts and cultural organizations by encouraging and promoting cooperation among them. Advise the city on all matters affecting the arts, culture and aesthetics of the city.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

Organize advisory and resource subcommittees.

**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

Yes. The Cultural and Fine Arts Commission since 2017.

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**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

I would like to continue on the commission to see thru some projects and grow the commission.

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I AGREE

Veronica Napoles

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November 10, 2022

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**RESIDENT**



## City of Sonoma COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-22-64

In Valley

**Received Date:** December 8, 2022

**Application Type:** Culture and Fine Arts Commission

**Other Interest:** No

**NAME:** Constance Schlelein

**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**ALTERNATIVE PHONE:** [REDACTED]

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Masters Degree - Arts Education  
Bachelor's Degree - Arts Education

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** I served as the president of the Visual Arts Commission of the City of Loveland, Colorado. We created a cultural plan for Loveland in 1984, purchased millions of dollars in public art and helped with the largest outdoor sculpture show in the country. I was the Vice-President of the National Arts Education Association (K-16 arts education organization of almost 20,000 members.) Adjunct Professor of Visual Art and Arts Education, University of Northern Colorado and Colorado State University.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Sonoma Valley Museum of Art Board Member, Co-Chair of Creative Bridges (an alliance of 35 Sonoma Valley nonprofits, Chair of the Creative Alliance (a subcommittee of the Sonoma Chamber of Commerce promoting creative industries,) a member of the Sonoma Valley Unified School District LCAP team, working to promote arts education, Chairman of Sonoma Arts Now (California Arts Council arts education arm,) an advisor for the leadership team of Creative Sonoma.

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### GENERAL QUESTIONS:

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

Yes, I am a current commissioner. I have attended all but one meeting during my first term.

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

To develop a balanced arts and culture program to promote and advance the arts in the community.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

To further move forward the prominence of the arts and culture in the community.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

I bring vast experience in both culture and arts planning for communities as well as arts education knowledge and strategic planning for improvement.

**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

Yes - I am a current member of the Sonoma Culture and Fine Arts Commission.

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**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

I am the type of board member who will step up when I see a need or when called upon. I also am able to anticipate needs before they appear. My philosophy is to be a solution partner, but I appreciate good planning, hard work and research to inform the work that our commission does. I am a team player but also can lead when needed. I appreciate diverse opinions, hearing from all parties, with the goal of utilizing the arts to unify and uplift our community.

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I AGREE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constance Schlelein

\_\_\_\_\_  
December 8, 2022



## Constance L. Schlelein

### Leadership Experience:

**Creative Bridges Co-Chair** - Alliance of 30 Sonoma Valley arts education advocacy organizations, 2019 - Present

**Creative Alliance, Chair** – Cultural Planning Task Force for Sonoma Valley, June 2019 - Present

**Sonoma Valley “Arts Task Force”, Co-Chair** - **COVID Pandemic Public Arts Coalition**, June 2019 - September 2020

**City of Sonoma Culture and Fine Art Commissioner** - January 2019 - Present

**Arts Now, Create CA, Coordinator**, arts education advocacy - September 2018 - Present

**Sonoma Valley Museum of Art Board Member**, March 2018 - Present

**Vice-President, National Art Education Association** - 2000 – 2008

Served on the NAEA Executive Board of Directors setting art education national policy for the U.S. States

**Colorado State Education Commissioner**, Colorado Department of Education, 1999-2005

Served on the Colorado Commissioner of Education’s Leadership Team advising CDE board for arts education related issues.

**Founder & Leader - ArtSource Colorado** - 1994 – 2018

ArtSource Colorado is an annual arts educational leadership training institute in Colorado aids selected K-16 leaders in professional growth to help school districts implement content standards, assessments and integrate curriculum.

**Co-Author Grant, ArtSource Colorado** - CASSI National Grant, for \$250,000.

Developed a system of professional development and leadership funded by the Getty Foundation in partnership with Colorado Department of Education. Created summer institutes on educational leadership, art standards and assessments and latest research in the field. Still functioning 22 years later.

