

AGENDA

MUNDELEIN ARTS COMMISSION MEETING

Village Hall - Room 101
300 Plaza Circle, Mundelein, IL 60060
February 17, 2025 - 7:00 PM

Please note that this meeting will be held in-person at the Mundelein Village Hall. The meeting will not be streamed electronically. If you cannot attend the meeting and you wish to submit a question or comment to be read during the public commentary portion of the meeting, please email your full name and your question or comment to cmalec@mundelein.org. Please put "Public Commentary" in the subject line. Comments received during the meeting, but after the public commentary portion has ended, will be provided to the Commission Members after the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ATTENDANCE

III. PUBLIC COMMENTARY

IV. MINUTES APPROVAL

- A. Approval of the October 21, 2024 Minutes
- B. Approval of the November 18, 2024 Minutes
- C. Approval of the January 20, 2025 Minutes

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Public Art Plan
- B. Lure of the Local

- C. Scholarship Program
- D. Indoor Art Program
- E. Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam
- F. Poetry Showcase
- G. S'Murals
- H. Stars on Parade
- I. Hand Sculpture
- J. Beautification Committee

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Community Band (C. Bayoneto)
- B. Percent for the Arts (S. Kalmanovsky)

VII. NEW BUSINESS AND PROJECT UPDATES

- A. Table at MHS Art Show
- B. New Business Cards
- C. ComEd Powering Communities Grant Program

D. ArtsLink North Directory (S. Esson)

VIII. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND UPDATES

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Village of Mundelein, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, to contact the ADA Coordinator at 847-949-3200 to allow the Village to arrange accommodations for those persons.

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mundelein Arts Commission was held on October 21, 2024. Staff called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

ATTENDANCE

Staff took attendance. It indicated as follows:

Commission Attendance:

PRESENT: Chairman Spicuzza, Commissioner Esson, Commissioner Bayoneto, Commissioner Justman, Commissioner Matousek, Commissioner Yim, Commissioner Woodard

ABSENT: Commissioner Kalmanovsky, Commissioner Koehler, Commissioner Smith

Village Attendance

PRESENT: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner; Jess Marvin, Associate Planner

ABSENT:

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There was no public commentary.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the September 16, 2024 Minutes

Motion by S. Esson, second by C. Bayoneto to approve the September 16, 2024 meeting minutes as amended.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Commissioner Sue Esson
SECONDER:	Commissioner Colleen Bayoneto
AYES:	Aurelia Spicuzza, Sue Esson, Jeff Justman, Colleen Bayoneto, Jon Matousek, Rachel Yim, Chris Woodard
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Art Plan (No Updates)

There were no updates.

A Christmas Carol

J. Matousek informed the Commission that he regrettably has to cancel this year's A Christmas Carol due to scheduling conflicts.

Lure of the Local

Textile Workshop at Lure of the Local

R. Yim updated the Commission on her past textile workshop, which she hosted at the Lure of the Local event space. After R. Yim taught the attendees how to crochet, each attendee created one section of a larger color wheel. She showed the Commission a few pictures of what the attendees created.

Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam

J. Justman informed the Commission that he would like to host the Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam on Sunday, August 17, 2025.

Indoor Art Collection (No Updates)

There were no updates.

S'Murals

C. Woodard updated the Commission on S'Murals and the next steps. She will create a call for artists for this program and, once she has collected a handful of artists, create a bank of artists. She will be a matchmaker between the artists and building/property owners. She is aiming for this project to start in the spring of 2025. Staff is currently working on proposing a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to change the regulations for murals.

Stars on Parade

C. Woodard will create a call for artists for the Marigolds, Monarchs, and Mexican Heritage star.

Earth Flight Sculpture (No updates)

There were no updates.

Hand Sculpture (No Updates)

There were no updates.

Writing Contest

After a lengthy discussion, the Commission has decided to table this project until February 2025.

Beautification Committee

C. Woodard gave the commission an update on the Beautification Committee and their upcoming projects.

OLD BUSINESS

D75 Brat Fest

There were no updates.

