

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL COMMISSION
MEETING**



**The Mission of the Town of Yucca Valley is to
provide a government that is responsive to its citizens
to ensure a safe and secure environment
while maintaining the highest quality of life.**

**PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL COMMISSION: 5:30 PM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**

**Yucca Valley Community Center - Yucca Room
57090 Twentynine Palms Hwy
Yucca Valley, CA 92284**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95387920693?pwd=fjIycilrIBHvte8cr1FLs2rzzRrXLE.1>

Meeting ID: 953 8792 0693 Passcode: 421210

Use the above link to virtually access the meeting. You will automatically be muted upon entry. During the meeting, participants will be prompted to “raise hand” or inform the meeting moderator when wishing to make a public comment. Comment time is limited to 3 minutes or as instructed by the Mayor/Chair. If any technical difficulties occur resulting in lack of connectivity or virtual streaming, the in-person meeting will continue to proceed.

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* * * *

Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission

Jeff Brady, Chair

Matt Rauch, Vice Chair

Charlotte Burns, Commissioner

Matt Rauch, Commissioner

Megan Ripley, Commissioner

* * * *

TOWN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE:

760-369-7207

Public Comments: townclerk@yucca-valley.org

www.yucca-valley.org

AGENDA
MEETING OF THE PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025, 5:30 PM

The Town of Yucca Valley complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you require special assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please call the Town Clerk's Office at (760) 369-7209 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting

The meeting agenda packet is available for public view in the Town Hall lobby and on the Town's website at www.yucca-valley.org prior to the meeting. For more information on an agenda item or the agenda process, please contact the Town Clerk's office at (760) 369-7209 ext. 226.

If you wish to comment on any agenda item or on any subject not on the agenda during public comments, please fill out a request to speak card and give to the Town Clerk/Commission Secretary. Comment time is limited to 3 minutes.

Where appropriate or deemed necessary, action may be taken on any item listed in the agenda.

OPENING CEREMONIES:

Opening Ceremonies

Oath for Megan Ripley by Town Clerk Lesley Copeland

Call to Order

Roll Call

Commissioners Burns, Rauch, Ripley and Chair Brady

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by

Presentation

Approval of Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda

Consent Agenda

All items listed on the consent calendar are considered to be routine matters or are considered formal documents covering previous Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission instruction. The items listed on the consent calendar may be enacted by one motion and a second. There will be no separate discussion of the consent calendar items unless a member of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission or Town Staff requests discussion on specific consent calendar items at the beginning of the meeting. Public requests to comment on consent calendar items should be filed with the Commission Secretary before the consent calendar is called.

2. **Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission Meeting Minutes of August 13, 2025**

Department Reports

3. PRCC - Commission Meeting Schedule

Recommendation:

Discuss and inform staff of the Commission's preference regarding meeting days and times.

4. 2025-26 Youth Commission Appointments

Recommendation:

That the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission approve the 40 listed candidates for appointment to the 2025-26 Youth Commission, waiving the 20-person limit, and directing staff to forward the recommended appointments to the Town Council.

5. Public Art Program – Utility Box Program, Public Comment Review

Recommendation:

That the Commission approve and accept the submissions of the selected artists as the recommended Utility Box Program artwork, based on the completion of the public comment period, and direct staff to forward the recommendation to the Town Council.

Future Agenda Items

Public Comments

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission takes this time to consider your comments on items of concern which are not on the agenda. When you are called to speak, please state your name and community of residence. Please limit your comments to 3 minutes or less. Inappropriate behavior which disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting will result in forfeiture of your public comment privileges. The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission is prohibited by State law from taking action or discussion items not on the printed agenda.

Staff Reports and Comments

Commissioner Reports and Comments

Announcements

Upcoming Meeting Schedule: The next regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission will be held on Wednesday, October 8th, 2025 at 5:30 PM in the Yucca Valley Community Center Yucca Room.

Adjournment

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 13, 2025**

OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jeff Brady called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Burns, Rauch, Chair Brady

PRESENT: Brady, Burns, Rauch

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Ryan Scott

PRESENTATION

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation:

Approve the meeting agenda as prepared.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Matt Rauch, Vice Chair

SECONDER: Jeff Brady, Chair

AYES: Jeff Brady, Charlotte Burns, Matt Rauch

CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Matt Rauch, Vice Chair

SECONDER: Jeff Brady, Chair

AYES: Jeff Brady, Charlotte Burns, Matt Rauch

- 1. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission - Regular Meeting - Jun 11, 2025 5:30 PM**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- 2. Fall/Winter 2025-26 Planned Programs - Community Services Dept**

Sue Earnest, Community Services Manager, introduced the staff report. The Community Services staff developed the 2025-26 Fall/Winter programming and will need PRC

Commission approval to forward to the Town Council. The programming covers the months of October 2025 through March 2026. The guide will go to print at the end of August, with distribution mid-September throughout the community and a digital flipbook posted on the Town website. All proposed programs are listed in the attachment to the staff report.

Clayton Rardon, Recreation Supervisor, presented the special events portion of the staff report.

Clayton Rardon- Most of the events are a repeat of the of last year. One of the new events is the Founders Plaza event. In Public Art, the Coyote Call will be launching this year as well as a new mural program.

Sue Earnest- We have the Spooktacular coming up, the Murder Mystery Dinner, and Movies in the Courtyard. I want to point out that the Morongo Basin Veterans Tribute is an event that is hosted alternately with 29 Palms. We host the even years, and 29 Palms does it on the odd years, so it will take place in 29 Palms this year. This agreement has been in place for many years to prevent hosting competing events. It has been working well, and we like to support the 29 event by featuring it in our guide.

Clayton Rardon- I wanted to also let the PRC Commission know that the term for the Youth Commission has also been extended to align better with the school year.

Jessica Cuna, Administrative Assistant III, presented the enrichment classes portion of the staff report.

Jessica Cuna- We have a couple changes to the lineup. One of our classes opted to change the class name from Open Studio Art to Arts and Craft Club to help participants differentiate from the Watercolor Workshop class. We are introducing a monthly gardening workshop where participants can learn some tips and tricks. Another new class is 60's Music Appreciation, where students can learn about the music of that era. After offering a successful Lego Engineering class, our instructor is hosting a Science of the Future course for kids where they will learn about different technologies and take home self-made projects. Unfortunately, we will no longer offer the Thursday Bridge class as the instructor is no longer available and attendance has been low. The rest of the spring/summer classes will continue through the fall/winter season.

Jakub Kusmieruk, Recreation Supervisor, presented the sports and fitness portion of the staff report.

Jakub Kusmieruk- Good evening Chair and Commission. For Youth Basketball we introduced our Pee Wee League last year. It was highly successful, so we are bringing it back this season. We are extending our adult basketball program through October and November as we have had over 400 drop-ins since we initiated the program. In addition, this season we are adding a night of adult softball on Wednesdays. Pickleball will continue with clinics and the addition of a Pickleball Mindset class. We are also introducing a Cornhole Tournament in October as well as hiking programs featuring guided hikes in our local parks.

Sue Earnest presented the Senior Center programming portion of the staff report. She commented that the Senior Center programs continue to operate at the temporary

Senior Center location and the community center. She shared that the Senior Center Modernization project is on schedule to be completed by the end of the year. Senior Center membership has increased 14% and the activities are doing well at the temporary location and in the community center. Tai Chi, Senior Exercise classes, lectures, art programs , and other activities are going strong. Recreation Leader Nena McCullough is going to be awarded the Above and Beyond Award by the Basin Wide Foundation later this month. That is on top of the Best of the Best Awards the center has been earning over the years. The Senior Center is doing great.

Celeste Hilderbrand, Museum Supervisor, presented the museum programs. Celeste Hilderbrand- We have three exhibits scheduled for this fall and winter season. The three are Avis Marvelous, Nature's Blueprints, and Wondrous Waste. Two of our art programs will be tied to that exhibit. We will also offer a From Dusk to Dawn Nocturnal Animals' Trick or Treating walk-through for Spooktacular. We will host a hands-on STEAM workshop, and we recently offered a solar oven workshop last weekend that was for all ages. The next STEAM workshop will be Food Chain Forensics. We will continue with the lecture series based on entomology, and will offer Jr. Naturalist Spring Camps during spring break.

Vice Chair Rauch- The museum programming has exploded; this is great work. Sue Earnest shared that Museum staff will be attending Back to School Nights around the basin. She also explained that Town is on a two-year budget, and we are currently on year two. We will be working on the next two-year budget in the coming months which will include the Aquatic and Recreation Center programming.

No Public Comment

Commissioners Comments/Questions:

Vice Chair Rauch- We are doing so much more programming - it is noticeable. Our staff has grown and increased our ability to produce a wide range of very high quality programming. I know it comes with a lot more work and responsibilities, thank you and great work.

Chair Brady-It is amazing. I have been on this commission for six years. We wouldn't be able to do it without the staff, you all do a wonderful job. It is great to be providing opportunities for people of the Morongo Basin and it doesn't happen without great staff.

Commissioner Burns- I am really excited, especially about the Cornhole Tournament. My mom is a birder, so she will be excited about all the bird programming the Museum is offering. Everything is wonderful, thank you for all the hard work.

MOTION:

Approve the Fall/Winter 2025-26 programs and events organized and conducted by the Community Services Department as well as the accompanying budget adjustment recommendation, and direct staff to forward the recommendation to the Town Council.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Matt Rauch, Vice Chair
SECONDER: Jeff Brady, Chair
AYES: Jeff Brady, Charlotte Burns, Matt Rauch

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Vice Chair Rauch- I know we have new members coming to the Commission. I want to see if we can look at a different time or day to hold our meetings? I am starting a graduate program on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights. If I am to continue with the PRC Commission, it would have to be Thursday nights, if possible. I don't say that lightly because I know staff have schedules. I am sorry to have to throw that out there.

Sue Earnest- It is customary for the Commission to review meeting days and times when new members come in so we will add the item to the agenda. The Town Council is scheduled to make the new appointments at the next Town Council meeting. We were hoping to have a full commission by September.

Chair Brady- Where are we with the Military Banner Program?

Clayton Rardon- The website page is nearly completed. And we are preparing an online application process that will feature a application period leading up to hopefully having the banners up by Veterans Day.

Sue Earnest- The banner program will be included in the upcoming guide.

Chair Brady- With the Founders Plaza at Old Town being open, now would be a good time to look at the process and how the Founders recognition process is going to look like.

Sue Earnest- We have that program on our future agenda items list and hope to have it ready for the September or October meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

In order to assist in the orderly and timely conduct of the meeting, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission takes this time to consider your comments on items of concern which are not on the agenda. When you are called to speak, please state your name and community of residence. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes or less. Inappropriate behavior which disrupts, disturbs or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting will result in forfeiture of your public comment privileges. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission is prohibited by State law from taking action or discussing items not included on the printed agenda.

Britney K.- I would like to know if there is any discussion of additional activities that will be at the new YVARC such as water polo, water volleyball etc.

Sue Earnest, Community Services Manager- The programs approved this evening are for the upcoming fall and winter season only. The YVARC is scheduled to open in fall of 2026. We don't have details to share about the programming for the center just yet.

Susan Earnest, Community Services Manager- I would like to recognize Ryan Scott. He has been a part of the Town family for a very long time. He started out with the Recreation Department. We wanted to thank him, and we will miss him. The best of luck at UC Riverside.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chair Brady-Mojave Gold is open, and I saw the mural. It looks great, that was very exciting to see. Thank you, Ryan, for putting up with all my nonsense about public comments online. Good luck in Riverside and congrats to Nena for her award from Basin Wide Foundation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

The next regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10th at 5:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed at 6:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Cuna
Commission Secretary

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

To: Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission
From: Sue Earnest, Community Services Manager
Date: September 5, 2025
For Commission Meeting: September 10, 2025

Subject: Commission Meeting Schedule

Prior Commission Review: None

Recommendation: Discuss and inform staff of the Commission’s preference regarding meeting days and times.

Order of Procedure:

- Request Staff Report
- Request Public Comment
- Commission Discussion / Questions of Staff
- Motion and Second
- Discussion on motion
- Call the Question (Roll Call Vote)

Discussion:

Currently the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Per ordinance, the PRCC meets monthly - therefore, if there is a lack of agenda items for a particular month, a meeting cancellation notice is issued by the Town Clerk. In 2024, the commission held meetings in nine of the twelve months. Certain months of the year are traditional meeting times for the commission due to time-sensitive approvals that are required, other meetings are scheduled to attend to the Town’s active Public Art Programs. Scheduling other items is flexible. Some typically scheduled agenda items include:

- February: Spring/Summer Programs Review
- March: Chair/Vice Chair Selections
- May: Youth Commission End of Term Report
- June/July: Fall/Winter Programs Review
- September: Youth Commission Appointments
- October: Annual Facility Waiver Report

Recently, a new commission member has been appointed, and a sitting commission member’s availability has changed. For the convenience of the commissioners, staff is proposing a discussion

Reviewed By: _____ _____ _____ _____
 Town Manager Town Attorney Mgmt Services Dept Head

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing
<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minute Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Receive and File	<input type="checkbox"/> Study Session

of the meeting time and days. Several issues could be considered if a schedule change is desired, including;

- Commissioner convenience
- Convenience for the public
- Meeting room availability and conflict with Town Council and other Commission meetings
- Town Council, Town Manager preference
- Staff schedules
- Review of current state guidelines on remote attendance

Previous discussions have included a desire to avoid Tuesday evenings due to Town Council and Planning Commission meeting conflicts, consideration of member work schedules and commutes to ensure ease of attendance, and evaluation of remote attendance opportunities. Currently, state law provides for remote participation only under “just cause” and emergency circumstances, and additional rules apply when the remote attendance option is being exercised.

The recommendation is that the commission discuss preferences regarding meetings days and times and inform staff if a change is desired.

Alternatives: Move to change Commission meeting dates and/or time.
Decline to change the meeting time.

Fiscal impact: None

Attachments: None

Item: 4.

**Town of Yucca Valley
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission Staff Report**



To: Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission

From: Clayton Rardon, Recreation Supervisor

Date: September 4, 2025

Meeting Date: September 10, 2025

Subject: 2025-26 Youth Commission Appointments

Recommendation:

That the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission approve the 40 listed candidates for appointment to the 2025-26 Youth Commission, waiving the 20-person limit, and directing staff to forward the recommended appointments to the Town Council.

Prior Review:

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission reviews and recommends Youth Commission appointments annually at the beginning of the term.

Executive Summary:

The Town Council established the Youth Commission to be appointed annually to serve as an advisory group to provide recommendations on youth-related issues in Yucca Valley. The Council has appointed the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission to make recommendations for appointment and to oversee the activities of the Youth Commission. For the 2025-26 Term the Youth Commission will hold their first meeting on October 6th (two months earlier) to better align with the school year. The Term will also end earlier to avoid conflicts that can arise with the end-of-year testing, activities, graduation, etc.

Discussion:

The Yucca Valley Youth Commission was established in 1995. The commission consists of young people in grades 7 through 12. The Council established the Youth Commission to serve as an advisory group to provide recommendations on youth related issues. As the Council-appointed overseers of the Youth Commission activities, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission has traditionally reviewed the Youth Commission applications and made a recommendation for appointment.

On December 15, 2020, the Town Council amended Chapter 4.12 of the Town of Yucca Valley Municipal Code eliminating the requirement that Youth Commission members attend school in Yucca Valley. This change allowed students who may attend other schools to remain eligible.

On April 20, 2010 the Town Council approved a recommendation from the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission amending Chapter 4.12 of the Town of Yucca Valley Municipal Code limiting the number of Youth Commissioners to a maximum of 20 members. The Council also directed staff to work with the PRCC to develop equitable procedures for the selection of Youth Commissioners. On July 13, 2010, the PRCC adopted a selection process which included the following criteria:

- A. Applications will be accepted beginning August 1 each year for appointment to the Youth Commission for the subsequent school year.
- B. Youth Commission applications will require a supplemental narrative detailing the candidate’s interest in serving on the Commission, and two letters of recommendation from teachers, coaches, or other responsible adults.
- C. Youth Commissioners will be limited to serving no more than three consecutive terms if the number of applicants exceeds the number of authorized seats.
- D. Every effort shall be made to establish a representation of the most schools and grades in recommending Youth Commission appointees.
- E. Returning Youth Commissioners must be recommended for reappointment by CS Department staff. The candidate’s prior service will be the basis for such recommendation.

