

ALAMEDA COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION

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PRESS RELEASE

Announcing the 2024 Arts Leadership Award Recipients and Alameda County Board of Supervisors' Commendation Event on October 1, 2024

(Oakland, CA) – The [Alameda County Arts Commission](https://arts.acgov.org) is pleased to announce that the 2024 Alameda County Arts Leadership Award recipients are Judy Anglin, Dmitry Grudsky, Paul Keim, Lani Llamido, Graham Lustig and Lorrie Murray. The six arts leaders are being recognized for their achievements and contributions impacting the arts community and residents of Alameda County. The award recipients will be honored by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors with commendations presented in conjunction with the County's celebration of October as National Arts and Humanities Month. The commendations will be presented during the Board of Supervisors' meeting on Tuesday, October 1, at approximately 11:00am. Members of the public may participate in-person at the County Board Chambers located at 1221 Oak Street, 5th Floor, Oakland. Alternatively, members of the public may choose to view the meeting and participate remotely through Zoom teleconferencing. For information about the meeting, please visit the Alameda County Board of Supervisors' website at bos.acgov.org.

Each year the appointed members of the Alameda County Arts Commission review nominations submitted by the public for the Alameda County Arts Leadership Award program and then select the award recipients. The goal is to honor an arts leader in each of the five districts of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors. During the Arts Commission's selection process, there was a tie-vote. This resulted in awarding two individuals in County District Two. In total, six individuals are receiving the 2024 Alameda County Arts Leadership Award. The Alameda County Arts Commission acknowledges all of the individuals who were nominated for this award program. Additionally, the Arts Commission thanks the Alameda County community members who submitted the nominations.



Judy Anglin is the Arts Leadership Award recipient for District One of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Judy Anglin is a long-time Board Member and dedicated Volunteer of the Olive Hyde Art Guild which was founded in 1972. Judy has been a cornerstone of the Olive Hyde Art Guild, championing its mission to support the City of Fremont's Olive Hyde Art Gallery and promoting the visual arts within schools and throughout the Fremont community. For over 40 years, Judy has been an active volunteer and has held numerous positions on the Board of Directors, including three years as Board President. Currently, Judy leads a talented team in orchestrating the Guild's annual holiday fundraiser which is now in its 40th year. Judy also plays a vital role in fundraising by gaining sponsors, grant support, and donations. She collaborates on the annual Serra Center Art Workshop for developmentally disabled adults, and leads the Guild's bi-annual Members Juried Show. A talented watercolor artist herself, Judy takes particular pride in the Guild's efforts to provide art supplies, awards, and books to underserved children, youth, and seniors, enriching their lives through the power of art. Judy's unwavering commitment ensures the successful continuation of this important organization and the appreciation for the visual arts. Judy Anglin is a resident of Fremont.



Dmitry Grudsky is one of two Arts Leadership Award recipients for District Two of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Dmitry Grudsky is a Newark Visual Artist, Art Instructor and Community Volunteer working with many local groups and arts organizations in Alameda County. Dmitry specializes in watercolor painting and mosaic art. He has created an extensive number of mosaic tile public artworks for public schools, organizations and community spaces in Hayward, Fremont, Livermore, Berkeley and more. In addition to his community public art projects, he is also an art instructor who conducts classes, workshops, and demonstrations at many arts and education organizations throughout this region. Dmitry exhibits his paintings locally, nationally and internationally. As the result of his extensive career, he received signature member status at several prestigious art associations including the Society of West Coast Artists, Northwest Watercolor Society, and California Watercolor Society. A resident of the Bay Area for over 30 years, Dmitry's local landscapes remind him of his native Uzbekistan. Dmitry is inspired by discovering new places, experiencing and observing nature, and meeting new people. He continues to develop new ways to share his art and to

encourage others to make art with the goal of positive change in our community. Dmitry Grudsky is a resident of Newark.