Mundelein Arts Festival Sponsorship

There were no updates.

Giant Holiday Ornaments (S. Esson)

There were no updates.

Community Band (C. Bayoneto)

There were no updates.

Percent for the Arts

There were no updates.

NEW BUSINESS AND PROJECT UPDATES

Craft Table at Winter Tree Lighting Ceremony

J. Matousek and C. Bayoneto have a MAC craft table at the Winter Tree Lighting Festival.

Motion by C. Bayoneto, seconded by S. Esson to approve \$120 for the Winter Tree Lighting Festival craft.

RESULT: **Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]**

MOVER:	Commissioner Colleen Bayoneto
SECONDER:	Commissioner Sue Esson
AYES:	Aurelia Spicuzza, Sue Esson, Jeff Justman, Colleen Bayoneto, Jon Matousek, Rachel Yim, Chris Woodard
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Commissioner Email Acknowledgment Form

Staff informed the Commission of the new email policy that the Administration Department is implementing. Staff provided the Commission with an acknowledgment form to sign once they have reviewed and set up their new email address account. J. Marvin will have training in November on how to set up the new email accounts.

2025 Meeting Calendar

The Commission reviewed the 2025 meeting dates and had no issues with the schedule.

Budget 2025-2026

After a lengthy discussion, the Commission will submit a budget proposal to increase its budget by \$1,000. The MAC's proposed requested FY 2025-2026 budget is \$28,500.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND UPDATES

The Commission has decided to cancel the December 16, 2024 regularly scheduled MAC meeting.

Motion by S. Esson, second by J. Matousek to cancel the December 16, 2024 regularly scheduled MAC meeting.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Commissioner Sue Esson
SECONDER:	Commissioner Jon Matousek
AYES:	Aurelia Spicuzza, Sue Esson, Jeff Justman, Colleen Bayoneto, Jon Matousek, Rachel Yim, Chris Woodard
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by J. Matousek, seconded by S. Esson to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Commissioner Jon Matousek
SECONDER:	Commissioner Sue Esson
AYES:	Aurelia Spicuzza, Sue Esson, Jeff Justman, Colleen Bayoneto, Jon Matousek, Rachel Yim, Chris Woodard
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Marvin, Associate Planner
Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mundelein Arts Commission was held on November 18, 2024. Staff called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

ATTENDANCE

Staff took attendance. It indicated as follows:

Commission Attendance

PRESENT: Chairman Spicuzza, Commissioner Esson, Commissioner Justman, Commissioner Bayoneto, Commissioner Kalmanovsky, Commissioner Yim, Commissioner Woodard

ABSENT: Commissioner Matousek, Commissioner Smith

Village Attendance

PRESENT: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner; Jessica Marvin, Associate Planner

Commissioner Koehler has resigned from the Mundelein Arts Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There was no public commentary.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the October 21, 2024 Minutes

The Commission did not review the minutes due to lack of quorum.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Art Plan (No Updates)

There were no updates.

Lure of the Local

C. Woodard and C. Bayoneto provided the Commission with an update regarding the final items of Lure of the Local. Most of the artwork has been picked up, but some artists' artwork is still on display and needs to be removed. J. Marvin will contact Kyle Berg at the Mundelein Park and Recreation District to obtain cellular data in order to determine how many attendees attended the opening night of Lure of the Local. We

received \$2,200 in donations through the opening night reception and the art supplies garage sale. The subcommittee has a remaining \$655 in their budget to use toward purchasing a piece of artwork from one of the artists in Lure of the Local. Staff will work with the subcommittee to find a location for the purchase award artwork and provide options at the January 20, 2025 meeting.

Scholarship Program

S. Esson provided the Commission with an update on the Mundelein High School Scholarship Program. The Commission had a lengthy discussion on the requirements applicants must fulfill before being considered for the scholarship.