The Town received a total of 40 applications for the 2025-26 Youth Commission. The applicants are as follows:

	Applicant Name	Grade	School	Prior Service
1	Acacia Smith	12th	YVHS	4
2	Richard Abbott	11th	YVHS	4
3	Avneet Kaur	10th	YVHS	3
4	Sophia Abbott	11th	YVHS	3
5	Taylor Soares	11th	YVHS	3
6	Gary Abbott	9th	YVHS	2
7	George Wingerter	11th	iLead	2
8	Jaleah Falcon	10th	YVHS	2
9	Kalea Powell	12th	LUOA	2
10	Milo Danza	9th	GMCS	2
11	Peanut AridaSanchez	12th	LAHS	2
12	Abigail Wegner	11th	FLA	1
13	Anjelah Miranda	11th	OFYD	1
14	Delilah Hazell	10th	YVHS	1
15	Ethan Youngman	9th	YVHS	1
16	Jackson Flanders	8th	LCMS	1
17	Maxton McMahan	8th	LCMS	1
18	Vanessa Cifuentes	12th	YVHS	1
19	Valorie Cantos	7th	LCMS	new
20	Izabella Powell	8th	LCMS	new
21	Jamison E. Jones	8th	LCMS	new
22	Kyra Collins	8th	ACCE	new

23	Nicolas Musch	8th	iLead	new
24	Nora Wolfe	8th	LCMS	new
25	Chloe Ortiz	12th	YVHS	new
26	Vince Hernandez	12th	YVHS	new
27	Rakeem Cortes	12th	YVHS	new
28	Isabella R. Paulino	11th	YVHS	new
29	Brandon Wheeler	12th	YVHS	new
30	Yoatd Cazares	12th	YVHS	new
31	Myla Krenelka	7th	LCMS	new
32	Joseph Paulino	9th	YVHS	new
33	Bryli M. Doty	8th	YVHS	new
34	Sonora R. Atwater	8th	LCMS	new
35	Diego Vazquez	12th	YVHS	new
36	Trenity Keele	8th	Acellus	new
37	Wayne Keele	9th	Acellus	new
38	Talia Soares	7th	LCMS	new
39	Josephine Ripley	7th	Sage Oak	new
40	Chanelle Gephart	12th	YVHS	new

Staff read the 40 applications and found the entire group to be an excellent representation of our local youth. The group is a broad mix of grades and schools, with 26 high school and 14 middle school applicants representing 12 schools. It also represents a combination of new and experienced members, with 22 new applicants and 18 former Youth Commissioners wishing to return.

Although the ordinance limits the commission to 20 members, staff can structure the program to accommodate 20 additional members. The PRC Commission has approved over-enrollment in the past, most recently for the 2025-26 Youth Commission of 26 members. If a reduction to 20 members is desired, staff can recommend a path to establish appointees and alternates.

The Commission is requested to select appointees and direct staff to forward a recommendation to the Town Council.

Alternatives

None recommended.

Fiscal Impact:

Youth Commission applications and supplemental materials are available for review at the Community Services office or upon request.

Attachments

1. 2025.9.10 PRCC Staff Report Youth Commission Application Review Attachment
2. Youth Commission Ordinance

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

1. The Yucca Valley Youth Commission is comprised of individuals in 7th through 12th grades.
2. Applications and supplementary materials must be submitted by September 3. Recommendations for appointment will be made by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission.
3. Returning Youth Commissioners must submit an application to be recommended for reappointment by Community Services Department staff. Additional letters of recommendation and essay are not required - applicant recommendation will be based on the candidate's prior service.
4. Every effort shall be made to establish a representation of the most schools and grades in recommending Youth Commission appointees.
5. Commissioners will be required to attend Youth Commission meetings once a month during the school year. Excessive absences during the term will result in dismissal.

Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

[REDACTED]

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

AW

*** Date**

08/05/2025 3:00 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/05/2025 3:00 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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* Name

[REDACTED]

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

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Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

A.S.

*** Date**

08/18/2025 6:58 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/18/2025 6:59 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

[REDACTED]

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

Anjelah Miranda

* Date

05/22/2025 3:00 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

05/22/2025 3:00 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

[REDACTED]

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

A.K

*** Date**

06/17/2025 5:16 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Barjinder Singh

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

06/17/2025 5:17 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

[REDACTED]

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

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Devin Main and Aaron Truong

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Brandon W. Letter of Rec.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Letter of Recommendation - Brandon Wheeler.docx](#)

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

BW

*** Date**

09/02/2025 2:30 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

David Wheeler

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

██████████
* Date
██████████

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

My name is Brandon Wheeler, I am a senior at Yucca Valley High School and I want to join Youth Commission. I want to join Youth Commission because I love to be involved in my community and I believe Youth Commission is another way for me to be involved. I have lived in Yucca Valley for the (almost) 17 years I have been alive, so to say that I care about my community is an understatement. I have connected with many residents of Yucca Valley, and neighboring towns such as Morongo and Joshua Tree, and through gatherings such as Church events and group cleanups of national parks. Through these experiences, I have seen people of all ages, but especially young people give meaningful ideas about how to improve Yucca Valley. Everyone has a voice and everyone has an opinion and I would love to help people feel heard and seen in their community in whatever way I can. I believe that young people are the future, and our perspectives should be represented in decisions made today. By joining Youth Commission, I hope to speak up for my peers and contribute to building something much bigger than myself.

Devin J. Main, BA
Social Science Teacher
Yucca Valley High School
7600 Sage Ave.
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
9/2/2025

To whom it may concern,

I highly recommend Brandon Wheeler for the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. I have had the privilege of teaching Brandon for two years at Yucca Valley high school and he has shown immense dedication to his education during this time. Brandon is an inquisitive student who strives for greatness and a deep understanding of the course material and beyond. He is always on task and willing to participate. I can always count on Brandon to provide his own input. He provides a unique perspective and showcases strong critical thinking skills.

Beyond Brandon's dedication to his education, he has had a positive influence on campus. He supports his peers and provides a sense of security for many. I have seen Brandon make people smile and enjoy their time at school just by his presence. He has even voiced his ultimate dream to start a non-profit organization in his future to help his community. Brandon is a giving person and wants to do what is best for those around him.

Brandon will make an excellent addition to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. His inquisitive personality will help bring new ideas to the team. His dedication shows that he will be motivated and always present at meetings. His strong critical thinking skills will help the team figure out solutions when problems arise. His positive attitude will help build a better sense of community within the team. His dedication to serving his community aligns perfectly with the goals of the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. I have no doubt that Brandon will be a successful member of the team and will quickly show his worth.

If given the opportunity, Brandon will not take it for granted. He is as motivated as anybody when he has a set goal. I fully support Brandon in all of his future endeavors. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email at [REDACTED] or by phone at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

Devin J. Main, BA
Social Science Teacher
Yucca Valley High School

Yucca Valley High School

“TOMORROW BEGINS HERE TODAY”

September 2, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Brandon Wheeler for more than 2 academic years. He was enrolled in both my French I and II classes. He is always prepared to learn, which is an admirable trait to have as a lifelong learner. Brandon is an independent student who works diligently as well as a person who collaborates very well with others. He consistently takes accountability for his actions, not just as a student, but also as a peer, son, and the plethora of roles he takes on to bring a positive vibe to those around him. He is an effective communicator and demonstrates strong leadership skills.

Brandon is actively involved in several extracurricular activities and is able to find a balance between them and his academics. His leadership is best exemplified in his active involvement in community service, such as volunteering at churches with organization and planning and cleaning up Joshua Tree Nation Park with his dad. Brandon was selected for California Boys and Girls State his junior year where he continued developing his communication and leadership skills. He was recently appointed as Treasure for Yearbook. I had the privilege of witnessing his dedication in the classroom and around campus.

One of Brandon's best qualities is his commitment. He always puts his best foot forward and ensures the quality of his work is 110%. He doesn't hesitate to ask questions when he does not understand something and takes accountability for his missing work if he happens to be absent. I don't need to micromanage him because I can depend on him to finish his work on time. Brandon is always willing to help others, even if he isn't recognized for everything he does. He will apply that same collaborative mindset when

he applies to be part of the Youth Commission. He is someone his peers can rely on. I know Brandon will continue to grow more confident as a person with each passing year as I have seen him for more than half of his high school career. I look forward to seeing him leave his impact throughout his Senior year. Brandon has my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Aaron Truong
French Teacher



Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Bryli M. Doty

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Shelly Howell and Ernesto Gamboa

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Mrs. Howell letter of recommendation .pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Ernesto letter of recommendation .pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

BD

* **Date**

09/02/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Sydni Doty

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/02/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

I am a 13-year-old student at La Contenta Middle School, and I am passionate about leadership, teamwork, and serving the community. As one of the captains of my softball team, I have learned skills in communication, responsibility, and encouraging those around me to do their best. Not only do I enjoy playing, I also enjoy teaching, being a positive role model, and mentoring by volunteering my time helping coach younger-division softball players. Outside of my athletic career, I spend time volunteering with Special Education and assisting in Special Olympics events. While participating in these events, I have learned patience, responsibility, inclusion, and to celebrate every individual's strength. At school, I pride myself on being in all honors classes and being a part of the Leadership program. I have been in Leadership for both 7th and 8th grade, I have gained experience in planning, organizing, and working with a group to improve our school experiences. I hope to continue developing as a leader and contributing positively to my community, so with that I believe I will be an asset to serving on the commission. Bryli Doty

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Ernesto Gamboa, a Licensed Vocational Nurse, Clinic Manager at Desert Oasis Healthcare and Head Coach of the Laces Fast Pitch Softball Program. I have proudly led the Laces organization for the past 12 years and have also served as Head Varsity Coach for the Yucca Valley High School Lady Trojans Softball Team for the past 7 years. Over the course of my coaching career, I've had the privilege of working with many athletes, and I've come to recognize the rare qualities that define someone truly exceptional; qualities that Bryli Doty exemplifies.

I have the pleasure of coaching Bryli Doty for the past five years through the Laces Fast Pitch program. She quickly stood out not only for her athletic talent but for her unmatched work ethic, strong sense of personal responsibility, and consistently positive attitude. She brought a level of focus and dedication to every practice and game that elevated the performance of those around her.

Whether on the mound or at shortstop, Bryli Doty demonstrated not only technical skill but also maturity, resilience, and leadership. She held herself accountable, pushed through challenges without complaint, and consistently gave 100% effort regardless of the circumstances. Her attitude never wavered, and her commitment to both personal growth and team success made her a central figure within our program.

Beyond her physical abilities, what truly sets her apart is her character. She is dependable, respectful, coachable, and driven to improve. She leads by example, stays humble in success, and remains steady in adversity. Her sense of responsibility and integrity made her someone I could always count on, both on and off the field.

In short, Bryli Doty is exactly the kind of person any program would be lucky to have. She is an exceptional athlete and, more importantly, an exceptional individual. I offer my highest recommendation and full support for her continued success in all that she pursues.

Sincerely,

Ernesto Gamboa, LVN

Head Coach, Laces Fast Pitch Softball

Yucca Valley Varsity Head Softball Coach



From: Shelley D. Howell, M Ed
8/20/2025
La Contenta Middle School
Science and Mathematics Instructor

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great enthusiasm that I recommend **Bryli Doty** for the position of Youth Commissioner. As her teacher, I have had the pleasure of watching Bryli grow into a responsible, motivated, and compassionate young leader who is dedicated to making a difference in her community.

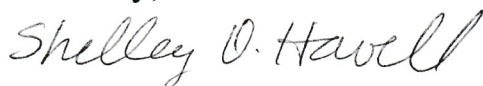
Bryli demonstrates a maturity beyond her years. She is an excellent communicator who is able to listen to others' perspectives while also expressing her own ideas clearly and respectfully. Her natural leadership skills are evident not only in the classroom but also in her involvement with peers, where she consistently models kindness, fairness, and inclusivity.

What sets Bryli apart is her genuine desire to serve others. She shows initiative, takes responsibility for her work, and approaches challenges with persistence and optimism. These qualities, along with her strong sense of civic responsibility, make her an outstanding candidate to represent youth voices in our community.

I am confident that Bryli will bring creativity, dedication, and a thoughtful perspective to the role of Youth Commissioner. She will be a strong advocate for her peers and a positive representative of the values and goals of this position.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like further information about Bryli's qualifications. My email is [REDACTED]

Sincerely,



Shelley D. Howell

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

chanelle m. gephart

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

"I am a returning commissioner"

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

Chanelle Gephary

* Date

09/03/2025 8:45 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Michelle Donley

* Parent Email Address

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/04/2025 8:30 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

Although I am a returning commissioner I wanted to take some time and discuss my role last year within the Commission. Personally I am very disappointed with my presence (or lack of I should say) with the team. I struggled with meetings due to geographical issues. However, when I was able to attend I was very happy with the energy. The people within Youth Commission are extremely supportive, they uplift one another and are always helpful. It's an energy that I look back to when I haven't volunteered for a while. However this year I want to be a lot better. I live very close to the Community Center and will be able to come to every meetings accordingly. I appreciate your team for allowing me to show off the skills you guys need that I know i have deep down. Thank you and I hope to see you too !!

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Chloe A. Ortiz

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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Kathryn Hund, Ky Seacat

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Kathryn Hund Letter of Recommendation.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Ky Seacat Letter of Recommendation.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

C.O

* **Date**

08/27/2025 5:43 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Diana Ortiz

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/27/2025 5:43 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

I am interested in serving on the Youth Commission because I want to represent the voices of young people in our community and help create opportunities that make a positive difference. Although I have only lived in Yucca Valley for almost two years, I already feel a strong connection to the town and want to contribute as much as I can before leaving for college. As a 12th grade dual enrollment student, I understand the challenges of balancing school, work, and planning for the future, and I believe I can bring that perspective and dedication to the Commission. Before moving here, I was actively involved in Student Council and ASB, which taught me important lessons about teamwork, communication, leadership, and responsibility. I also volunteered at after-school events such as Trunk or Treats and Ice Cream Socials at my local elementary school, where I enjoyed helping younger students feel included and supported. These experiences have prepared me to serve effectively and bring meaningful ideas, energy, and commitment to the Youth Commission.

Dear leadership of the Yucca Valley Youth Commission,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Chloe Ortiz as she applies to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Chloe has demonstrated a strong passion for being a representative voice for her peers and youth in our community. She is deeply interested in giving back locally and expanding her understanding of local government and civic engagement.

Chloe's future aspirations in forensic science, particularly in DNA analysis, are inspired by the work of the Innocence Project. She is passionate about justice and is committed to bringing peace to victims and their families by increasing the rate of solved cases. Her dedication to this important cause speaks volumes about her character and motivation.

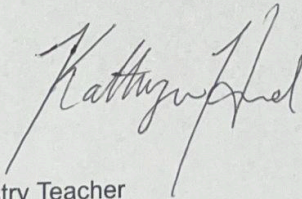
Academically, Chloe was exceptional in my general chemistry class during the 2023–2024 school year and is currently enrolled in my AP Chemistry course, where I am confident she will continue to excel. Chloe is a thoughtful, civic-minded student who combines her passion for leadership with a sincere desire to serve her community. She is collective in her approach and strives to be a strong voice for her peers.

Given her academic abilities, leadership qualities, and commitment to public service through forensic science, I believe Chloe would be an outstanding addition to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. She will both contribute meaningfully to the commission and gain valuable experience that will support her future goals.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Hund



Chemistry and AP Chemistry Teacher
Yucca Valley High School





YUCCA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL



August 22, 2025

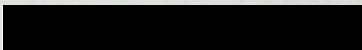
To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to recommend **Chloe Ortiz** of Yucca Valley High School for your program. Chloe is a thoughtful, intelligent, and respectful student who consistently demonstrates maturity and determination in her academic pursuits. With aspirations to enter the field of forensics, she brings both patience and sharp analytical skills that would make her an asset to any team or program. Her ability to communicate effectively and support others reflects her potential as a strong tutor and mentor. I am confident Chloe will excel and contribute greatly to your program.

Sincerely,

Ky Seacat

MTSS Intervention Teacher



Home of the Trojans

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Delilah F. Hazell

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

D.H

* Date

08/28/2025 12:00 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Bob Hazell

* Parent Email Address

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/28/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

[REDACTED]

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

The writers of my two letters of recommendation are Kathryn Hund and Ky Seacat, respectively.

Letter of Recommendation 1

[CamScanner 9-2-25 21.57.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[CamScanner 9-2-25 21.58.pdf](#)

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

DV

*** Date**

09/02/2025 10:00 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Roberto Vazquez

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/02/2025 10:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

A major reason I would love to join my town's Youth Commission is my growing passion for helping the people around me. Over the years, I have been deeply involved in volunteer work through the National Honor Society, where I've had the honor of serving two years as an officer. These experiences have strengthened my commitment to service and leadership. Through my own projects, such as organizing a winter holiday party that gave children the chance to create their own ornaments if they couldn't afford to buy them, and planning a game night at a local senior center to brighten residents' week, I've discovered that few things bring me more joy than uplifting others. I also see this passion in my job as an afterschool elementary school ELOP tutor, where I help elementary students grow in academic areas I love. By bringing my experience and ideas to the Commission, I hope to help improve our town for local youth and the broader community.

