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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Arts Committee**

*Tuesday, April 29, 2025 – 6:30 PM
This meeting was conducted via Zoom*

Board Members Present: Gayle Baron, Lori Bores, Alida Camp, Sahar Husain, Rita Popper, Peggy Price, Robin Seligson, and Chelsey Webber-Brandis*.

*Public Member

Approximate Number of Public Attendees: 7

Minutes:

Item 1: Discussion on the preparation for the upcoming Spring 2025 Arts Show

For the preparation of the art show, approximately 150 artists have already submitted their artwork for the show. We reaffirmed the need to emphasize that there will be a 10:00 AM check-in time, with the check-in table being located at East 91st Street and Second Avenue. For the event, we'll need at least 7 volunteers to help artists check in and get to their exhibition spaces at the show. We will also need volunteers to help lay out the exhibition spaces the day before the show, with a Kidz Korner being located close to Third Avenue. We discussed the placement of tables, if necessary, to have two rows of tables on the east and west sides of East 91st Street. The Community Board 8 Manhattan (CB8M) table will be near the flagpole, and artists will not be allowed to set up their exhibition spaces until after 10:00 AM.

CB8M volunteers will wear name tags or name tag stickers for easy identification. The board office will provide these name tags, along with other materials, such as the check-in sheets. For check-in sheets, the artists must use their real names, not just business names as on their acceptance letters.

Tables along the curbs should be touching, and any tables in the middle should have space in between to allow browsers to walk around the tables.

Community Board Member Sahar Husain suggested using the path at Ruppert Park as additional exhibition space, but the committee agreed that using such space may make artists feel isolated from the rest of the event.

We discussed putting up a sign asking bike riders to walk their bike if they are going through East 91st Street. The board office will see whether such a sign would be feasible.

We plan to lay out spaces the day before the show and anticipate having one volunteer at each side of East 91st Street and another in the middle for check-ins at the show. Volunteers will escort artists to table locations, and there should be at least one volunteer at Third Avenue to direct artists to Second Avenue for check-ins. This check-in process, like last year's, will most likely take time, as acknowledged by committee members. Although Community Board Member Rita Popper is leaving the board, Rita has graciously volunteered to help in the event. Rita has already offered to bring the sidewalk chalk to be used at the art show, and both Sahar Husain's son and Community Board Member Peggy Price will be taking photos at the show.

Julia Richman Education Complex (JREC) Talent Unlimited Musical Theatre students will perform at the art show. We will reach out to other musicians, but welcome suggestions if anyone has any connections to other musicians. At this time, the committee had retrieved one speaker and two microphones for the show.

For the art show materials, we'll need balloons, flyers for posting, sign-in sheets, and QR code sheets for the Newsletter Sign-Ups. The committee also discussed posting event flyers near the event location, the week before the May 2025 Art Show. A potential for high winds was also noted as a concern for the event during this discussion.

We will remind management of the nearby buildings along East 91st Street between Second Avenue and Third Avenue of the art show to avoid any questions about tables on the streets. In addition, we reiterated that no walk-ins will be allowed at the May 2025 Art Show.

We urge all board members and members of the public to promote the show on social media. The buildings adjoining James Cagney Way will also be using their building management software, BuildingLink, to advertise the show to residents.

Community Board Member Rita Popper spoke about the generosity of R-Y Management, which is buying a speaker for the Arts Committee's use at the May 2025 Art Show.

Special thanks to Community Associate Jon Kraus for working with Community Board Member Rita Popper to ensure that the speakers will work with the JREC Talent Unlimited Musical Theatre students.

A committee member asked how many sign-ups for board emails are done at the show compared to sign-ups at street fairs. Another board member emphasized the simplicity of using QR codes, compared to entering hand-written emails.

Item 2: Update on arts education funding item at joint meeting of the Youth, Education, and Libraries Committee.

Update on arts education funding from the NYC Arts in Education Roundtable.

A state budget has recently been passed, with the funding going to organizations that provide artists or instructors the opportunity to teach art. It is important to note that this funding is not coming from the Department of Education.

On the city level, arts education advocacy organizations are looking to baseline \$41 million in arts education funding. An additional \$75 million is sought for arts education through the organizations that provide access to cultural organizations, artists, or instructors.

Item 3: Old Business

No items of old business were discussed.

Item 4: New Business

No items of new business were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Alida Camp, Chair