Motion by R. Yim and seconded by S.Kalmanovsky to approve up to \$3,025 for the Mundelein High School Scholarship Program.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Commissioner Rachel Yim
SECONDER:	Commissioner Stacey Kalmanovsky
AYES:	Aurelia Spicuzza, Sue Esson, Jeff Justman, Colleen Bayoneto, Stacey Kalmanovsky, Rachel Yim, Chris Woodard
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam

J. Justman informed the Commission that he would like to host the Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam on Sunday, August 17, 2025.

S'Murals

C. Woodard updated the Commission on S'Murals and the next steps. She will create a call for artists for this program and, once she has collected a handful of artists, create a bank of artists. She will be a matchmaker between the artists and building/property owners. She is aiming for this project to start in the spring of 2025. Staff is currently working on proposing a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to change the regulations for murals.

Stars on Parade

C. Woodard will provide the Commission with an update regarding the Marigolds, Monarchs, and Mexican Heritage star.

Earth Flight Sculpture (No updates)

There were no updates.

Hand Sculpture

C. Malec informed the Commission that the artist of the Hand Sculpture has been uploading videos to YouTube of her sculpting the piece for the Commission to watch. Staff will promote her YouTube videos on MAC social media platforms.

Beautification Committee

C. Woodard gave the commission an update on the Beautification Committee and their upcoming projects.

OLD BUSINESS

Craft Table at Winter Tree Lighting Festival

The Commission has decided to participate in the Winter Tree Lighting Festival on Saturday, December 7, 2024, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

Giant Holiday Ornaments (S. Esson)

There were no updates.

Community Band (C. Bayoneto)

There were no updates.

Percent for the Arts

There were no updates.

Commissioner Email Policy and Mandatory Acknowledgement Form

Staff informed the Commission of the new email policy that the Administration Department is implementing. Staff provided the Commission with an acknowledgment form to sign once they have reviewed and set up their new email address account.

Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

After a lengthy discussion at the October meeting, the Commission will submit a budget proposal to increase its budget by \$1,000. The MAC's proposed requested FY 2025-2026 budget is \$28,500.

NEW BUSINESS AND PROJECT UPDATES

- J. Justman also proposed having a film contest around the same time as the Lure of the Local to document the event.
- R. Yim offered her assistance in finding and applying for grants for Mundelein Arts Commission projects and events.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND UPDATES

- J. Justman would like to host the Poetry Showcase on Sunday, August 24, 2025.
- S. Kalmanovsky would like staff to add the Indoor Art Collection to the January 20, 2025 meeting agenda.
- J. Marvin informed the Commission that the Mundelein Grand Prix falls on the July 21st MAC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by C. Bayoneto, seconded by J. Justman to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Commissioner Colleen Bayoneto
SECONDER:	Commissioner Jeff Justman
AYES:	Aurelia Spicuzza, Sue Esson, Jeff Justman, Colleen Bayoneto, Stacey Kalmanovsky, Rachel Yim, Chris Woodard
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
 Jessica Marvin, Associate Planner
 Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Mundelein Arts Commission was held on January 20, 2025. Chairperson Spicuzza called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE

A. Spicuzza took attendance. It indicated as follows:

Commission Attendance

PRESENT: Chairman Spicuzza, Commissioner Esson, Commissioner Woodard

ABSENT: Commissioner Justman, Commissioner Bayoneto, Commissioner Kalmanovsky, Commissioner Matousek, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Yim

Village Attendance

PRESENT: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner; Jessica Marvin, Associate Planner

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Mike Flynn from Mundelein Community Connection (MCC) and the Historical Commission informed the Commission about upcoming events hosted by MCC and the Historical Commission.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the October 21, 2024 Minutes

The Commission did not review the minutes due to lack of quorum.

Approval of the November 18, 2024 Minutes

The Commission did not review the minutes due to lack of quorum.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Art Plan (No Updates)

There were no updates.

Lure of the Local

The Commission had a brief discussion about a few items that need to be finalized.