Dear leadership of the Yucca Valley Youth Commission,

I am writing to offer my strongest recommendation for Diego Vazquez in support of his application to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. I had the pleasure of teaching Diego in AP Chemistry last year, where he consistently demonstrated not only academic excellence—earning a score of 4 on the AP exam—but also exceptional character and leadership.

Diego was a standout student in every sense. He brought a great sense of humor and positive energy to class each day, contributing to a supportive and inclusive learning environment. He consistently went out of his way to help his peers, often volunteering to explain difficult concepts or assist with labs. His final project on the chemistry of forensics was a clear example of his initiative and creativity; he went above and beyond expectations by incorporating real-life demonstrations that were both educational and engaging for his classmates.

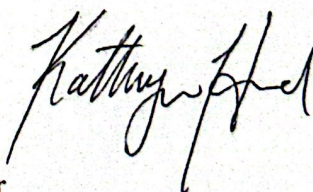
What sets Diego apart is his natural ability to lead while remaining deeply collaborative and community-minded. He cares deeply about contributing to the world in a meaningful way, and he has a clear passion for both public service and scientific research, particularly in the field of biochemistry. His blend of intellectual curiosity, empathy, and civic-mindedness makes him uniquely well-suited for the Youth Commission.

I can think of no better candidate to serve and represent the youth of our community. Diego would not only bring enthusiasm and fresh ideas to the Commission, but I am confident he would grow tremendously from the experience as well. He is a driven, kind, and thoughtful individual with the potential to be an unstoppable force for good.

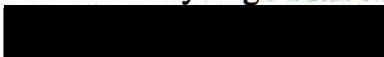
Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Hund

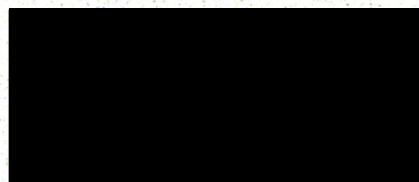


Chemistry and AP Chemistry Teacher
Yucca Valley High School





YUCCA VALLEY
HIGH SCHOOL



August 28, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to recommend Diego Vazquez, a dedicated and accomplished student at Yucca Valley High School. Over the past several years, Diego has demonstrated not only academic excellence but also a strong commitment to leadership, service, and character.

Diego has been an active member of the National Honor Society for three years, serving last year as Treasurer and this year as Vice President. In both roles, he has proven himself to be responsible, organized, and a true leader among his peers. He balances these commitments while maintaining an impressive **4.38 weighted GPA**, a testament to his intellectual ability and work ethic.

Beyond his academic and leadership accomplishments, Diego is known for being thoughtful, respectful, and approachable. His sense of humor and positive outlook allow him to connect with others easily, creating an encouraging and collaborative atmosphere both inside and outside of the classroom.

Diego's combination of intelligence, integrity, and personality makes him an exceptional student and an even better person. I am confident that he will bring the same dedication and excellence to his future endeavors as he has to our school community.

Sincerely,

Ky Seacat

MTSS Intervention Teacher/National Honor Society Advisor
Yucca Valley High School



Home of the Trojans

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

1. The Yucca Valley Youth Commission is comprised of individuals in 7th through 12th grades.
2. Applications and supplementary materials must be submitted by September 3. Recommendations for appointment will be made by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission.
3. Returning Youth Commissioners must submit an application to be recommended for reappointment by Community Services Department staff. Additional letters of recommendation and essay are not required - applicant recommendation will be based on the candidate's prior service.
4. Every effort shall be made to establish a representation of the most schools and grades in recommending Youth Commission appointees.
5. Commissioners will be required to attend Youth Commission meetings once a month during the school year. Excessive absences during the term will result in dismissal.

Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Ethan J. Youngman

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

EY

*** Date**

08/16/2025 1:19 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Charity Youngman

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/16/2025 1:19 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Gary Allan. Abbott

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

N/a

* **Date**

08/26/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Nicole abbott

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/26/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/a

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Please complete the following fields.

*Name
George Wingerter

*Residence Address
[REDACTED]

*Cell Phone
[REDACTED]

* Email Address
[REDACTED]

* School
[REDACTED]

* Grade
[REDACTED]

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*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

***Date**

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

*** Parent Email Address**
[REDACTED]

*Parent Phone
[REDACTED]

***Date**

07/28/2025 12:07 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**
N/A

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Isabella R. Paulino

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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Janemarie Ofahulu & Lili Wilson

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Letter of Recommendation for Isabella Paulino.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Bell Letter of recomendation.docx.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

IRP

* **Date**

09/01/2025 5:00 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Marie Ables-Paulino

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/01/2025 5:00 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

I am interested in serving the Yucca Valley Youth Commission because I want to gain experience in working with groups professionally and gain a sense of leadership. I want to be more involved in the community, I've helped plan and set up events before, I am currently volunteering in the basin wide foundation as well where I help out with community events and assist people in the office. I have around a total 20 hours of community service, most of which consists of me working events and helping my mother around her office. I have the ability to work quickly and diligently, I can brainstorm ideas quickly and find my way around any issues that can occur. I'm also good at listening and noting things down which can come in handy when attending town meetings. Last thing is that I am committed and I am ready to help work in the committee and the community.

September 1, 2026



Dear Youth Commission,

I have had the pleasure of knowing Isabella Paulino since she was born. From a very early age, Isabella has been mature beyond her years. She displays the character and demonstrates responsibility, that has exceeded the expectations of her parent, family, teachers, and peers alike.

As a High School Junior, Isabella has been developing her skillset and resume alike as she has been involved in her school's student council committee where she has experience in planning events and has knowledge of basic council roles. In addition, she has gained at least twenty community service hours in working school events. Isabella also volunteers in her school's sports medicine program, babysits and volunteers to assist her mom in her Property Management office.

Isabella is looking forward to gaining experience of working with others in a professional environment. She has shared her goals in attending a 4-year university to study in field of nursing, cardiology or radiology.

Always confident and competent, Isabella demonstrates qualities that prove to be trustworthy and of a high moral compass. As a compliment to her social skills, Isabella's creative mind and physical artistic abilities, I believe she would be a tremendous asset and contributor to your organization.

Respectfully,

Lili Wilson

Lili Wilson





September 1, 2025

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission
57090 Twentynine Palms Hwy.
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Dear Selection Committee,

I am pleased to recommend Isabella Paulino for the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Isabella is a thoughtful and motivated student who has transformed herself into a confident, optimistic young leader. Her ability to encourage and inspire others, paired with her growing experience in service and teamwork, makes her a strong candidate for this role.

What sets Isabella apart is both her journey and her initiative. She once described herself as shy and hesitant to step forward, but through determination she has become confident in speaking up, putting herself out there, and seeking new opportunities to serve. Today, she is recognized by her peers as someone who brings positivity to every situation. Isabella looks for solutions when others might feel discouraged, and she takes initiative to ensure those around her feel supported and encouraged.

Isabella is already gaining valuable experience in leadership and community service. She has served on student council, where she helped plan events and learned how to collaborate effectively in a group setting. She has also contributed over 20 hours of community service through school activities, babysitting, and assisting in her mother's office. In addition, Isabella is a youth volunteer with Basin Wide Foundation, where she supports community events and assists with administrative tasks in the office. These experiences reflect her willingness to take initiative, her sense of responsibility, and her commitment to her community.

Her aspirations further demonstrate her dedication to service. Isabella plans to attend a four-year university and pursue a degree in nursing, cardiology, or radiology, with the goal of building a career in healthcare. She is already laying the foundation for this path by seeking out opportunities to learn, serve, and lead.

Isabella is not only committed and helpful, but she also has the rare ability to lift up those around her with a positive outlook. She will bring an encouraging voice, a collaborative spirit, and a strong sense of responsibility to the Youth Commission. Thank you for considering her application. I wholeheartedly recommend Isabella Paulino for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janemarie Ofahulu".

Janemarie Ofahulu
Executive Director
Basin Wide Foundation

and local government to improve life and economic vitality in the Morongo Basin. EIN: 33-0688147

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Izabella M. Powell

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Laura Crotzburg Priscilla Gutierrez

Letter of Recommendation 1

[20250805_12131816.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[20250805_12150175.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

IMP

* **Date**

08/05/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Sabrina Powell

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**


[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/05/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

My name is Izabella Powell and I am thirteen years old. I am currently attending La Contenta Middle School. While I was in 7th grade, I was an honor student and was on Principals honor roll for both semesters. When school starts in the fall I will continue my honor classes. I will also have the privilege to work with the administrator assistant in the front office as one of my electives for the school year. The reason why I want to join the youth commission is because I like to give back to my community. I was able to sit in on a few meeting and really liked what I heard and saw. While I was in elementary school, I would volunteer at school events with my parents permission. I was also on the student council in elementary school and had responsibilities on coming up with events. Giving back has always been something that makes me feel happy and allows me to show my independence and understanding. I value working with others while also giving my thoughts and ideas. I am motivated and eager to represent the town and have a voice that shapes a better future for our community. Thank you for considering me for youth commission.



July 31, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Izabella Powell for a position on the Youth Council of Yucca Valley.

I have known Izabella since she was one year old. I have watched her grow into a very confident young lady, who is very respectful and empathetic of everyone she encounters.

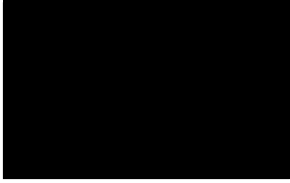
I feel that her ability to work well with others and adapt to change make her a perfect candidate for a position on the Youth Council.

Thank you for considering my recommendation

Sincerely,

Kaura Crotzenburg

Priscilla Gutierrez



August 5, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am delighted to recommend Izabella Powell for a position on the Youth Commission. Over the time I have known Izabella, she has consistently displayed exceptional leadership skills and a sincere dedication to making a positive difference in a school environment. Whether volunteering for school events, working as a student council member in elementary school, working in the front office during her 8th grade school year as an office assistant Izabella approaches every task with enthusiasm and integrity

Given her passion for positive engagement and her talent for motivating others, I am confident that Izabella would be a tremendous asset to the Youth Commission. I have no doubt that she will contribute valuable insight and energy to its programs and help foster positive change.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Gutierrez

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Priscilla Gutierrez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Jackson Flanders

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning Youth Commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

JF

*** Date**

06/03/2025 12:00 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

06/03/2025 12:00 AM

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N/A

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Jeleah Ann. Falcon

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

Returning youth commissioner

* **Date**

08/26/2025 2:00 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Heather Dammer Falcon

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/26/2025 3:00 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Jamison E. Jones

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Shelley Howell, My leadership teacher last year. Sarah Schuler, My English teacher last year

Letter of Recommendation 1

[SCAN0006.PDF](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Jamison Jones.docx](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

JEJ

* **Date**

08/26/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Shirley Jones

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/26/2025 12:00 AM

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I want to join the Yucca Valley Youth Commission because I'm passionate about making a positive impact in my community. For the past two years I've been involved in Leadership, where I've learned how to collaborate with others, take initiative, and listen to different peoples ideas and perspectives. These experiences have shown me the importance of volunteer work, and the importance of helping the community. I'm especially interested in helping with fundraisers that support causes that matter to local people. I believe fundraising not only helps meet community needs but also helps build teamwork, creativity, and responsibility. I want to bring new ideas and energy to the Commission while continuing to grow as a leader. Being in this group will give me the opportunity to learn from others, give back to the community, and help create events and and programs in our community that make a big difference. I want to join the Yucca Valley Youth Commission because I'm passionate about making a positive impact in my community. For the past two years I've been involved in Leadership, where I've learned how to collaborate with others, take initiative, and listen to different peoples ideas and perspectives. These experiences have shown me the importance of volunteer work, and the importance of helping the community. I'm especially interested in helping with fundraisers that support causes that matter to local people. I believe fundraising not only helps meet community needs but also helps build teamwork, creativity, and responsibility. I want to bring new ideas and energy to the Commission while continuing to grow as a leader. Being in this group will give me the opportunity to learn from others, give back to the community, and help create events and and programs in our community that make a big difference.

26 August 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am happy to recommend Jamison for the Youth Commission. I had the pleasure of teaching Jamison in 7th grade honors English for the 2024-2025 school year, where I saw her creativity and determination grow throughout the year.

Jamison is a strong worker who constantly challenged herself to improve. She brought a creative energy to her work, and she always put forth her best effort in class. Her growth mindset and persistence make her stand out as a student who doesn't shy away from challenges.

When Jamison told me she wanted to join the Youth Commission to help with fundraisers and events, develop leadership skills, serve her community, and meet new people, it fit perfectly with who she is. She thrives when she is both learning and contributing to something bigger than herself.

I believe Jamison will bring dedication and creativity to the Youth Commission. She will not only take the responsibility seriously but will also find ways to strengthen the community around her.

Sincerely,

Sarah Schuler

Sarah Schuler

English Department Chair

La Contenta Middle School

From: Shelley D. Howell, M Ed
8/20/2025
La Contenta Middle School
Science and Mathematics Instructor

To Whom It May Concern,

I am honored to recommend **Jamison Jones** for the position of Youth Commissioner. As her teacher, I have had the opportunity to observe Jamison's growth into a thoughtful, dependable, and enthusiastic young leader who is deeply committed to her peers and community.

Jamison is a student who demonstrates strong character and integrity. She approaches every task with determination and a positive attitude, and she is always willing to go the extra mile to ensure success. Her ability to work well with others, listen carefully, and contribute meaningful ideas reflects the qualities of a true team player and leader.

Jamison's peers respect her not only for her intelligence and responsibility, but also for her kindness and fairness. She has a unique ability to connect with others, making her an excellent representative of youth perspectives. She problem-solving skills, combined with her sense of responsibility, will allow her to contribute positively and effectively as a Youth Commissioner.

I am confident that Jamison will bring leadership, dedication, and a strong voice to this role. She has the vision and commitment necessary to represent her peers and to help guide important discussions that impact youth in our community.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like any additional information about Jamison's many strengths and qualifications. My email is

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Shelley D. Howell
Shelley D. Howell

From: Shelley D. Howell, M Ed
8/20/2025
La Contenta Middle School
Science and Mathematics Instructor

To Whom It May Concern,

I am honored to recommend **Jamison Jones** for the position of Youth Commissioner. As her teacher, I have had the opportunity to observe Jamison's growth into a thoughtful, dependable, and enthusiastic young leader who is deeply committed to her peers and community.

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[REDACTED]

Sincerely,


Shelley D. Howell

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Joseph A. Paulino

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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Frank Gaona, Project Manager/Steward JaneMarie Ofahulu, Executive Director

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Recommendation for Joseph Paulino from Frank Gaona.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Recommendation for Joseph Paulino from Janemarie Ofahulu.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

JP

* **Date**

09/02/2025 6:29 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Arthur Paulino

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/02/2025 6:34 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

I, Joseph Paulino, am interested in serving the Yucca Valley Youth Commission because I care about Yucca Valley and want to help. I'm a freshman at Yucca Valley High School and I volunteer with Basin Wide Foundation. I've helped at events like the Awards dinner and in the office preparing sponsor envelopes. I'm also the captain of my football team, which has taught me teamwork, responsibility, and how to lead. Being on the Youth Commission would give me a chance to help others and learn more about how our town makes decisions.

09/02/2025

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission
57090 Twentynine Palms Hwy, Yucca Valley, CA 92284

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

My name is Frank Gaona, and I have known Joseph Paulino for about 2 years. It is my hope to recommend Joseph, for the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Joseph was on the fast track from middle school and has now leaped into high school with a positive outlook for his future. Joseph is a young, academically driven, and talented athlete.

He has worked in the office at La Contenta Middle School, where he completed various office tasks including administrative duties, he not only worked closely with office staff, but he also assisted his fellow students as well with all office needs. Joseph is a very dedicated student as well as a dedicated student athlete with the Yucca Valley High School Trojans. He volunteers every chance he gets, but he also completes study hall opportunities and seeks out extra sports training to continue learning.

Joseph is a very knowledgeable, kindhearted individual who always shows leadership qualities, in the humblest ways. Joseph loves his community and the people in it. His character supersedes other students his age. He is very humble, thankful, and shows great humility. I feel he would be an amazing asset to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Joseph is very professional, respectful, a great listener, and treats everybody he meets with positivity and respect.

What sets Joseph apart from most of his peers is his heart. He is always willing to lend someone a hand. He will bring fresh energy and ideas. He will lead with respect, humility, and kindness. With Josephs dedication and compassion to helping others, he will also gain knowledge and experience that will continue to guide him in his future endeavors. I couldn't be happier to recommend such an amazing human being to help guide our towns youth.

SINCERELY,
FRANK GAONA
PROJECT MANAGER/STEWARD
JAMES THOMAS PRODUCTIONS



September 1, 2025

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission
57090 Twentynine Palms Hwy.
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Dear Selection Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Joseph Paulino for the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Joseph is a freshman at Yucca Valley High School who has already distinguished himself as a dedicated student, athlete, and youth volunteer. His combination of leadership, humility, and kindness makes him an ideal candidate for this role.