Lani Llamido is one of two Arts Leadership Award recipients for District Two of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Lani Llamido is a Board Member of the Hayward Arts Council, an Advocate for the Hayward Literacy Plus Council, and Lead Coordinator for the Asian and Pacific Islander Community Initiative of the Hayward Unified School District (HUSD). Lani's work with the Hayward Arts Council includes the founding and coordination of the organization's international online exhibition program. She also volunteers at exhibitions and events and conducts fundraising initiatives with a focus on supporting family art classes and activities. Her decade-long commitment to the Hayward Literacy Plus Council has been instrumental in creating impactful newsletters and launching the organization's website in 2023. She was instrumental in the creation of HUSD's Asian Pacific Islander Community Initiative and the Filipino-American Students Coalition. Her goal is to support and serve Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students and families. As a certified Human Rights Consultant, Lani advocates for underserved immigrant communities, guiding them through the complex justice system and ensuring access to immigration and special education services. Empowering change through literacy, arts, and education, Lani Llamido is a dedicated and passionate community leader and organizer. Lani Llamido is a resident of Hayward.



Lorrie Murray is the Arts Leadership Award recipient for District Three of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Lorrie Murray is the Founder and Executive Director for the Bay Area Music Project (BAMP) in the City of Alameda. BAMP was founded in 2014 and is a nonprofit organization focused on enriching the lives of children and families in under-resourced communities through accessible and transformative music education. The organization began as a small choir class at a single site and developed into a full orchestra, vocal and electronic music program providing programs across five sites and serving over 250 children each year. Before founding BAMP, Lorrie was a key member of the design team at Maya Lin School in the City of Alameda. The school is recognized for its innovative arts-integrated curriculum, emphasizing the creative process as central to learning. Lorrie's professional journey includes 25 years in the music industry, where

she excelled as a concert promoter, tour manager, and stage performer. Her deep involvement in the Bay Area music scene revealed to her the profound impact of music and art in uniting and uplifting communities. She is a dedicated advocate for arts education, passionately committed to using music as a catalyst for social change. Lorrie Murray is a resident of the City of Alameda.



Paul Keim is the Arts Leadership Award recipient for District Four of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Paul Keim is the Founder and Director of Smalltown Society in Castro Valley. As a dedicated songwriter, and community organizer, in 2016 Paul founded Smalltown Society, a nonprofit arts organization in Castro Valley. In this role, Paul has curated over 500 events that provide vital opportunities for local artists, musicians, and filmmakers to connect and thrive. With a passion for justice and social change, he has cultivated a vibrant arts community focused on equity, inclusion and inspiration. Smalltown Society is a hub for creativity and community, offering opportunities for artistic expression, collaboration, and social engagement. Under Paul's leadership, Smalltown has empowered individuals from diverse backgrounds, revitalized essential community spaces like Castro Valley's Chabot Theater, led civic initiatives that connect artistic expression with social change, and secured substantial funding to sustain these efforts. Paul has also worked in collaboration with the Castro Valley/Eden Area Chamber of Commerce, Castro Valley High School, League of Women Voters, and others to bring arts engagement activities to the community. His commitment has made Smalltown Society a cornerstone of social and artistic life in Alameda County's unincorporated area. Paul Keim is a resident of Castro Valley.



Graham Lustig is the Arts Leadership Award recipient for District Five of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

Graham Lustig is the Artistic Director of the Oakland Ballet Company (OBC) which was founded in 1965. Graham has led the organization since 2010 and believes it is essential that the diversity of Oakland and Alameda County is reflected in all of its activities. Graham has created groundbreaking programs for the OBC including *Dancing Moons Festival*, America's first AAPI artist showcase, *Luna Mexicana* – a Dia de los Muertos celebration, and *Rainbow Dances* - an LGBTQ showcase. These programs celebrate our diversity and challenge concepts of how a ballet-based dance organization can more authentically serve its community.

Graham has choreographed over 90 original ballets and operas, and commissioned over 100 new dance works in a series of wide-ranging collaborations. He has coached and inspired a generation of new dance artists. Through his robust enrichment programs, young students have assured access to the arts at no cost. An arts advocate, Graham is a founding member of the Artists Committee for Americans for the Arts and served as panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts Dance and Policy Panel. Throughout his career, Graham has redefined ballet as a dynamic and inclusive art form. Graham Lustig resides in Oakland.

For more information about the program or the award recipients, please contact the Alameda County Arts Commission at (510) 208-9646 or by email at artscommission@acgov.org

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