Scholarship Program

S. Esson provided the Commission with an update on the Scholarship Program and stated that she will receive completed applications by February 14, 2024. Staff will reserve VH101 for the subcommittee to conduct interviews.

Indoor Art Program

There were no updates.

Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam

There were no updates.

Poetry Showcase

There were no updates.

S'Murals

C. Woodard updated the Commission on S'Murals and the next steps. She will create a call for artists for this program and, once she has collected a handful of artists, create a bank of artists. She will be a matchmaker between the artists and building/property owners. She is aiming for this project to start in the spring of 2025. Staff is currently working on proposing a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to change the regulations for murals.

Stars on Parade

C. Woodard and the staff are working on creating a call for artists flyer and will be publishing it within the upcoming weeks.

Hand Sculpture

There were no updates.

Beautification Committee

C. Woodard gave the commission an update on the Beautification Committee and their upcoming projects.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Band (C. Bayoneto)

There were no updates.

Percent for the Arts

There were no updates.

Craft Activity at Winter Tree Lighting Festival

There were no updates.

NEW BUSINESS AND PROJECT UPDATES

There was no new business to discuss.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND UPDATES

There were no questions, comments, or updates to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Marvin, Associate Planner
Recording Secretary

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Public Art Plan

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

No updates at this time.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Lure of the Local

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

Wrap up items to be addressed from Lure of the Local 2025:

- Set up subcommittee meeting to discuss notes for next year.
- Transcribe guestbook to create invite list for next year.
- Catalogue and send responses to all interested artists who filled out a form on the MAC webpage.
- Update the Lure webpage.
- S. Kalmanovsky expressed interest in a purchase award. For the MAC to discuss, she will provide:
 - Proposed location of artwork;
 - Artwork options and prices

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Scholarship Program

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

At the November meeting, the MAC approved the subcommittee's proposal and authorized \$3,025 (includes \$25 for certificates). Scholarship applications will be due February 14th. The subcommittee will report on any updates (S. Esson, C. Bayoneto, G. Smith).

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Indoor Art Program

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

S. Kalmanovsky will report on any updates. At prior meetings, the MAC discussed taking photos of location options for indoor artwork.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

J. Justman is working towards a 2025 Acoustic Music and Guitar Jam and will report on any updates.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Poetry Showcase

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

J. Justman will report on any updates.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: S'Murals

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

- The **mural database** will be a collection of artist names who are interested in installing murals. The idea is to have a “pool” of artists that we can reach out to for our own murals, but also a database we can share with private property owners that want to install their own murals (like a “matchmaking” service for public art). An email is drafted, and the next step is to gather email contacts, which C. Woodard will assist with as soon as those documents are available. C. Woodard will collect interest in the **mural database** by first emailing all our artist contacts:
 - Lure of the Local artists
 - Lure guestbook entries (that identified as artists)
 - Interested artists that have contacted the MAC over the years (Staff has a list)
- **S'Murals** is a proposed MAC-funded series of small murals, which is anticipated to be a 2025 project. C. Woodard will start identifying sites, and then the MAC needs to discuss a budget. A subcommittee should be created down the road for artist selection. The “Call for Artists” will be sent to any artists that have joined the mural database.
 - **Greg's Frozen Custard** expressed interest in being one of the locations considered for a S'Mural.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Stars on Parade

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

1. ROUGH DRAFT - Call for Artist - 2025

Background:

The MAC is collaborating on a star with the Beautification Committee, which is also sponsored by Flowerama (\$200). The star was completed by Chicago Fiberglass Works, and C. Woodard picked it up and dropped it off at Public Works. Next step is a Call for Artists - the DRAFT flyer is attached, which is not fully complete. This will be marketed on social media and direct emailed to contacts who may be interested.

Recommendation:

Stars on Parade

CALL FOR ARTISTS!

Seeking
artist for a
new star!

STAR THEME: MARIGOLDS, MONARCHS AND MEXICAN HERITAGE



Proposed Location: Courtland Commons

Make your mark on the latest addition to the Mundelein Arts Commission's Stars on Parade! The star is **jointly sponsored** by the **MAC**, the **Beautification Committee** and **Flowerama**.