Joseph’s leadership is evident on the field and in the classroom. He is the team captain of the football team, where he leads by example with discipline, sportsmanship, and encouragement for his teammates. He was also selected for the All-Star basketball team in his very first season of play — a reflection of his natural talent and determination to succeed. Despite these accomplishments, Joseph remains humble, always quick to credit his team and eager to help others grow alongside him.

Beyond athletics, Joseph has shown a deep commitment to his community through his volunteer work with Basin Wide Foundation. He has assisted with several events, including the 27th Annual Awards Celebration & Dinner, where he supported vendors, greeted guests, and stayed late to ensure cleanup went smoothly. He has also contributed behind the scenes by helping with administrative tasks such as stuffing envelopes for potential sponsors. His respectful manner, willingness to help wherever needed, and positive spirit earned praise from community leaders and event partners alike.

What sets Joseph apart is not only his achievements but his character. He is known for his kindness, humility, and genuine desire to serve others. He listens, encourages his peers, and treats everyone with respect. These qualities, combined with his strong work ethic and leadership ability, make him a natural fit for the Youth Commission.

I am confident Joseph will bring energy, fresh ideas, and a servant-leader’s heart to the Town of Yucca Valley. He has the maturity, dedication, and compassion to contribute meaningfully while gaining valuable experience that will guide his future success. Thank you for considering his application. I wholeheartedly recommend Joseph Paulino for the Yucca Valley Youth Commission.

Sincerely,

Janemarie Ofahulu
Executive Director
Basin Wide Foundation

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Josephine E. Ripley

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Serenity Delgado and Megan Ripley

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Letter of Rec SD.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Untitled document.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

JR

* **Date**

09/03/2025 4:11 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/03/2025 4:11 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

At the age of 4 I moved to California from Indianapolis. I have loved growing up here and the events. I love volunteering and have had experience working with horses at a rescue ranch, tutoring 3rd graders in reading, and at my church in children's ministry and the Java cafe. I want to be on the youth commission because I am an entrepreneur and I would love to see how the community works together as a team to create many new events and programs. I am applying because I want to become closer to my community and help with many events and programs that I love. Some events and programs that I love include the summer music festivals and the town basketball program. I have always loved this town and am very excited to have an experience with the youth commission.

Dear Selection Committee,

I am pleased to recommend Josephine Ripley for the youth commission. I have had the privilege of being a teacher, mentor, and my favorite, a close family friend. I have known Josephine for three years now and in those three years I have seen firsthand her leadership skills, her ability to take constructive criticism, maturity, and dedication into wanting to serve and help.

Josephine has some very great qualities that I see would be very helpful serving on the youth committee. She is very honest, I have watched her grow in her maturity and responsibly. She has a desire and a heart to serve others. She is very confident in public speaking and very good at teaching and leading kids. I have seen her volunteer at our local church in the java cafe where she absolutely loves to serve and interact with people and is always a delight. I have also watched her volunteer in the Children's ministry. Where she helps with the children but has also volunteered to teach them lessons. I have witnessed her work through her fears and doubts during our horse back riding lessons. Josephine is a great young lady. I am confident that she will be a valuable addition to the youth commission. Her leadership, compassion, and determination sets her apart. I believe she is ready to serve and represent her peers. I want to thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,
Serenity Delgado

To Whom it may Concern,

I would like to recommend Josephine Ripley for the Youth Commission. As her mother and homeschool teacher for the past 5 years, I have seen her heart to serve others grow. Her passions include team sports like basketball and soccer, and helping elementary aged students improve their reading skills. She would be a great addition to the team because she loves people and her community.

All the best,
Megan Ripley

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Kalea L. Powell

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

KP

* **Date**

06/03/2025 7:42 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Sherry Powell

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

*** Date**

06/03/2025 7:42 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Kyra Collins

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED] nce

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Mrs. Amanda Mayes - Teacher Mrs. Ellen Chinnock - Family Friend

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Recommendation Letter from Mrs. Mayes.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Kyra letter of recommendation.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

KC

* **Date**

08/27/2025 1:18 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Jody Curtis

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/27/2025 1:22 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

My name is Kyra Collins, I will be 13 years old tomorrow and I am in the 8th grade. I am excited to apply to serve on the Yucca Valley Town Youth Commission, and hope to make a positive difference in our community. I've been dancing since I was three, and it's taught me what it means to work hard, stay dedicated, and support others. I believe those same qualities would help me be a strong, reliable member of the Youth Commission. I want to help create fun and meaningful experiences for our town, and I'm especially interested in finding new ways to bring students together and make sure everyone feels included. I enjoy meeting new people, collaborating, sharing ideas, and learning from others, and I would love to contribute to something that makes a real difference. Thank you for considering my application! Kyra



To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Ellen Chinnock and I'm writing this letter to recommend Kyra Collins for the position of The Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Kyra and my daughter, Vera, have been best friends for several years. They homeschool together, dance together, and plan their lives together.

Over the past few years I've seen Kyra demonstrate leadership skills as well as compassion and thoughtfulness. A couple of examples...

1. My daughter was new to dancing at the dance studio Kyra had been dancing at for a year or so. Whenever Vera had a question about what to do, what to wear, etc, Kyra would jump right in with support and knowledge about what was needed. She would go so far as to make extensive lists for Vera of what she would need for dance competitions. She would also text me to remind me of different events such as dance photo times, and what costumes to bring. She always has all the details in mind and I rely on her heavily for support.

2. Kyra wanted to surprise Vera by decorating our yoga studio for Vera's birthday. She invited some of Vera's friends to come help her and we went out to pick decorations and everything needed for the party. Her care and thoughtfulness in knowing what Vera would love was astounding to me. She thought of what would work for each individual and the group as a whole. When working with Vera's friends to decorate, she was kind, patient and clear in her communication. Vera felt very loved and special that day and everyone had a wonderful time.

Kyra is a confident, compassion leader with creativity and thoughtfulness. She cares for the whole in the way I see a mother caring for her children... each one matters. I could

see her planning all the town's events someday with joy and ease. I highly recommend her for this position.

Feel free to contact me with questions. My number is [REDACTED] or

[REDACTED]

Warmly,
Ellen Chinnock

Academy of College and Career Excellence West
59269 Sunnyslope Dr.
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
Phone: 760-228-1162
Fax: 760-228-1163
Office Hours 7am-3pm



Academy of College and Career Excellence East
72770 Hatch Rd.
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277
Phone: 760-367-7273
Office Hours 7am-2pm

August 14, 2025

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission
57090 Twentynine Palms, Highway
Yucca Valley, CA 92284
(760) 369-7211

To Whom It May Concern,

If you are looking for a student who combines discipline, leadership, and fearless communication, you have found her—Kyra Collins. I had the pleasure of teaching Kyra in 7th grade and now have the privilege of teaching her in 8th grade. I have seen her excel in academics while pursuing her talents and leadership skills beyond the classroom.

Kyra's dedication to ballet is one of the clearest examples of her focus and discipline. She trains daily, culminating in professional-level performances—such as the one I attended at the Annenberg Theater in Palm Springs—where admission was charged to the public. This is not a casual hobby, but a serious pursuit requiring stalwartness, artistry, and perseverance. Within her dance company, Kyra has already stepped into leadership roles, working with young children as an instructor and mentor. She meets weekly without fail, arriving on time and fully prepared, modeling professionalism and responsibility well beyond her years.

Academically, Kyra is one of the most effective communicators I have taught. While many students hesitate to approach adults in professional capacities, Kyra bridges that gap with confidence and respect. She emails, calls, and checks in regularly to advocate for herself and takes initiative in discussing her goals and progress. She completes her education through an independent study program, which demands self-motivation, organization, and academic rigor—standards she consistently meets while balancing her demanding extracurricular schedule.

Supported by a family committed to her growth as a well-rounded individual, Kyra has the discipline, leadership experience, and community focus to excel as a Youth Commissioner. I wholeheartedly recommend her for this role and am confident she will bring dedication, creativity, and a strong work ethic to the position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'A. Mayes' with a long, sweeping underline.

Amanda Mayes
Independent Study Teacher, MUSD



Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Maxton McMahon

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

MHJM

* Date

06/10/2025 12:00 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Savannah McMahon

* Parent Email Address

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

06/10/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Lucien Milo. Danza

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

LMD

*** Date**

07/14/2025 12:00 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Sara E. Mahan

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

07/14/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Myla Myla

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Paula Erickson Megan Ripley

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

MK

* **Date**

09/02/2025 4:44 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Priscilla Krenelka

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/02/2025 4:45 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

I would like to be with you commission because it sounds fun how about and learn new stuff, and I love helping the community. I have volunteered for car washes before. I would like to learn how to be a good person in my team and a good leader. I would like to work with someone new. Learning new things is important to me because I am going into my teenage years. It would be a new experience for me and I could learn new things. I would be a good part of the youth commission. Thank you Myla. Krenelka

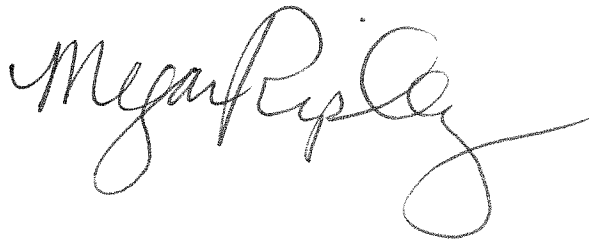
[REDACTED]

August 29, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

Myla Krenelka would be a great addition to serve on the Youth Commission team. I have known Myla for the last 6 years and know her to be curious and determined. She thrives in physically active environments and she loves testing her fitness through activities such as swimming and grappling. She is proud of her family and her community and I know she will work hard on whatever she puts her mind to.

Sincerely,



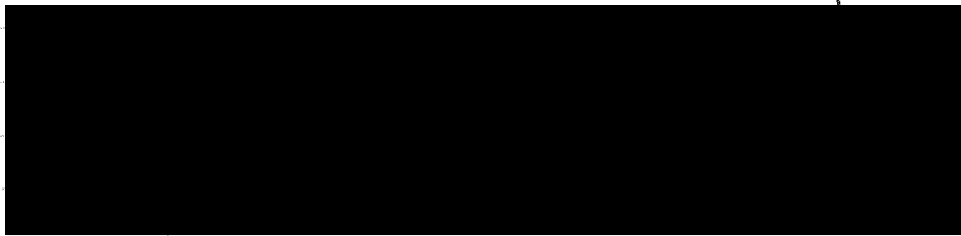
Megan Ripley
PRCC Commissioner

To Whom It may Concern:

Myla Kunelka would be of great value to the Youth Commission.

Two years ago she was a junior lifeguard at the High School pool. She has a great personality, get along with everyone. She is very responsible, good at school and gets good grades. She also has obligated herself for car washes. She will bring a lot to the table for her community and her peers.

Sincerely,
Paula Erickson



Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Nicolas S. Musch

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Mr. Don Risser Mr. Robert Guinn

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Letter for N. Musch, Don Risser.docx](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Musch, Nicolas - Yucca Valley Youth Commission - letter of recommendation - rguinn - signed \(1\).pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

NSM

* **Date**

08/27/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Heather Musch

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/27/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

I am excited to join the Youth Commission here in Yucca Valley. I was born in Joshua Tree, and have lived in Yucca Valley my entire life. At home my family speaks two languages: English and Spanish. I regularly contribute my Spanish skills in typing slides for special bilingual services at my church. I will be happy to share my bilingual abilities in the Youth Commission. In my free time, I like to read military history and suspense novels, build models, and fly RC planes. I also play trumpet, coronet, and piano. I enjoy tennis and golf during their respective seasons. I have several friends and acquaintances who are current members of the Yucca Valley Youth Commission, who have encouraged me to submit this application. Specifically, this group is a great opportunity for young people to become involved in service to their local community here in the high desert. I look forward to becoming a part of the Yucca Valley Youth Commission.

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with the utmost confidence and pleasure that I recommend Mr. Nicolas Musch to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. I have known Nicolas for approximately 3 years as his weekly trumpet and music theory instructor. During that time, I have found that Nicolas is extremely friendly, hardworking, honest and highly motivated and dedicated to his pursuits. He is always prepared every week for his lessons and he works diligently on his assignments. He is very talented in music, and I know that he is very passionate about his other undertakings in life such as his hobbies, family life, sports and his church. There is no doubt in my mind that he will be a valuable asset to your community organization. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Don Risser



Robert H. Guinn
Professor, Chemistry
College of the Desert
43-500 Monterey Ave
Palm Desert, CA 92211
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

August 25, 2025

Yucca Valley Town Council / Youth Commission
Attn: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission
57090 29 Palms Hwy
Yucca Valley, CA 92284

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing this letter in enthusiastic support of Nicolas (Nico) Musch in his endeavor to serve on the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. I have had the privilege of knowing the Musch family for nearly a decade, during which time I have also worked closely with Nico's father German. This long personal and professional association has given me the opportunity to witness Nico develop from a child into a promising young man.

In that time I have found Nico to be respectful, thoughtful, creative, curious, and compassionate, qualities which should find purchase in the development of community events and youth activities. If appointed, I am confident that Nico will prove himself to be a valuable member of the commission, and that the experience will also provide him with meaningful opportunities for growth. I sincerely hope that you will recommend Nico to serve.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Guinn

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

*** Name**

Nora E. Wolfe

*** Residence Address**

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

*** Cell Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Email Address**

[REDACTED]

*** School**

[REDACTED]

*** Grade**

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Mr. Gates and Mrs. Schuler

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Nora Wolfe Recommendation YCYV.docx](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Nora Wolfe.docx](#)

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

NW

*** Date**

08/27/2025 3:24 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Antje Strom

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/27/2025 3:25 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

There are many reasons that I want to join the Youth Commission. One reason I want to join is that I want to start volunteering more. I love volunteering and I think it's a great way to spend my time. Another reason is because I want to see how local government works. I would love to have an input and help make good decisions to represent the kids of Yucca Valley. I also want to have more experience talking to the public. I want to get better at talking to people I don't know. I would love to work with more kids like me. I also want to learn new skills that can help me in my life. I was in Leadership at La Contenta last year and this year. I think being in the Youth Commission would be a lot of fun and I hope I can be accepted.

26 August 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to recommend Nora for a position with the Youth Commission. I had the privilege of being Nora's 7th grade honors English teacher for the 2024-2025 school year, and she consistently stood out as one of the top students in her class.

Nora is both academically strong and socially thoughtful. She worked well with every student she sat next to and always approached her assignments with diligence and focus. Her work ethic is one of her strongest qualities, and it is matched by her kindness. Nora not only strives for excellence herself, but she also helps elevate those around her.

When Nora shared that she wanted to join the Youth Commission to volunteer more and be a part of what happens in her town, it felt like a natural extension of the character she already shows in the classroom. She is the kind of student who will listen to others, collaborate well, and take responsibility seriously.

I am confident that Nora will contribute positively to the Youth Commission and take her role to heart. She will be a dependable and thoughtful member of the group.

Sincerely,

Sarah Schuler

Sarah Schuler

English Department Chair

La Contenta Middle School

August 20, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to recommend Nora Wolfe for a position in the Youth Commission of Yucca Valley. During my time as her Mathematics teacher at La Contenta Middle School I have observed the qualities one would desire in a position of leadership and community involvement. First, I have noticed her work ethic. Nora puts forth her best effort in everything she does and never settled for doing her homework or projects halfway. Secondly, she has shown herself to be a great contributor and communicator. She participated and engaged in my class and developed positive relationships with her classmates and with the adults on campus. But the most important quality I have observed in Nora is her positive and helpful attitude. She commits herself to everything she does with a smile on her face. I did not see her complain about even the most tedious of math assignments. In fact, she helped make the assignments more fun for those around her. Nora has also volunteered in many areas at our school and has done that cheerfully as well. I could see her not only thriving but helping others thrive in her time in the Youth Commission. I cannot recommend her highly enough.

Sincerely,

Caleb Gates
Mathematics Teacher
La Contenta Middle School

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Neal (Peanut) A. AridaSanchez

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

N.A.

* **Date**

08/06/2025 3:40 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/06/2025 3:40 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Rakeem Raphael. Cortes

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Mr. Wali is a math teacher at Yucca Valley High School. Saeed Lackraj is the Assistant Manager for the Five Star Gym located in the Town mall in Yucca Valley.

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Yucca Valley Youth Commission.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Yucca Valley Youth Commission-1.pdf](#)

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

R.R.C.

*** Date**

08/31/2025 7:28 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Adriana Chavez

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/31/2025 7:28 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

Hi my name is Rakeem. I am really interested in this position as a way to start giving back to my community. I have long seen many injustices in the world and I personally am tired of it. as a plan of actions I will pursue a career in politics so I can have a say in how the world is run and how it treats people, and so I can be a voice for my community. I love Yucca Valley and its people so I would be very honored for the opportunity to give back to my community. I know the experience of being in this youth commission will be extremely beneficial to my future. I am aware that I may not have as good academic history or volunteer times as the rest of the candidates for this position but what I do know is that you will not find anyone else as dedicated to serving their people as much as me. Please take that into consideration when deciding for the position. Thank you for taking the time to read my message.

Dear Youth Commission

I am recommending Rakeem Cortes to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. While Rakeem worked at the juice bar for our gym, he was very helpful in translating for us, and he was also very friendly with gym members. He is a kind and respectful person who communicates well with people in the community, and he deserves to be a part of the town youth commission.

Sincerely,

Saeed Lackraj

Assistant Manager

Five Star Gym, Yucca Valley

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

richard g. abbot

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

RA

*** Date**

08/13/2025 8:37 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Nicole Abbott

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/13/2025 8:38 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Sonora R. Atwater

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Kimberly Zzyzx (Homeschool teacher) and Mrs. Howell (Leadership 7th grade teacher)

Letter of Recommendation 1

[CamScanner 09-02-2025 19.22 \(2\).pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[108e548d-8789-4d49-a397-23a053658608.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

SA

* **Date**

09/02/2025 7:49 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Kathryn Atwater

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

*** Date**

09/02/2025 7:51 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

My name is Sonora Atwater, I first heard about Yucca Valley Youth Commission at one of the community events at the high school. I am 13 years old almost 14 and want to join to help the community and be a good example and leader for the town. I have been attending the town events since I was little and have always wanted to volunteer. I want to join because I want this to help me become a more productive, creative person. In 7th grade at La Contenta Middle school I got into leadership, later on I got the opportunity to attend Rotary 5330 PYRDE youth camp. I was there for 2 days, it was an experience were I get to learn leadership, teamwork, and social skills. I believe I could use those skills to help with events, volunteering and more. I have been taking the time this year to join activities, after school programs, and other events to help learn who I am as a person and take these experiences/opportunities to also help me become more smart, intelligent, and bright. I also used to be homeschooled throughout 1st to 5th grade and during that time I have been independent but also learned teamwork. I was in a homeschool class where I got to volunteer and help make a movie for the 29 palms drive in theatre. I would love to take the time to help out at the community events, have fun, think of new ideas how to make this year even better then last, listen to others and also always be respectful. I am always willing to help, and also communicate. I have also had experience from leadership to help decorate, take the time volunteering for whatever event we would be doing and clean up after the event. I would love to be apart of Yucca Valley Youth Commission I would love to have this opportunity to learn, use my leadership skills, make a good impact on the town.

From: Shelley Howell, M. Ed.

Town of Yucca Valley
Youth Commission Selection Committee
Yucca Valley, CA

Letter of Recommendation for Sonora Atwater – Youth Commissioner Application

Dear Members of the Selection Committee,

It is my great pleasure to recommend **Sonora Atwater** for the position of Youth Commissioner with the Town of Yucca Valley. I have had the privilege of knowing Sonora for two years now as she was in my Leadership Class last year. In that time, I have seen her consistently demonstrate leadership, integrity, and a genuine dedication to serving others.

Sonora stands out as a young leader who not only takes initiative but also inspires those around her. She approaches challenges with creativity and determination, and she has the ability to listen to different perspectives with respect and empathy. These qualities, combined with her strong sense of responsibility, make her an excellent representative for the youth of Yucca Valley.

In addition to her leadership skills, Sonora has a deep interest in community engagement and improvement. She has shown great enthusiasm for addressing the needs of her peers, and I believe she would bring a thoughtful, energetic, and collaborative spirit to the Youth Commission. Her maturity, strong communication skills, and commitment to making a positive difference are exactly what is needed in this role.

I am confident that Sonora Atwater will excel as a Youth Commissioner and contribute meaningfully to the work of the Commission and the broader Yucca Valley community. I wholeheartedly recommend her for this position.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] if you would like further information.

Sincerely,



Shelley Howell
La Contenta Middle School Teacher



Kimberly Zzyzx
Executive Director, Institute of Inquiry
760.206.6026
director@instituteofinquiry.org

August 31, 2025

Attn: Clayton Rardon
Community Services Manager, Town of Yucca Valley Community Services Dept.
crardon@yucca-valley.org

Dear Mr. Rardon,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic recommendation for Sonora Atwater as an applicant to the Town of Yucca Valley's Youth Commission. As the Director and Lead Teacher of education nonprofit the Institute of Inquiry, I have had the pleasure of serving as Sonora's teacher from the time she was six to 13 years old. If chosen, I have no doubt that Sonora will quickly become an integral member of the Yucca Valley Youth Commission.

When Sonora first entered my class as a 1st grader, her drive and curiosity for learning were immediately clear. These characteristics, along with her kind, inclusive nature have served her well over the years, including many collaborative projects. During her time in our program, Sonora's creativity has blossomed. Even more importantly, Sonora has consistently shown grace and skill when working with partners and in group projects. Sonora's focus has *never* been solely to further her own goals, she is an attentive collaborator, listener, and shows particular skill in reaching group consensus with peer connections intact. She is an effective advocate for her peers when she sees they are not being heard or factored into group discussions, and would serve as a valuable addition to any team.

During the years 2020 to 2023, our program held an Annual Student Silent Film Festival, culminating in a screening fundraiser event at Smith's Ranch Drive-In. In our Silent Films class, we spoke often as a group about the nature of collaborating in supportive and helpful ways. In 2023, Sonora spent 10 weeks authoring an original script, even continuing her project independently during her extended absence from class for health reasons. In the roles of director, actor, lead costumer and video editor, Sonora exemplified this kind of inclusive leadership. She worked diligently on her project management skills throughout production by keeping track of multiple scenes, actors, and production team duties.

Throughout my time as Sonora's teacher, I and her peers have benefited greatly from her enthusiasm for learning and for building community with her peers. Sonora is an individual who remains committed to equity, and notices the needs of any peer who may fall silent, feel left out, or fail to speak up. I know she would bring a great deal of diplomacy and care to her time on the Yucca Valley Youth Commission and I am thrilled to offer my recommendation. I know she will bring a great deal of passion and resilience to any challenge she meets, as she has for the past 8 years as my student. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any additional questions.

Warmly,

Kimberly Zzyzx

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Sophia J. Abbott

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED] ol

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning youth commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

S.A

* Date

08/08/2025 9:00 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Nicole Abbott

* Parent Email Address

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/08/2025 12:00 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Talia Faith. Soares

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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Tina Wilcox and Taylor Soares

Letter of Recommendation 1

[2025 Talia Reference.docx](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Letter of Recommendation.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

TS

* **Date**

09/03/2025 6:11 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Ty Soares

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/03/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

Dear people of Youth Commission, considering you only have limited spots for this amazing program I would be honored to be chosen for something this cool. One reason you should choose me to be in Youth Commission is because I have always been very involved with the community. I am also very good with staying on task and doing more than one thing at a time. Over the 11 years of my life I have done soccer, track, basketball, dance, tennis, piano, taekwondo, gate and just started volleyball. One example that I learned from soccer is that you have to have great sportsmanship. One reason you have to have great sportsmanship is because your friends may be on the other team so if they win you still have to support them. I have also done leadership both in yucca valley and 29 palms. I think it would be really fun to help out the community and plan cool activities for people to enjoy. Ever since I heard that youth commission is a thing I have wanted to be in the program. In conclusion, it would be amazing to be in youth commission so I can help the community out more.

September 2, 2025

Reference for Talia Soares, Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission

Talia Soares would be an excellent asset for you as a Youth Commissioner. She has excellent leadership skills, is helpful, and personal. Talia works well in groups and is a team player because she has great ideas and is a contributor. She is energetic, enthusiastic, and likes to stay busy. Talia also works well with adults as well as her peers. She was my go-to-student in Sixth Grade. She led discussion groups as well as leading lessons for the entire class.

She is comfortable to be around because she is kind, mannerly, and has a great sense of humor. When she makes a commitment, she is responsible and loyal. Talia has already made arrangements to come back to FHES to work with me in the Sixth-Grade classroom, demonstrating her loyalty.

In addition, Talia is a great public speaker. She volunteered to give speeches on some of the subjects she had written in class. She was chosen to be a main speaker for her Sixth Grade Promotion.

In summary, Talia is the complete person. She is well adjusted and is comfortable in all situations. She accepts academic and personal challenges. She is a thinker and cares about people. Talia would definitely serve you well as a Youth Commissioner. I highly recommend her for this position.

If you would like further information, I would be delighted to be contacted.

[REDACTED]

Tina Wilcox
Friendly Hills Elementary School
Sixth-Grade Educator

Taylor Soares

Letter of Recommendation,

Although Talia is my little sister, I can honestly say that she is a very enthusiastic and hardworking young lady that always strives to be the best that she can be. She has great potential and I believe that joining the Youth Commission will help her grow as a person, just as it has helped me grow. Talia will always put a smile on your face, and she has a heart of gold. So, when she asked me to write her a recommendation letter, I was more than pleased to do so. The list that I could write about this bright young lady could go on for pages, but in short I will end with this. Talia Soares carries herself with a sense of confidence and empathy, she is a friend to everyone, and will always strive to do her best.

- Taylor Soares

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Taylor Grace. Soares

* Residence Address

8540 Quail Springs Rd
Joshua Tree CA 92252
Unite States of America

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

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* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

TS

* **Date**

09/01/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Tony Soares

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/01/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

NA

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Please complete the following fields.

*** Name**

Trenity M. Keele

*** Residence Address**

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

*** Cell Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Email Address**

[REDACTED]

*** School**

[REDACTED]

*** Grade**

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Kalea Powell, Sherry Powell

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Trenitys refernce letter.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Document \(2\).docx](#)

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

TMK

*** Date**

09/03/2025 12:00 AM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

LeeAnn Keele

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/03/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

My name is Treenity Keele. To whom it may concern, I am 12 years old, in 8th grade, and I am home-schooled through Acellus Academy. I've been helping my mother through stroke recovery for 2 years, and I've had some jobs working for my family. When I join the Youth Commission, I will be more focused on helping others and the community, and learn about the town. I think that the youth commission could help me be a better person and help me be more willing to talk to new people and learn new things. Overall, the Youth Commission is a great place and is friendly to all, and I look forward to joining the Youth Commission and the chance to be a better person, learn new things, and meet new people. I am grateful to join the youth commission and the opportunities ahead. Thank you for choosing me to join the Youth Commission.
Respectfully, Treenity Keele

Recommendation for Trenty Keele

Date: September 3, 2025

To the Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Selection Committee,

It is a pleasure to recommend Trenty Keele for a position on the Youth Commission. Trenty is the youngest of a large family with sibling ages spanning over 40 years. She has been observed as a thoughtful, empathetic, and exceptionally responsible young person who is well-suited to represent her peers.

Trenty possesses a maturity and level of integrity. She consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and is an active and engaged member of the homeschool community and her scout group. Beyond her academic and extracurricular performance, she has the ability to interact within intergenerational settings with comfort. Trenty has selflessly assisted family during the difficult times following her mother's stroke whether it was aiding with her mom's care or with her preschool aged nephews she is always willing to step in and help where needed.

Trenty has the dedication and interpersonal skills to be a valuable asset to the Youth Commission. She will approach her responsibilities with enthusiasm and a commitment to serving her community.

Feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] if further information is required.

Sincerely,

Sherry Powell

Kalea Powell

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

08/15/25

To whom it may concern,

As a member of the Yucca Valley Youth Commission and town employee, I know firsthand how valuable this program is in helping young people grow as leaders and make a difference in their community. I am excited to recommend my aunt, Trenity Keele, for a position on the Commission.

Even though she is only twelve, Trenity already shows the curiosity, responsibility, and kindness that make a great commissioner. She is thoughtful in her ideas, respectful when working with others, and always willing to step in and help. I believe the Youth Commission would give her the opportunity to develop these strengths even further while offering her a chance to bring fresh insight and enthusiasm to the team.

I'm confident she would be a dedicated, creative, and dependable member who would take this role seriously and grow from the experience. Thank you for considering her application.

Sincerely,

Kalea Powell

Youth Commissioner/Town employee

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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5. Commissioners will be required to attend Youth Commission meetings once a month during the school year. Excessive absences during the term will result in dismissal.

Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Valorie A. Cantos

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Amanda Vargas Jessica Ramos

Letter of Recommendation 1

[IMG_4525 \(1\).pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Letter of Rec..pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

VC

* **Date**

08/02/2025 11:26 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Abigail Cantos

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/02/2025 11:26 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

I am interested in being part of the youth commission because I would love to help create fun, safe, and engaging activities for the youth in our community. I believe it's important to have opportunities where young people can come together, connect, and express themselves by being themselves. Some of the activities I would love to help bring to our area include after school programs, creative art and imagination workshops, and evening events that give the youth community something fun to look forward to. My mom often shares stories about growing up in Joshua Tree and how much she enjoyed you nights at the park. There would be a live DJ and kids within a certain age group could come out and dance in a safe environment. Hearing those stories inspires me to bring something similar back for today's generation. I want to represent and be the voice for that youth and help make positive changes.

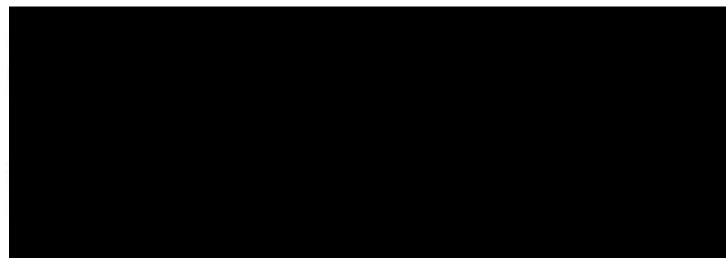
To whom this may concern,

My name is Amanda Vargas. I am honored to recommend for my niece Valorie Cantos for the Youth Commission of Yucca Valley. I strongly believe that Valorie is a deserving candidate for this position. She has consistently excelled in school and has been recognized by receiving the Presidents award and many more. Valorie has always been a role model and has inspired those around her. I am confident that she will be the best fit for the committee as she is a dedicated and has great leadership qualities.

Please feel free to contact me with any further information.

Best,

Amanda Vargas



Jessicka Barreto Ramos

Supernova All-Star Cheer

[REDACTED]

Yucca Valley, CA. 92284

[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

I'm super excited to recommend Valorie Cantos for the Youth Commission! I've known Valorie for several years, and she's been one of the most outstanding athletes I've had the pleasure of working with. She's always shown herself to be incredibly respectful and responsible, which makes her a fantastic role model.

Valorie really shines as a leader on our team. As cheer team captain, she always steps up, whether it's boosting confidence or helping the team strategize during competitions. What really stands out is how she mentors new members. She takes the time to show them new techniques, offers encouragement, and makes sure they feel like part of the team right away. Her patience and ability to explain things clearly have made a huge difference in how quickly our new cheerleaders get up to speed.

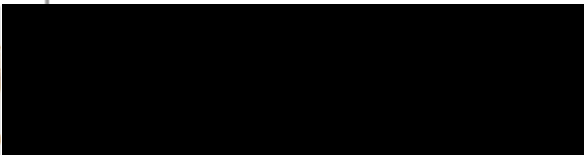
Beyond her leadership, Valorie volunteers to coach and train our mini team, who are just 4 to 7 years old. She's so patient and kind with them, and it's amazing to see how much the kids look up to her. She brings such a positive attitude to everything she does, and I know she'd be a fantastic addition to your program. Valorie has been a joy to have on my team, and I'll always be here to support her. If you need any more information or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best,

Jessicka Barreto Ramos.



JESSICKA BARRETO RAMOS



*Jessicka
Barreto Ramos*

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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5. Commissioners will be required to attend Youth Commission meetings once a month during the school year. Excessive absences during the term will result in dismissal.

Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Vanessa M. Cifuentes

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

I am a returning commissioner.

Letter of Recommendation 1

SKIPPED

Letter of Recommendation 2

SKIPPED

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

VC

* **Date**

08/05/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Pablo Cifuentes

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* Parent Phone

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

08/05/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

N/A

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

*** Name**

Vince Navarro. Hernandez

*** Residence Address**

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

*** Cell Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Email Address**

[REDACTED]

*** School**

[REDACTED]

*** Grade**

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Thomas Curran, Thomas Curran

Letter of Recommendation 1

[rec letter.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[rec letter.pdf](#)

*** Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

VNHB

*** Date**

08/28/2025 8:30 PM

*** Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Yubisela Hernandez Valdepenas

*** Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

*** Parent Phone**

*** Date**

08/28/2025 8:27 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

My Interest is cause i did a blood drive for the high school three times and honestly i love just working and hearing you help and work is my favorite words to hear so i would love and be gladly and grateful to work for the youth commission, i would love to provide and serve my city to give a good community to kids and up in youth and more

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Vince Navarro Hernandez. It has been my pleasure to be his teacher in the time I have known him at Yucca Valley High School. He always shows up to class on time and with enthusiasm, and while in class he works hard and maintains a positive attitude. I can confidently say that he is dedicated to being a capable student.

Vince consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic, intellectual curiosity, and a positive attitude. He participates actively in class discussions, submits assignments on time, and seeks feedback to improve. Beyond academics, he shows respect for peers and teachers alike, and contributes to a collaborative learning environment.

I believe Vince would be a valuable asset to any academic or professional program and strongly recommend him for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information.

Sincerely,
Thomas Curran
Education Specialist
Yucca Valley High School



Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

Youth Commission Appointment Guidelines

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Wayne A. Keele

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

* **Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Kalani Powell, Sherry Powell

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Letter of Recommendation for Wayne Keele.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Document \(3\).docx](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

WAK

* **Date**

09/03/2025 12:00 AM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

LeeAnn Keele

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/03/2025 12:00 AM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

Hello and good afternoon, I am Wayne Keele. I am 14 years old and in 9th grade, enrolled in an online homeschool program called Acellus Power Homeschool. I have not had any real jobs, but I work around my household doing small parts for my mom, who is in stroke recovery. To whoever it may concern, I would like to join the Youth Commission to explore activities that utilize my free time to help others. I want to make a positive impact in the community. I'd like to learn more about the history of Yucca Valley, California. I would also like to meet different people in the community. I would love to be accepted into the youth commission, and I am willing to help in any way needed, so please ask for help when needed. I wish to strengthen the Youth Commission in every aspect I can. Thank you for your time and support. Sincerely, Wayne Keele, youth commission candidate

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to recommend Wayne Keele for the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. Wayne is a great kid who is responsible, respectful, and dependable. He is the kind of young person who can be counted on to do his best and to take his commitments seriously.

Although he is on the quieter side, Wayne is thoughtful and observant, and he has a genuine way of listening to others. He works well with people of all ages and shows maturity in how he treats both peers and adults. As a homeschooler, Wayne has had the opportunity to spend time in intergenerational settings, which has helped him become comfortable engaging with younger children as well as adults.

Wayne has also shown patience and a caring nature at home, especially while helping his mom during her recovery from a stroke. He has been supportive to his family and dependable with his young nephews, showing responsibility and kindness in those everyday situations.

I believe Wayne would be a wonderful addition to the Youth Commission. He is eager to learn, open to new experiences, and ready to contribute in a positive way. I am confident that he would take this opportunity seriously and represent himself and his community well.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED]

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kalani Powell

Sherry Powell
Sister, Homeschool Mentor, Coach

September 2, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with great pride and genuine respect that I write this letter of recommendation for Wayne Keele, a remarkable young man who is applying to serve on our Youth Commission. Wayne is not only an outstanding student and community member, but he is also a resilient and compassionate individual who brings depth, empathy, and leadership beyond his years.

As the youngest son of a single mother and dedicated homemaker who has recently suffered a stroke, Wayne has faced challenges that would test even the most seasoned adult. Instead of retreating, he has stepped up—with courage, humility, and strength. His ability to balance academic responsibility, family care, and community involvement is a reflection of his exceptional character.

What sets Wayne apart is his innate sense of purpose and service. He is keenly aware of the needs of those around him and has consistently sought ways to contribute meaningfully, whether through volunteer work, supporting his peers, or simply being a steady presence in a time of uncertainty. His lived experiences have nurtured a deep understanding of empathy, equity, and the importance of giving back—qualities that align powerfully with the mission of the Youth Commission.

Despite the pressures he has endured, Wayne continues to strive for excellence and inspires others with his quiet determination and positive spirit. He is a young man who listens before he speaks, who leads by example, and who sees challenges as opportunities to grow and uplift others. I have no doubt that his voice would bring valuable insight and perspective to the commission.

I wholeheartedly recommend Wayne for a position on the Youth Commission. He is a young leader in the making—one who embodies resilience, responsibility, and hope. Please feel free to contact me should you need any further information.

Sincerely,
Sherry Powell

Town of Yucca Valley Youth Commission Application

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Questions? Contact Clayton Rardon at the Community Services Department (760) 369 7211 ext 240 or crardon@yucca-valley.org

Please complete the following fields.

* Name

Yoatd Cazares

* Residence Address

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

* Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

* Email Address

[REDACTED]

* School

[REDACTED]

* Grade

[REDACTED]

Two letters of recommendation must be included with each application. These may be from teachers, coaches, neighbors or other responsible adults. Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations.

*** Names of references (Returning Youth Commissioners: Please type "I am a returning commissioner." You do not need to submit references.)**

Please list the names of your two references and attach their recommendations. Mike Wali, Devin Main.

Letter of Recommendation 1

[Yoatd C. Letter of Rec.pdf](#)

Letter of Recommendation 2

[Youth Commission Yoatd Cazares.pdf](#)

* **Signature of Applicant (use initials)**

YC

* **Date**

09/02/2025 4:00 PM

* **Signature of Parent/Guardian (type name)**

Ana Morales

* **Parent Email Address**

[REDACTED]

* **Parent Phone**

[REDACTED]

*** Date**

09/02/2025 4:00 PM

*** Please submit a 150-word narrative detailing your interest in serving on the Commission. This can include your job/volunteer experience, qualifications for appointment and reasons for application. (Returning Commissioners: Please type "N/A". This section is not needed for you)**

Although I have very little job and volunteer experience, I wish to partake in the youth commission to become a voice for students who wish to become STEM majors. I believe that there are very few STEM-related extracurriculars or events in the town of Yucca Valley, and I wish to become a voice, hopefully organizing these events, thus building opportunities for those with an interest in STEM. Within an academic setting, I often take charge, steering my group towards success, showing off my leadership. Furthermore, I can connect with those going through troubling times, having gone through similar experiences myself. Ultimately, becoming a voice for those with similar interests is important to me, and I hope this can be done through the Yucca Valley Youth Commission.

Devin J. Main, BA
Social Science Teacher
Yucca Valley High School

[REDACTED]

9/2/2025

To whom it may concern,

I highly recommend Yoatd Cazares for the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. I had the privilege of teaching Yoatd for one year and I oversaw him during my time as the GATE Coordinator at Yucca Valley High. Yoatd participates frequently in GATE activities and likes to learn. He rarely missed out on opportunities for new learning experiences. Yoatd is a dedicated student who strives for excellence. As a student, he participated in classroom activities and discussions. I could always count on Yoatd to provide his own insight to a conversation.

Beyond Yoatd's dedication to his education, he showcases great character around campus. He is always willing to help his peers. He rises to the challenge when needed. Yoatd always had a positive attitude and respect for his classmates. Yoatd is a friend to all.

Yoatd will make an excellent addition to the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. His willingness to participate shows that he will be a reliable member of the team and will be actively present for meetings and events. His inquisitive attitude shows that he will ask necessary questions and provide unique insight to the team. I believe his character is exactly what the team is looking for. Yoatd is the definition of a team player. He can successfully work with anybody. His positive attitude will help the team bond and become a strong presence in our town. I have no doubt that Yoatd will be a successful member of the team and will quickly show his worth.

If given the opportunity, Yoatd will rise to any challenge that comes his way. He is motivated and wants to do better for himself and the community. I fully support Yoatd in all of his future endeavors. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out via email at

[REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Devin J. Main, BA
Social Science Teacher
Yucca Valley High School

Dear Youth Commission,

I recommend Yoatd Cazares for a position with the Yucca Valley Youth Commission. I had Yoatd for an advanced math class, dual enrollment Math 10 and Math 12, two years ago, and also AP Calculus last year. Yoatd is talented and hard working. He made an A in most of those difficult classes. His future plans include the study of engineering in college. He can be a good role model and positive influence to those in Yucca Valley that the youth commission serves. He is patient and helpful and can give good tips and advice to students who are currently navigating the high school experience.

Sincerely,

Mr. Mike Wali

Math teacher

Yucca Valley High School

4.12.010: COMMISSION CREATED:

A. There is hereby created a youth commission for the town, comprised of a minimum of five (5) members and a maximum of twenty (20) members. All commission members shall be full time students attending either a junior high or high school. Members of the commission shall serve without compensation.

B. The members of the commission shall be appointed by and continue in office subject to the pleasure of the town council. Each member shall serve a term concurrent with the school calendar from October through June, except that upon dissolution of the commission, or otherwise by action of the town council, all appointments shall terminate as of the effective date of such dissolution. The members of the youth commission shall not be limited in the number of terms they may serve. (Ord. 167, 5-12-2005; amd. Ord. 209, 5-4-2010; Ord. 290, 1-19- 2021)



Item: 5. **Town of Yucca Valley
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission Staff Report**

To: Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission

From: Clayton Rardon, Recreation Supervisor

Date: September 4, 2025

Meeting Date: September 10, 2025

Subject: Public Art Program – Utility Box Program, Public Comment Review

Recommendation:

That the Commission approve and accept the submissions of the selected artists as the recommended Utility Box Program artwork, based on the completion of the public comment period, and direct staff to forward the recommendation to the Town Council.

Prior Review:

At its August 2025 meeting, the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission received a presentation from staff regarding the Utility Box Art Program. Staff reported that 61 submissions were received from 52 artists or artist teams in response to the Town's Call for Art. The Commission reviewed all submissions during the meeting, discussed box locations and design adaptability, and heard public comments from several participating artists. Commissioners commended the quality and diversity of the submissions and affirmed staff's ability to work with selected artists on formatting artwork for installation. Following deliberation, the Commission unanimously approved a motion to recommend 12 selected artworks for Town Council consideration upon completion of the required 30-day public comment period.

The PRCC meeting minutes of June 11, 2025 are attached to this report to provide background on the commission's selection process. Presently, the program is at Step 4 of the timeline and the Commission is asked to review the public comments collected during the 30-day period and forward the recommendation to the Town Council. The timeline for the program is as follows:

1. March 27th – May 5th Call-for-Artists to provide Utility Box designs.
2. June 11th – PRCC selected 12 submissions for public comment/Council recommendation.
3. July 10th through August 10th – 31-day public comment period of the artwork selected for recommendation
4. **September 10th – PRCC review of public comments**
5. Scheduled September 16th – Town Council review/approval of PRCC recommendation
6. Scheduled Oct 6th November 13th – Installation of art

The 12 selected art submissions included:

Selected Submissions:

1. Matt Adams- Warren's Well

2. Ashley Adams-Spring on the Mesa
3. Marsha Geiger- Watering Hole
4. Melissa Friel- The Desert Dreams in Color
5. Prescott McCarthy- A Place to Call Home
6. Lili Todd-There is Magic All Around Us
7. Krista Wargo- Plants of the Desert
8. Linda Shrader- Yucca Valley Sunset
9. Zebulon Zang- Before the Rain
10. Cecelia Romero- Desert Dreamscape
11. Rosa Cruglez- Natural Biodiversity of Yucca
12. Sharra Salter- Dimensions

Discussion:

Art in Daily Lives Program – Utility Boxes

The Art in Daily Lives component of the Public Art Program, aimed at embedding public art throughout the community, as well as providing local artists an opportunity to showcase their art in high-traffic areas. In November 2025, the Town of Yucca Valley announced a Call for Artists to submit artwork aimed at vinyl wrapping 6 utility boxes at high visibility/traffic locations in Town. This is a popular style of program nationwide, for several reasons: utility boxes are often drab and unassuming colors, they are frequently the target of graffiti/vandalism (the rate of which the Public Art vinyl wraps reduces), the program engages local artists allowing them to showcase their work, and simultaneously beautifies key areas of the community.

Artist Submissions

Individuals, or teams of artists, 7th grade and up from Yucca Valley and surrounding communities, were invited to share a detailed explanation of their artistic vision for works of art to be vinyl wrapped on utility boxes at high visibility locations around town. The artists chosen for this installation will receive a \$500 stipend. This Call for Artists yielded 61 submissions. Artists who submitted applications were invited and encouraged to attend this Commission meeting. The applications have been reviewed by staff for completeness and are eligible for consideration.

Background

Public Art Approved Programs FY 24-26

The following is the current line-up of programs that were approved by the PRCC and are currently underway or are proposed for the near future. These programs are scheduled for completion by end of 2026.

Temporary Art Installation Program

Yucca Valley Branch Library Art Installation	
2025 Art installation will remain until 11/25	\$2000
2026 Art installation Call for Art	\$2000

Brehm Park Community Building Entrance	
Call for Art for entrance of Brehm Park building	\$2000

New - Founders Plaza Art Installation

Call for Art for new event area in Old Town	\$2000
New - Placement of Together We Can Sculpture Evaluate and determine temporary permanent placement of Town-owned sculpture	\$2000
New - Community Center Mural Installation Call for Art for mural at YV Community Center	\$12,000

Art in Daily Lives Program

Utility Box Enhancement Program Expand program – add 6 additional Boxes	\$9500
Embed Public Art enhancements into existing programs Summer Music Festival, 2025 - completed	\$3500
Summer Music Festival, 2026-27	\$3500
Public Art Exhibit & Fundraising Program Coyote Call Public Art Event & Fundraising Auction	\$20,000

Public Art Town Entry Beautification Program

Conceptual design of west entrance monument sign (in progress)	\$2000
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Total estimated program costs: \$57,000

The current Town of Yucca Valley Public Art Policy and Programs were created by the PRCC and approved by the Town Council in 2022, implementation began in mid-2023. Since its launch, many local artists have been featured through the Town’s programs. The Town maintains a Public Art page on its website at yucca-valley.org to keep the public informed of its programs and to feature selected artists.

Public Comment

Town staff received 97 public comments during the 30 period.

Alternatives

None recommended

Fiscal Impact:

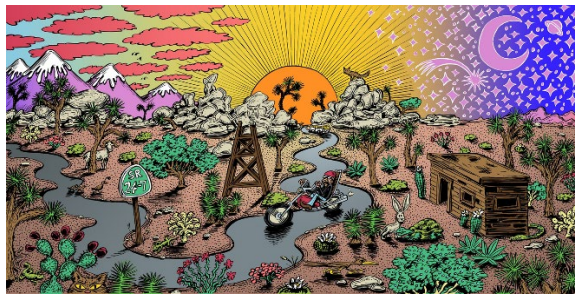
The program is funded through Special Revenue Fund 635 Public Art Fund, approved by the Town Council in October 2022.

Attachments

1. 2025.9.10 Utility Box Public Comment review - PRCC staff report attachment
2. 2025.9.10 PRCC Staff Report - Utility Box Art Installation, Meeting Minutes


Artist: Matt Adams

Piece: Warren's Well



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	More Joshua tree style
Bridget Wilcox	Yes
Deb Burkart	Like but too busy for utility box?
Victoria Sebanz	Great composition and extensive detail with a Peter Max vibe.
Celia Hirschman	Beautiful! Fully of story telling
Lindsay wood	Yes. I like the whimsy.
Darlene H. Morris	This has everything! Love all the critters.
Liz	Lovely design
#3 Desert Dreamscape	#3 very good. little hippy psychedelic vibes but very real to our grounds.
Lara	Yes love!!!
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Orchid Samuels	it looks a little busy
Elle Kemp	Love it but a bit busy
Patricia	Love this
D	This single image shows a low of what you see while out here, it is one of my favorite and all encompassing.
Melissa	i love this!! very cool
M. Richard	I love the concept, detail and colors.
Joanne	Yes
Tiber Scheer	Yes yes yes
Suzin Sequoia	Too busy. It hurts my eyes.
Renee Small	Yes
Kathy Lusk	Different
Jason Todd	
Esther Pearl Watson	I like the underground comics vib and representation of motorcycle culture
Melissa	cool, funky, retro. May invite tagging though given its cartoonish vibe
Jerilyn Lee	
Gena	This is super fun and says so much about our desert home.
Kale Repasky	Fivith favorite. I like the biker.
Liz	Excellent
Meilani	10th pick
Corey	
Elizabeth Ando	Great colors and is filled with images but not too visually busy. Don't prefer the biker as too many have been killed by accident on 247 and too similar to "keep on truckin"
B	Yes
L. Sand	Looks great!
Michelle Maresh	Love the historical aspect!
Taylor	Love the style and things to discover, but too much detail for roadside box

Dylan C	Pretty sick but too psychedelic
Katie	Yes
Kerry	Beautiful
Michelle Blair	It has a 70's feel to it. I like that it reflects multiple areas and time (day and night). Definitely should be used.
Tayler	This one is amazing, Im a big fan of this artist and their work!! Yes!!
Roxy	Love the hippie vibe
Kyle aronson	Awesome colors, captures the desert vibe great
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A Got to be Dr. Seuss inspired it looks like. Very different style with this one than the rest. This would be better on a big wall mural and not on a small electric utility box as there is too much going on. There's an angsty, loudness like clutter that doesn't really reflect the calmer more serene landscape of this valley. Seems to be more of a where's Waldo page than a landscape painting. Definitely unique but perhaps better as an accent wall, big mural for a restaurant---should paint that inside of All Star burgers in town--THAT would be awesome.
Sandra Griswold	

Artist: Ashley Adams

Piece: Spring on the Mesa



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Cute
Bridget Wilcox	Like
Deb Burkart	Lovely
Victoria Sebanz	Bright and cheery composition with lots of movement.
Andrea Gordon	Beautiful desert flora! My top pick :-)
Celia Hirschman	Love this design. Elegant and thoughtful!
Lindsay wood	Sure. Why not.
Noel Mollinedo	I love the design!
Darlene H. Morris	Not my type of style.
Michael Myers	Beautiful done by Mrs Adams, Her contours really blend with desert life
Katie O'Grady	I would love a print of this! Beautiful vibrant colors and emits positive energy!
Lara	Sick! Cool art
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
ben	love!
Elle Kemp	Fun, love this
Kat johno	👍👍👍👍👍
M. Richard	Very nice.
Joanne	Yes
Suzin Sequoia	Looks like types of seaweed, not desert plants.
Kathy Lusk	Not interested
Esther Pearl Watson	Beautiful and vibrant. Very loving and positive tribute to nature
Lisa Edwards	Colorful and beautiful!
Melissa Buchanan	This is lovely! My favorite!
Melissa	very light abd bright. will it fade int he sun?
Gena	I like that this is somewhat unusual. I makes me think of a postage stamp, but in a good way:)
Meilani	7th pick
Elizabeth Ando	I see this is like a bandana, with the details. It is fun although it doesn't read Yucca Valley although would look good on a utility box
B	Yes
L. Sand	It's cute. Will look nice
Michelle Maresh	It's more coastal colors rather than desert, but nice.
Taylor	Great use of color and abstraction, these colors and patterns feel more Arizona than JT
Dylan C	Incredible
Katie	No
Tayler	This is so cute!!

Roxy	This feels like a fun postcard
Kyle aronson	Nice images that will compliment the environment
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Amanda C.	Lovely way to represent native fauna.
Jennifer	I love the simplicity of this and the desert flora
Sandra Griswold	This reminds me of a stamp collection. It's not a landscape picture but more of a still life collage. Different from the others. It's nice but I don't see it transferring too well onto a utility box.

Artist: Marcia Geiger
 Piece: Watering Hole



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	beautiful
Bridget Wilcox	I love this. Beautiful
Deb Burkart	Ok
Victoria Sebanz	Beautiful technique and subject matter.
Laraine Turk	Fabulous - my favorite of 3 I'm commenting on. The realism would make you look twice!
Celia Hirschman	Pure!
Lindsay wood	Sure. Typical style desert-scape.
Darlene H. Morris	Beautiful, classic painting of our desert.
Liz	Perfect for our community
Artist: Cecilia Romero Artwork: Desert Dreamscape	#4 nice.
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Orchid Samuels	this is beautiful
Digna Irizarry Cassens	My #3 choice
ben	love!
Wendy Craig	Stunning and captures the area
Elle Kemp	Love it, blends in with nature
Patricia	Love this
D	This is amazing and so very realistic.
M. Richard	Wow! Fantastic.
Arielle Mayer	Beautiful. I love this one.
Tiber Scheer	Yep
Suzin Sequoia	YES!! Definetly this one!!!
Renee Small	Yes
Kim Monnie	Yes! Beautiful rendering of rarely seen wildlife.
Kathy Lusk	Very cool
Esther Pearl Watson	Skillful rendering and love the animals
Lisa Edwards	Beautiful, but I think the utility box art should be more FUN
cher townsend	hope to see this one, it's beautiful
Melissa	classic and beautiful
Gena	Beautiful work.
Kale Repasky	Third favorite. Shows nature

Liz	Excellent
Meilani	2nd pick - wow!
Elizabeth Ando	Too photo realistic and doesn't celebrate the history of diversity of Yucca Valley
L. Sand	Wow. Great job
Michelle Maresh	Love this!
Taylor	This is an amazing talent, traditional art with classic scene. Can't go wrong
Cynthia Kraemer	Just amazing!
Katie	No
Kerry	Definitely
Michelle Blair	Love the Big Horn sheep and park being represented.
Jacqueline Guevara	Marcia's piece is amazing!
Roxy	A rare sight but you're special if you find them
Kyle aronson	This is a masterpiece, but it needs to be placed in a location where the subtle colors show well.
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Jennifer	Fits well with the desert landscape
Sandra Griswold	Love this with the natural rock elements showing the majestic local big horn. Reflects our natural beauty here wonderfully. The shades are rich, has balance.

Artist: Melissa Friel

Piece: The Desert Dreams in Color



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Amazing!!!!!!! My favorite
Bridget Wilcox	Love it.
Deb Burkart	Love it - colorful
Chris Potter	The winner!!!
Victoria Sebanz	Gorgeous colors and a landscape that invites you in.
Celia Hirschman	Really shows the vibrancy of the desert!
Lindsay wood	Sure. Must have the inevitable sunset scene.
Darlene H. Morris	This lives up to its title. Wonderful!
Liz	Lovely design
Artist: Cecilia Romero Artwork: Desert Dreamscape	#5 nice and colorful.
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Orchid Samuels	another beautiful scene
Elle Kemp	Love the art, but the style doesn't evoke YV to me
Candy Drake	My favorite
Patricia	Love this
M. Richard	Perfect!
Arielle Mayer	Can you verify this is not AI? Have you seen the artist's original work? If this is original, it's beautiful.
Suzin Sequoia	Nope. Too monochrome and cartoonish.
Renee Small	Yes
Kim Monnie	Yes. Lovely sunrise or sunset.
Judy Addison	Third favorite
Kathy Lusk	Pretty
Esther Pearl Watson	Great landscape with colors many associate with The desert
Lisa Edwards	Gorgeous and colorful. Love this
Nancy Miehle	This is my Choice.
Melissa	nice, but it resembles the others selections that have been painted already
Gena	Can you go wrong with a dessert sky? Beautiful.
Kale Repasky	My second favorite. It captures wildlife when you hike.
Liz	Excrllent
Meilani	First pick! Beautiful!

Elizabeth Ando	Pretty and lots of visual textures. Kind of like a reverse sunset with the colors
L. Sand	It's nice
Michelle Maresh	Stunning!!
Taylor	Nice colors very vibrant, may not transfer well to box, may fade
Cynthia Kraemer	Beautiful!
Dylan C	No from me
Katie	Yes
Kerry	Gorgeous
Michelle Blair	Beautiful use of colors and captures what draws the tourists here.
Taylor	I love the colors
Roxy	I love it! Feels like a sunset
Kyle aronson	Nice, but cliché
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Jennifer	Love! Such great colors.
Sandra Griswold	The balance and colors are stark with defining lines, and shading. There is a unique style but it looks too AI generated.

Artist: Prescott McCarthy

Piece: A Place to Call Home



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Not on par with the rest, but pretty
Bridget Wilcox	Nice modern look.
Deb Burkart	Boring
Victoria Sebanz	A nod to Modernism and graphic design. Nice!
Celia Hirschman	I like this as it's a completely different take on the desert!
Lindsay wood	Different. The graphic type quality is a nice addition to the collection. Yes!
Darlene H. Morris	Too minimalist for my taste.
	#8 too simple
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Elle Kemp	Like it but a little corporate art feeling
M. Richard	Very nice.
Joanne	Doesn't live here anymore - artist should be local
Suzin Sequoia	Nooo. Not the Stick Figure one. They didn't even try.
Renee Small	Yes
Kathy Lusk	Don't like
Melissa Buchanan	Perfectly simple & graphic!
Melissa	a bit plain
Gena	Good simplistic, modern look.
Meilani	11th pick
Elizabeth Ando	I am just not drawn to this as the colors don't seem desert like, the blue circle is odd. Not visually appealing to me
L. Sand	It's fine
Michelle Maresh	I appreciate the simplicity.
Taylor	Great simplicity and boldnes, great for driving by. Make the black elements even bigger
Dylan C	Perfect
Katie	No
Kerry	Love it
Roxy	Not my favorite but it's cute
Kyle aronson	Simple, but nice
Sandra Griswold	Huh?

Artist: Lili Todd

Piece: There is Magic All Around Us



Comments:

Your Name	Artist: Lili Todd Artwork: There Is Magic All Around Us Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Cute!! Adorable says my daughter
Bridget Wilcox	Needs to be near a school.
Deb Burkart	Nice message - unique fun style
Victoria Sebanz	Cheery and fun to look at. Well done!
Brad Berger	I think children will love this.
Celia Hirschman	Lovely!
Lindsay wood	Meh.
Noel Mollinedo	This one is adorable for the kids.
Darlene H. Morris	I like the childlike feeling and style. #9 too childish
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
ben	love!
Wendy Craig	I love this one. Simple, bright, and captures the joy of the desert.
Elle Kemp	Cute, I like the style
Kat johno	👍👍👍👍👍
D	I love this without the quote!
M. Richard	Fun submission.
Joanne	Yes
Nikki	Love this!!
Tiber Scheer	Yeahhhhhhhh
Suzin Sequoia	No. Looks like a child made this one. Not an artist.
Renee Small	Yes
Aaron Smith	This on please. Love it
Keiji Ishida	I believe this piece has a unique color palettes, less crowded, represents Yucca Valley, and it stands out!
Kathy Lusk	Don't care for
Mark Todd	Very playful and positive. Great colors and would appeal to young and old. Bold and fun.
Jackie Todd	My vote a good image representing Joshua Tree Makes you happy
Emerson Todd	My vote Lovely , heartwarming
Jason Todd	My favorite one is Lili and she gets my vote
Esther Pearl Watson	Kid friendly, happy pastel colors and positive energy
Kristi Stafford	Yes!!!
Teresa	Teresa watson
Lisa Edwards	Fun and whimsical
Indi Ho	Love this one!!!
Ash pinnick	My favorite
Judy Vetter	Love this. Magical.
Alison Schmidt	This one!
Anais	So bright and lovely !!
Melissa Buchanan	So cute!

allison goodman	this one! offers lots to think about while enjoying the fanciful juxtapositions!
Melissa	soooo good! I like this one best
Jerilyn Lee	Love how happy and fun Lili's design is! It sparks joy
Gena	Whimsical and accurate.
Kale Repasky	honorable mention. nice and simple.
Lisa Kogawa	This one is super cute, quirky and matches the vibe !!
Badger Kimmel	Love the color scheme and the cutesy cartoon approach compared to the other entries
Ana Hurtado	great design, with such inspiring colors and style.
Meilani	4th pick, so cute whimsical and magical
Elizabeth Ando	Like that this work brings a joyful, has a great color palette and would be a good and clear visual on a utility box
L. Sand	Excellent
Taylor	Cute, Very detailed for box. Don't need the words
Dylan C	I like it
Katie	No
Kerry	Sweet
Taylor	I love this one too!! I love Lili's work!
Roxy	This is so cute and fun, reminds me of a kids book
Kyle aronson	Kinda fun
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Amanda C.	Representative of the culture and quiriness of the community.
Jennifer	I like how it is more cartoon. Provides some variety.
Sandra Griswold	This is something that would appeal to adults and children, showing off our desert and creatures ion more simplistic geometric shapes. Good balance and I like the quote. Sends off post energy and vibes. Yes.

Artist: Krista Wargo

Piece: Plants of the Desert



Comments:

Your Name	Artist: Krista Wargo Artwork: Plants of the Desert Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Pretty
Bridget Wilcox	Nice
Deb Burkart	Boring
Victoria Sebanz	Beautiful composition and colors. Very well done!
Celia Hirschman	It's almost as if the plants are speaking with one another! Great.
Lindsay wood	Yes. Nicely done!
Darlene H. Morris	I like Krista's design and the graphic quality. #7 ok
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Orchid Samuels	the picture doesn't seem tall enough?
Elle Kemp	Dont like this
M. Richard	Yes! Wonderful!
Joanne	Digital art - no
Suzin Sequoia	No. Too plain. Not enough depth.
Kim Monnie	Yes. Spare but lovely
Kathy Lusk	Very nice
Lisa Edwards	She is a fabulous artist and I would have chosen something different from her
Melissa	too plain
Gena	Very simple.
Meilani	3rd pick - so pretty!
Elizabeth Ando	Seems a bit odd with 3 same sized isolated plants. Doesn't have a message or personality
L. Sand	Not great
Michelle Maresh	Nice-
Taylor	Nice and Simple, appropriate detail level for box, plant positions could look more organic, offset, scale, closer to viewer etc etc
Dylan C	Nice
Katie	Yes
Kerry	Lovely
Roxy	Cute and basic
Kyle aronson	Is this finished?
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Amanda C.	Looks like it will wrap around the box beautifully on all sides. Kristi definitely kept the layout of the boxes in mind with this one.
Sandra Griswold	Nice, pretty, balanced and it's got a nice representation of the texture of sand, the bright pink cactus blooms. I like the contrast of mountain shades in the background---a common view we see and it's beautiful.

Artist: Linda Schrader

Piece: Yucca Valley Sunset



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	beautiful
Bridget Wilcox	My favorite, of course Linda Schrader
Deb Burkart	Nice
Victoria Sebanz	Dramatic colors and silhouette. This is beautiful.
Donna Lasiter	YES..YES..YES!! This screams our High Desert sunset! I would love to see this regularly, throughout town! Beautiful work!
Laraine Turk	Eye-catching - 2nd of my 3 choices
Celia Hirschman	Exceptional view!
Lindsay wood	Yes
Darlene H. Morris	This gets a "Wow". 1st choice.
Liz	Lovely design
	#6 picture real.
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Orchid Samuels	just lovely
Digna Irizarry Cassens	My #1 choice
ben	yes!
Elle Kemp	Like this but I think with a higher contrast painted background would work better for a utility box
Candy Drake	Second favorite
M. Richard	This captures what we love about Yucca Valley.
Suzin Sequoia	YES!!! Looks like a camera picture.
Renee Small	Yes
Kim Monnie	Yes. Lovely silhouettes
Judy Addison	My favorite
Kathy Lusk	Love this
Lisa Edwards	This is ok
Nancy Miehle	This is my Choice
Melissa	looks like the others that have already been painted
Gena	Lovely photograph.
Kale Repasky	This one looks like a photo. Fourth favorite.
Liz	Excellent
Meilani	9th pick
Corey	How is this one considered art?
Elizabeth Ando	Postcard image I have seen. Pretty picture although too much black/darkness
L. Sand	The scale is off. Appears to be off. Not sure if it is meant to be realistic and poorly executed depth or what
Michelle Maresh Taylor	Nicely done! Very representative of the area
Cynthia Kraemer	A nice scene
Dylan C	Perfect sunset!
Katie	Meh
Kerry	No
Michelle Blair	Dark and delicious
	I like the Photography look and capturing most of the cactuss.

Jacqueline Guevara	Stunning!
Kyle aronson	Dime a dozen photography
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Sandra Griswold	Contrast and balance is stunning. This one is beautiful showcasing what native desert plants look like at night against the colorful sunset. Thus is a very common sky we see here at night and should be showcased.

Artist: Zebulon Zang

Piece: Before the Rain



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Very creative! You can almost smell them monsoon! Very cool
Bridget Wilcox	Love it.
Deb Burkart	Won't read well on utility box/ too small detail and monochromatic
Victoria Sebanz	Beautiful technique and colors. This invites you in.
Celia Hirschman	A show of Mother Nature's fury.
Lindsay wood	Wow. Yes, please.
Noel Mollinedo	Stark and beautiful. Like a Cormac McCarthy novel.
Darlene H. Morris	Strong composition and action happening.
Liz	Reflects the area #5 tranquil and nice
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Orchid Samuels	I love the desert storm, but it looks more like 29 Palms than Yucca Valley
Digna Irizarry Cassens	My #2 choice
Elle Kemp	I love the colors and the picture but am worried the small trails will get lost on a utility box
M. Richard	Powerful, I can picture the storm moving in. Well done.
Joanne	Digital art - no
Suzin Sequoia	No. Maybe. Needs improvement. Cut it in Half. The joshua trees and building need to be removed since the focus is on those. The focus should be on those hills and clouds.
Kim Monnie	Yes. Portent of rain in the summer
Judy Addison	Second favorite
Esther Pearl Watson	Love this storm on the horizon and great colors
Lisa Edwards	Nice and beautiful tribute to our area
Melissa	nice but too plain for me. would look better as a wall mural
Gena	Who doesn't love a good desert rain! And this is unlike most desert sky art here in town. Nicely done. *insert heart emoji here*
Kale Repasky	I think this is my favorite. it really shows the atmosphere when you're not in the main town.
Liz	Excellent
Meilani	8th pick nice panoramic
Elizabeth Ando	Like the desolation of this one and it depicts what living in the desert can feel like
L. Sand	Amazing
Michelle Maresh	I'd buy this one!
Taylor	Wow Amazing talent, traditional art. The focal points of this composition may be too small for a roadside box
Dylan C	Nah
Katie	No
Roxy	I love this reminds me of wonder valley
Kyle aronson	Someone might crash into an electrical box that blends into the environment
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Jennifer	I feel there is too much uellow at the bottom and wrapped around a box it might get lost
Sandra Griswold	Simple, serene, nice shades, natural color and shows off the power and beauty of our desert storms highlighted by the contrast of the dark grey sky with the juxtaposition beside the white fluffy clouds and blue sky. The little homestead is a common sight in the desert. Beautiful

Artist: Cecilia Romero

Piece: Desert Dreams in Color



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Again, this looks more Joshua tree
Bridget Wilcox	Lots of color.
Victoria Sebanz	Very eye-catching and spiritual. Yum.
Laraine Turk	3rd of the 3 I'm commenting on. Love the multicolored horns, a good attention-grabber along with the intense colors overall.
Celia Hirschman	So vibrant!
Lindsay wood	Ok.
Noel Mollinedo	I love the psychedelic desert vibe of this one.
Darlene H. Morris	Nice graphic, but horns too colorful. #1 The Best one from the selection. Very modern yet captures the desert beautiful colors. #1
Lara	Surreal and awesome
Jennifer Cusack	Love it
Orchid Samuels ben	I like it love!
Elle Kemp	Not my personal style, too many colors
M. Richard	Fun submission, and great for outside art.
Joanne	Digital art - no
Tiber Scheer	Wonderfulllllllll
Suzin Sequoia	NO! This one looks like a stoner made it.
Renee Small	Yes
Kim Monnie	Yes. A rainbow of color in flora and fauna
Kathy Lusk	Okay
Esther Pearl Watson	A playful psychedelic twist with nature. Fun
Lisa Edwards	I like the art that looks more hand painted
Melissa	like this but the purples are too plain
Gena	Colorful.
Nathan Miller	This is my favorite, love the colors and local wildlife
Christopher Carlson	I love this dynamic, colorful art and think it would be a great choice for the Yucca Valley utility boxes.
Meilani	6th pic, the music fest hippies will love it
Elizabeth Ando	This one seems an odd computer generated 70's album cover
L. Sand	Whatever
Michelle Maresh	Too abstract for my taste
Dylan C	Nope. Absolutely not.
Katie	Yes
Béah Romero	I would absolutely LOVE to see more of local artist, Cecilia's work in our town! Her skill, vision, talent and vibrant color palette are uncanny in their ability to uplift a community audience or individual alike. Our town of Yucca Valley would be blessed to have her colorful work of art on display! We should be so proud that an artist of her caliber lives right here in our sweet town.
Rosie Hitzeman	Love this work! It would look amazing in the town.
Kerry	Nice
Natalie Joan Mahin	This masterpiece stopped me in my tracks and stands out above all the rest! The psychedelic pop art and vivid colors really draws you in! The diversity of detailing with the variety of abstract

	stenciled shadows with some Mother Nature influence really draws the audience into a surreal experience in the desert ~ a place so many of us adore!
Michelle Blair	Nice use of colors, great on a utility box.
Taylor	Yesss!! So incredible and unique!! This is definitely my favorite one!!!
Scott	Bright beautiful pallet, and desert friends!
Jacqueline Guevara	Such a gorgeous and vibrant piece! I hope it's selected.
Roxy	So colorful
Kyle aronson	This one will really stand out amongst all the beige we have in Yucca
Brandon Akulian	Wow this is amazing, like daaaaang
Michael	What better compliment to the beauty of the this desert landscape!!! Gorgeous! Pick this!!!
Jennifer	Love the bright colors. Great contrast to some of the more realistic ones
Sandra Griswold	No..it's unsettling to see the rainbow horns on the Bighorn. Better if a solid dark violet. Something clashy about the colors too much going on in the middle that seems to throw off the balance. The scale of the Jackrabbit seems off and not very true to the anatomy. Interesting though and nice references to the local wildlife.

Artist: Rosa Cruglez

Piece: Natural Biodiversity of Yucca



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	So pretty 😊
Bridget Wilcox	Nice
Deb Burkart	Too busy
Victoria Sebanz	Intriguing collage full of lush detail and life!
Celia Hirschman	Love this!
Darlene H. Morris	Too busy & the background is not here.
Liz	Very colorful and reflects the area
Jennifer Cusack	#2 Awesome Love it
Orchid Samuels	too busy, and the mountains in the back look like the Grand Canyon. Saguaro cactus are not native to this area. Just NO.
Elle Kemp	Too busy
Kat johno	👍👍👍👍👍
Tom D.	Great perspective
Lavanya Rao	I like this the best as it is a colorful depiction of our town's biodiversity.
M. Richard	Thanks for sharing, it's terrific.
Joanne	Digital art - no
Arielle Mayer	Saguaro's don't really belong here. It should be a Joshua tree.
Suzin Sequoia	No. Yikes! No. What is going on in this person's head?
Renee Small	Yes
Kim Monnie	Yes! Beautiful and realistic depiction of our desert.
Kathy Lusk	Beautiful
Esther Pearl Watson	Beautiful collage with new things to discover with each view
Lisa Edwards	Interesting but not my fav since it's more copy and paste
Melissa	would be better as wall mural
Gena	Is that the Grand Canyon? Almost too much to look at.
Liz	Excellent
Meilani	12th - looks like the grand canyon in the background
Corey	Way too over cluttered. Can't even tell what's going on
Elizabeth Ando	Too much going on with this one- it is hard to read. Pretty although would not have much content impact on a utility box
B	Yes
L. Sand	So cool
Michelle Maresh	Saguaros are not indigenous to our Mojave desert. Nice art, but inaccurate
Taylor	Very very detailed, may be too busy for box. Grand Canyon in background.
Dylan C	No way.
Katie	Yes
Kerry	Stunning
Michelle Blair	Wild sizes have me a bit perplexed but its nice.
Jacqueline Guevara	This is beautiful 😊
Roxy	Love it, the magic all in one spot
Kyle aronson	This will not look good from a distance
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Amanda C.	This is way too busy. Plus, that's not even anywhere in the high desert in the background. That's the Grand Canyon. It will not make sense in the middle of Yucca Valley??

Jennifer	I wished they would have either picked desert flora or fauna. Too much going on. Things get wadhed out. Looks jumbled.
Sandra Griswold	Yes maybe ? A lot going on don't sure about it. This looks like a collage, different colors and textures, and images. It's a little cluttered but somehow has caught my attention. The colors and natural elements shown complement each other. The one big saguaro cactus looks out of place since we don't have those out here native to the region. But take that out and the picture would look more balanced.

Artist: Sharra Salter

Piece: Dimensions



Comments:

Name	Please leave public comment for to be reviewed by the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Commission.
Chealsey Ramage	Really neat!!!! Great job!
Bridget Wilcox	Ok
Deb Burkart	Not as striking as others. Don't like
Victoria Sebanz	Strong use of color and shape, very pleasing.
Celia Hirschman	Beautiful - Like stained glass!
Lindsay wood	Interesting. Yes.
Shasta Williams	This is Super creative and does look AI created like so many of the others do! I love how this looks like stained glass!
Darlene H. Morris	Too much background & too few animals. #10 coloring book like not my favorite
Jennifer Cusack	I love them all, should accept all, add to the budget and install all twelve. It is a more efficient use of Town Staffs time by accepting more. It will allow for more locations to receive this beautiful artwork.
ben	yes!
Elle Kemp	Love the stained glass look; could see it on a utility box
M. Richard	Stained glass appearance.
Joanne	Yes
Suzin Sequoia	No. Looks like a child was Finger painting. What is mountains and what is sky?
Kim Monnie	Yes. A stained glass desert depiction
Kathy Lusk	Like this
Lisa Edwards	Nice, but not my favorite one
Melissa	my 2nd favorite
Gena	Maybe it's the quail, maybe its the stained glass look, but it begs me to keep looking at it. *insert heart eyes emoji here*
Meilani	5th pick, love the colors, looks like stained glass art
Elizabeth Ando	Like the colors - would look good on a utility box. Would be great to add a Joshua Tree in the art
L. Sand	Looks like a child did this, which is cool for the town I guess
Michelle Maresh	Very simple
Taylor	Love the simplicity and bold colors for a box, love the flat look however depth between foreground and sky would be nice.
Dylan C	Eh, nah.
Katie	Yes
Kerry	Cool
Roxy	Funky
Kyle aronson	Nice colors and shapes.
Brandon Akulian	Brandon A
Sandra Griswold	Simple. Pretty. Nice use of line, color and balance.

document that is completed. We hired a consulting firm to do that, and the process took about 6-8 months to complete. The cost of this process was about \$60,000. We finished that process and then applied to move the Joshua Trees in December 2024. To this day we still do not have that permit. We are very close to getting that permit and think we will have it in a week or two. Hopefully we can start the work around August. It is anticipated that the construction will take 6-8 months to finish.

The second project is the Yucca Valley Arc project. The walls have gone up and you may have noticed a large crane. It is very exciting. Community Development would like to invite the PRC Commission to do a walk through of the site.

The third project is the Senior Center Modernization Project. The construction is scheduled to be completed in November 2025. A change order will be brought to council for new flooring, paint and window coverings. Thank you for your time!

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recommendation:

Approve the meeting agenda as prepared.

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: Matt Rauch, Commissioner

SECONDER: Ed Keesling, Commissioner

AYES: Brady, Burns, Keesling, Rauch, Wilcox-Ledua

CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: Matt Rauch, Commissioner

SECONDER: Audry Wilcox-Ledua, Commissioner

AYES: Brady, Burns, Keesling, Rauch, Wilcox-Ledua

2. Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission - Regular Meeting - May 14, 2025 5:30 PM

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3. Public Art Program Art in Daily Lives – Utility Box Program

Clayton Rardon, Recreation Supervisor, presented the staff report. For this Utility Box Program, the staff recommendation is for the PRC commission to select 12 submissions and send the selections to the Town Council after the completion of the public comment period. 61 total submissions were submitted in the Call for Art by 52 different artists/teams. All submissions can be seen in the full agenda packet. Clayton gave an overview of the locations of the utility boxes. All locations are high traffic and high visibility, so they are great locations to display the art. The artwork will be on display throughout the lifespan of the vinyl wrap. All submissions were displayed at the meeting. The full slide show of the submissions can be seen in the full agenda packet. The PRCC was given a selection sheet that had space for notes.

Public Comment:

Linda Shrader, artist for submission called *Yucca Valley Sunset*-I have been a public artist since 2001. I am a lifelong resident of Yucca Valley. I have donated a lot of my time to schools and non-profits organizations with fundraisers. When I submitted, I did hope that the website had a list of the utility box locations. The template of the submission was also confusing. Can we adjust the design depending on the utility box that is chosen? I would be honored to have my art displayed. Thank you for the opportunity.

Krista Wargo, artist for submission *Plants of the Desert*-I was really excited to hear that we were going to have some more public art here in town. My piece was inspired by all the spring flowers. I have lived in Yucca Valley since 95. I taught here for 25 years and pursuing more of my art now that I am retired. I had trouble with the template, but I am able to adjust my artwork to what it needs to be. Thank you!

Vandela Jasmine, artist for submission *Clouds* - Thank you for the opportunity. It is very hard for us to put our art and name out there. I graduated from Copper Mountain College with my AA in Art History and Studio Art. I am currently enrolled in Cal State San Bernardino studying Art History. I work at a local cultural museum down in Palm Springs. My submission is clouds, an acrylic on canvas. I do a psychedelic and whimsical style. I lived in Joshua Tree and would always look at the sky. The sky is the most beautiful thing out here. I really hope you pick my submission. Thank you.

Sharra Salter, artist for *Untamed Desert and Dimensions*- I am so excited. The reason that I submitted a couple pieces is because I love seeing art on buildings around town. I am currently stationed here with my husband. I was born in California and have been all over the United States over the last 15 years with my husband. I absolutely love the sunsets here. My mother painted a mural and was able to see it in person. I would love the opportunity for my kids to see my art as well. Thank you.

Jenni Bate, artist for *1274 The Four Hours of Equinox*- Thank you for letting me speak. I have been showing artwork in the hi-desert over the last 12 years. I have done a couple of mural on boxes before in the low desert. This opportunity will allow me to present my work in a vinyl wrap form which is the only way it can be presented. Thank you!

Matt Adams, artist for *Warren's Well*- Thank you for the opportunity. I have lived in Yucca Valley for eleven years. I have done illustrations for various business in town such as Pappy and Harriets. I love the desert scenery, I incorporate it in a lot of my art. I really like the current utility boxes that are out there. My piece can be cropped to adapt to the box. Thank you so much.

Commissioners Comments/Questions:

Vice Chair Rauch- I had some questions about the template. This was brought up in some of the public comments. Some of these submissions are not in the rectangular format. For example, the Neon Joshua Tree. Are those types of submissions feasible for us?

Clayton Rardon- I have some notes from the public comment. Similar to the last time, we did not reject anyone if they did not follow the template exactly. Some of these submissions would be difficult to wrap especially if they are tall and skinny images. We can work with artists to stretch or crop to make it fit on the box. We included some language in the application and agreement that town staff will work with the artist. Another comment about the map of locations, staff has put up a Google map with stars on it to pinpoint the location of the current utility boxes. The next step for that map is to add gps coordinates to make it more exact.

Vice Chair Rauch- For the website it would be good to add pictures and files of the piece, the artists and part of the application.

Clayton Rardon-That is phase 3. To add links to the information on the art piece.

Vice Chair Rauch-For some of these submissions that are longer than skinny, I am pleased that we can work with the artist. Krista Wargo's submission is fantastic, if the commission likes it she can adjust the format to make it work.

Sue Earnest-In the last round of the utility boxes call for art staff was able to work with all the artists to make modifications.

Commissioner Keesling- Thank you to all of the artists who submitted. You have all done an amazing job and it will make it difficult to make a selection. Great work.

Vice Chair Rauch- For those who are here and online, if your piece is not selected today just know our program is growing and we will have more rounds of this coming to. We will be replacing boxes at some point too so please submit again.

Commissioner Burns- You stole the words out of my mouth. These are all so inspiring and I am very excited to see so much enthusiasm for this project. I wish you all the best for your submissions, unfortunately we cannot choose them all. They are all very nice.

Commissioner Wilcox-Ledua-Thank you all for submitting. This is fun for me, this is the first time for me to see submissions and vote on them. It is exciting, but it is definitely hard to narrow it down to 12. I am glad we are able to choose 12 instead of 6 like originally planned.

Chair Brady- 61 submissions compared to 13 submissions in the first round has shown exponential growth. This public art program as a whole is booming. Like Chair Rauch said, if you do not get selected this time do not give up. We will have more programming like this in the future.

The commission took a recess at 6:15pm. The item was brought back to the commission at 6:47pm.

Commissioner Keesling- Congratulations on the good Choices

Chair Brady- If you did not get selected, please look for other Call for Art.

Selected Submissions:

- 1. Matt Adams- Warren's Well
- 2. Ashley Adams-Spring on the Mesa
- 3. Marsha Geiger- Watering Hole
- 4. Melissa Friel- The Desert Dreams in Color
- 5. Prescott McCarthy- A Place to Call Home
- 6. Lili Todd-There is Magic All Around Us
- 7. Krista Wargo- Plants of the Desert
- 8. Linda Shrader- Yucca Valley Sunset
- 9. Zebulon Zang- Before the Rain
- 10. Cecelia Romero- Desert Dreamscape
- 11. Rosa Cruglez- Natural Biodiversity of Yucca
- 12. Sharra Salter- Dimensions

Motion is to select 12 submissions to forward to Town Council after the 30-day public comment period.

MOTION:

The Commission recommends that the 12 selected works of art for the Public Art Program Art in Daily Lives - Utility Box Program, to be forwarded to the Town Council upon completion of the public comment review.

RESULT: **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**

MOVER: Ed Keesling, Commissioner

SECONDER: Audry Wilcox-Ledua, Commissioner

AYES: Brady, Burns, Keesling, Rauch, Wilcox-Ledua

4. Fall/Winter 2024/25 Youth Basketball Program Review

Jakub Kusmeriuk, Recreation Supervisor, presented the staff report. Supervisor Kusmieruk - I am pleased to report the recap for the 2024-2025 Youth Basketball Program. The Pee-Wee League returned this season after a 9 year hiatus. I want to thank staff for their hard work and dedication. They all did a great job. We invested in our coaches with training including coaching clinics and courses in National Alliance of Youth Sports (NAYS). Pee Wee League had 41 players and the youth league had 243 players. Supervisor Kusmeriuk also gave a financial summary as well as a survey response summary.

No Public Comment

Commissioner Comments/Questions:

Commissioner Keesling- I am very impressed with the youth basketball program this year. I think you all did a great job. I am glad to see the kids starting at a young age in Pee-Wees. Having Pee-Wees is a good move. Keep it up.

Vice Chair Rauch-Thank you to all our community partners that help to add to that program such as the church and other facilities. I am excited to see growth let's keep it going. I like that we added the LA84 coaches training, it definitely paid off. Also, thanks to staff for working those programs.