**President - Colorado Art Education Association**. 1994 –1996.

Increased membership to 2,000 art educators, K - 16, coordinated activities across Colorado. Chair of 4 statewide conferences and Youth Art Celebration, organized and coordinated eight statewide arts organizations.

**Representative Council - Colorado Art Education Association** - 20 years

**Chair, Visual Art Commission** - City of Loveland, CO, 1986-1992.

Delegated & facilitated the 1% For The Arts funding for the City of Loveland’s public art program. Worked with the Loveland Art Museum director to purchase and place several million dollars of art for the public art collection. Connected the City of Loveland art museum with the school district and non-profits.

**Representative to the U.S. States Collaborative on Art Assessment & Student Standards (SCASS).**

Wrote the U.S. art standards and national assessments from the NAEP Assessments. Received training from national experts on fine arts assessments. Piloted national assessments in national, state and district schools.

**Representative J. Paul Getty Trust** - Prairie Vision’s National Center for Arts Education Leadership, 1995-2000

**Colorado Standards Art Task Force member**. 1994-1999 Created Colorado art standards and benchmarks.

**Chair - NAEA, Public Relations and Advocacy Committee**. 1993-1996

**Chair - Partner in the Arts**, State of Colorado. 1993-1994

Coordinated businesses, artists, museums & arts councils for a summer mentoring programs for art students

### AWARDS

**Fulbright Scholar**, Japan, 2000

**Milken Family Foundation National Educator of the Year** (Represented Colorado) - 1997

**Colorado Candidate For National Teacher of the Year** - 1998

**Colorado Art Educator of the Year**, Colorado Art Education Association, 1996

**National Educator of the Year, Colorado Representative**, 1995

**Loveland High School Teacher of the Year**, Thompson School District, Loveland, Colorado 1995 **People Who Make a Difference Community Award**, Loveland, Colorado 1996

**Colorado Phi Delta Kappa Teacher of the Year**, 1993

**National Art Education Association’s Editor of the Year Award**, NAEA, 1990,1991,1992



**Colorado Art Supervisor of the Year**, Colorado Art Education Association 1990  
**Loveland High School Teacher of the Year**, Thompson School District, Loveland, Colorado, 1988

## ACADEMIC DEGREES

**Post-Graduate Work** + 130 graduate credit hours,  
Art, art education, journalism, leadership, photography, video from state universities in Colorado, Hawaii,  
Massachusetts, New Mexico and Kansas

**Master of Science**, University of Hawaii, 1975  
Cum Laude in Secondary Art Curriculum

**Bachelors of Science**, Emporia State College, Emporia, KS  
Cum Laude in Secondary Art Education

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**County Arts Education Coordinator** - Arts Council of Napa Valley, January 2, 2018 – September 1, 2019

**Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator** - Thompson School District, Loveland, CO 1987 to 2003

Supervised 59 Visual Arts Teachers (K-12), 45 Music Teachers, 8 Theater Teachers, 10 Dance Teachers  
Negotiated a graduation requirement in art and/or music  
Created scholarship drives and partnerships for school district high school art students  
Directed subject area state arts standards on state and district level for K-12 art education  
Facilitated meetings of K-12 visual art teachers  
Developed professional development opportunities in partnerships with universities and partner districts for teachers  
Facilitated, researched and wrote the district curriculum  
Organized district warehouse supplies and multi-million dollar equipment purchases  
Organized art exhibitions, group events and scholarship fundraisers  
Wrote and oversaw numerous grants, apprenticeships, internships and exchanges  
Wrote guest editorials for local, state and national newspapers  
Organized and directed arts advocacy community groups  
Interviewed and helped hire prospective K-12 arts education staff members  
Projected curriculum needs for professional materials  
Interviewed, hired and trained new arts educators

**Adjunct Professor**, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado 1990 - 2000  
Taught Art Education, Metalsmithing, Video, Art Education & Television Broadcasting.

**Adjunct Professor**, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado -  
Taught Arts Education, In-service Training Evaluator/Supervisor-Secondary & Elementary Art Education  
1998-2000

**High School Arts Instructor**. Loveland High School, 1979-2002

Art Courses Taught: Metal-smithing, Jewelry, Photography, Video/AP Art History/Ceramics/AP  
Portfolio/Drawing

Journalism Courses Taught: Journalism, Video, Daily Television Station (KLHS,) Newspaper, Yearbook  
National Scholastic Award Winning students and portfolios (25 years)

State Scholastic Art Awards

Principal's Advisory Team

Building Councils

Accountability Committees

North Central Evaluation Teams (3)

Colorado North Central Steering Committee

Principal's Search Committee - new principal (3)

Peer Observation Program

Mentor Teacher

Student Teacher Coordinator

Art Club Sponsor/Downtown High School Art Gallery Sponsor

Partner in LINKS and BRIDGES community partnership grants

**Curriculum Specialist** – Art, Music, Physical Education, Humanities - 1991-1996

**GOALS 2000 Grant Director** in partnership with Northern Colorado BOCES

Wrote Interdisciplinary Art Units, designed & trained - Trainer of Trainers

Produced and created videotapes for State of Colorado for professional development training of teachers on state standards

**High School Art Instructor**, Bear Creek High School, Jefferson County, 1976-1977

**Junior High School Art Instructor**, Jefferson County, 1977

**Visual Art Trauma Specialist, Drug and Alcohol Division**, Civil Service G-5 Rank, US Army, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, 1973-75

**CAREER SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE**

Curriculum Designer and Integrator  
Creator and Implementer of local, state and national Visual Arts Standards & Assessments  
Public Arts Administrator  
Arts Scholarship Consultant  
Art Education Leadership Trainer  
Community Organizer - bringing nonprofits and arts entities together for empowerment and action  
Arts Educator - K-16  
Arts Education Administration  
Creative Expression Integration - Social and Emotional Curriculum Design and Implementation  
Mentor & Trainer of future Art Educators  
Videography, Photography, Graphic Design, Social Media  
Big Picture Thinker & Strategist

**REFERENCES**

Debbie Yarrow, Arts Education Manager, Creative Sonoma (the arts council for Sonoma County)

[Redacted contact information]

Olivia Dodd, Past Executive Director of the Arts Council of Napa Valley

[Redacted contact information]

Linda Keaton, Executive Director of the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art

[Redacted contact information]

Susan Gabbard, Past President, National Art Education Association, Reston, Virginia

[Redacted contact information]

Susan Ison, Director of Cultural Services, Loveland, Colorado, Loveland Museum & Gallery,

[Redacted contact information]

Sharon Rouse, Docent Chair and Art Educator, Denver Art Museum

[Redacted contact information]

**RESIDENT**



**City of Sonoma**  
**COMMISSION APPLICATION**

CA-22-76  
In Valley

Received Date: December 17, 2022

Application Type: Sonoma Cultural and Fine Arts Commission

**NAME:** Ryan Smull  
**ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]  
**PHONE:** [REDACTED]  
**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [REDACTED]  
**ARE YOU APPLYING FOR A YOUTH POSITION?** No

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:** Bachelor of Science, Marketing,

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:** 15 year career the music industry as artist, manager and executive. 6 years in the local north bay wine industry.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** Sonoma Cultural and Fine Arts Commission 2019-Current

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**GENERAL QUESTIONS:**

**Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?**

Yes

**What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?**

To foster a vibrant arts community in the city of sonoma, and help secure the city's place as a world class arts destination.

**What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?**

Help bring the utility box decoration project to fruition. I would very much like to raise the profile of the commission, with a goal of increasing the number, quality and cultural diversity of entries for the yearly awards.

**What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?**

Extensive local network of contacts, graphic design for impactful collateral, a background in artist marketing and management.

**Have you previously served, or do you currently serve, on a Sonoma Commission or Committee? If yes, which one(s) and for what period of time?**

Sonoma CFAC 2019-current

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**Is there anything else you would like us to consider when reviewing your application?**

I have loved my tenure on the commission as at large commissioner and alternate. I would be thrilled to hold either position again.

*I certify that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted. I also agree that if appointed, I will serve on the Commission/Committee for which I have submitted this application.*

I AGREE

Ryan Smull

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December 16, 2022

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