The Aztecs revered marigolds, using them in various rituals, festivities and artistic endeavors. Marigolds take center stage during the annual celebration of Dia de Los Muertos, the Day of the Dead, and have become a symbol of Mexican pride and unity.

As winter approaches, monarch butterflies migrate to Mexico; their arrival coincides with Dia de Los Muertos. The indigenous people of Mexico believed that monarch butterflies were the souls of their ancestors returning for the annual celebration.

HOW TO APPLY

See terms and apply online:
www.mundelein.org/stars

DEADLINE TO APPLY

March 3, 2025

COMPENSATION

\$500 Artist Honorarium (must
provide own supplies)

The MAC seeks an artist to interpret these themes in the newest star which will be on display at the pollinator garden in Courtland Commons.

For questions, contact cmalec@mundelein.org or (847) 949-3289.

QR


Mundelein
Arts Commission


MUNDELEIN
BEAUTIFICATION
COMMITTEE

FLOWERAMA


To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Hand Sculpture

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

The artist, Meg White, is still midway through working on the hand sculpture. She continues to share regular YouTube videos from her channel about its making, found at www.youtube.com/@possmom8. The MAC should consider sharing an update with the public with some video clips.



Next Steps:

- Work with MAC, Public Works, and artist on refining the final location within the Pollinator Garden.
- Secure additional concrete footer quotes (already received two for \$2,800 and \$5,400).
- Have concrete footer installed in advance of artwork delivery.
- Determine a name for the sculpture – a community naming contest was discussed previously.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Beautification Committee

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

C. Woodard will report on any updates.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Community Band (C. Bayoneto)

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

C. Bayoneto will report on any updates.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Percent for the Arts (S. Kalmanovsky)

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

S. Kalmanovsky will report on any updates.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: Table at MHS Art Show

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

An Arts Commissioner received a message from MHS inviting the MAC to have a table at their student art show. The MAC should discuss whether to participate.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: New Business Cards

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

The Commissioners' business cards are now outdated because they have the old email address (jdoe@email.mundelein.org). Please note that the former email addresses no longer function, and Commissioners are asked to communicate using the new email address assigned to them (jdoe.arts@mundelein.org).

If the MAC would like to purchase new boxes of business cards, they are \$70/person and would come out of the MAC budget.

Recommendation:

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: ComEd Powering Communities Grant Program

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

1. ComEd - Community Funding

Background:

See the attached flyer from ComEd regarding their Powering Communities grant program. The grant has a “Powering the Arts” category for projects that increase access to arts programs in northern Illinois. The MAC should discuss if there are any existing projects or ideas that might qualify. Terms of the grant:

1. Grants are up to \$10,000 each. ComEd is awarding a total of \$535,000 this year across all categories.
2. Municipalities qualify for the grant, which ComEd confirmed on social media.
3. Applications are due by March 28, 2025 at 5:00 PM.
4. Ideal arts grant applications increase access to the arts to create a positive impact on the vibrancy of local communities. Grants should support initiatives and workshops to boost public awareness, community programming, engagement, and enjoyment of the arts.
5. A summary of 2024 grant recipients can be found here:
<https://www.comed.com/news/news-releases/2024-09-26>
 1. NOTE: It appears that most (if not all) grantee projects are for programs and events. There do not appear to be any grantees awarded for public art or other physical art installations.

Recommendation:

Contact: ComEd
Media Relations
312-394-3500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ComEd Offering \$535,000 in Grant Funding for Community-Oriented Projects Across Northern Illinois

Annual Powering Communities Grant Program provides grants of up to \$10,000 each to improve infrastructure and support community organizations in Illinois

CHICAGO (Jan. 21, 2025) – ComEd today announced that municipal and community organizations in northern Illinois can now apply for the 2025 Powering Communities Grant Program, which advances environmental initiatives; accelerates public safety and clean transportation projects; and increases access to arts programs in communities ComEd serves. Organizations are encouraged to apply for one of the three annual grant programs: Green Region, Powering Safe Communities, and Powering the Arts. Qualifying proposals are eligible for grants of up to \$10,000 each.

