



February 2nd, 2017

Mayor Gunter & Salinas City Council
City of Salinas
200 Lincoln Ave.
Salinas CA 93901

Dear Mayor and Members of the Salinas City Council,

Thank you for providing an opportunity for UAC to temporarily utilize the Women's Club as its gathering and teaching space.

I am writing this letter in support of a Public Arts Ordinance in Salinas. I understand that this item will be before the Salinas City Council on Tuesday, February 7th and I urge its passage.

Salinas is a city with complicated crime and social issues compounded by low economic opportunity. The arts present a unique solution to both; art is what keeps UAC members & youth together in peace and mutual support. In the arts, youth can also find a career path and jobs that contribute to the economic vibrancy of our communities.

This ordinance will also allow for public money to be spent on public art. Further, with the right funding and commission in place, this ordinance can attract impressive matching funds and resources from the private sector for public arts projects.

Countless cities in California and across the nation have shown how an ordinance like the one before you creates jobs and a sense of place for a community.

I ask that you pass the ordinance as written before you and am happy to answer any questions should you have them.

Sincerely,

Juan Carlos Gonzalez
Founder/ Creative Director/ Visual Interdisciplinary Artist
Urban Arts Collaborative "nature is art - art is healing"
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