Organizations interested in applying for the Powering Communities Grant Program should visit [ComEd.com/Grants](https://comed.com/grants) for more information, including how to apply for funding. Applications will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. CST on March 28, 2025.

“At ComEd, we do more than make sure the lights stay on—we power communities,” said **[Melissa Washington](#)**, senior vice president of customer operations and strategic initiatives at ComEd. “We are thankful for our partnerships with Openlands, the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and the League of Chicago Theatres which allow us to support important projects that help improve the quality of life in the northern Illinois neighborhoods in which we live and work.”

The annual competitive grants program is part of ComEd's comprehensive investment in the communities it serves. Since its origin, these programs have delivered over \$5.3 million in funding to support hundreds of local community-based projects.

The **Green Region Grant Program**, in partnership with [Openlands](#), supports non-profit, educational, and public organizations in their efforts to plan for, protect, and improve open space. Now in its thirteenth year, the grant program has supported the development of ADA-accessible trails, planted thousands of trees and vegetation, and facilitated land improvements, among other projects. A summary of 2024 Green Region grant recipients can be found [here](#).

“Nature makes everything better. We are proud of our continued partnership with ComEd to support nature-based projects that increase community livability, improve our physical and mental health, and make our ecosystems more resilient,” said **Michael Davidson**,

President and CEO of Openlands. “To ensure our region remains competitive in the face of environmental and socioeconomic change, we must all do our part to support building greener communities.”

The **Powering Safe Communities Grant Program**, in partnership with the [Metropolitan Mayors Caucus](#), supports public safety and clean transportation initiatives. These grants support projects designed to increase public safety, reduce carbon emissions and improve community resiliency. A summary of 2024 Powering Safe Communities grant recipients can be found [here](#).

“The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is proud to continue our partnership with ComEd for the eleventh year through the Powering Safe Communities Grant Program,” **said Neil James, Executive Director at Metropolitan Mayors Caucus.** “This program provides our communities with the infrastructure and financial support needed to create a cleaner and safer future. This year, grant funding will help promote safety, improve air quality and support an electrified future in northern Illinois.”

The **Powering the Arts Grant Program**, in partnership with the [League of Chicago Theatres](#), recognizes that increased access to the arts has a positive impact on the vibrancy of local communities. These grants support initiatives and workshops across northern Illinois communities to boost public awareness, community programming, engagement and enjoyment of the arts. A summary of 2024 Powering the Arts grant recipients can be found [here](#).

“The League of Chicago Theatres is excited to continue this partnership with ComEd,” **said Marissa Lynn Jones, executive director of the League of Chicago Theatres.** “Funding from this grant enables communities and organizations the ability to finance innovative ways to reach their communities through art. Thank you to ComEd for its ongoing commitment to supporting diverse, well-rounded communities in northern Illinois. We are thrilled to enter the eighth year of the program.”

For more information on each grant program, including eligibility guidelines and how to apply, visit ComEd.com/Grants.

###

ComEd is a unit of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation (NASDAQ: EXC), a Fortune 200 energy company serving more than 10.5 million electricity and natural gas customers—the largest number of customers in the U.S. ComEd [powers the lives](#) of more than 4 million customers across northern Illinois, or 70 percent of the state’s population. For more information, visit ComEd.com, and connect with the company on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#) and [YouTube](#).

To: Mayor and Board of Trustees

From: Colleen Malec, Senior Planner

For: Mundelein Arts Commission Meeting of February 17, 2025

Subject: ArtsLink North Directory (S. Esson)

Financial Impact:

Attachments:

None

Background:

S. Esson found the ArtsLink North Directory, which is a directory of northern Illinois arts events, attractions, businesses, and organizations: <https://artslinknorth.com>. She suggests that we add the MAC to the directory.

Recommendation: