



[www.veniceartscouncil.org](http://www.veniceartscouncil.org)

September 29, 2006

Phil Rader, Secretary  
Venice Neighborhood Council  
PO Box 550  
Venice, CA 90294

Dear Venice Neighborhood Council:

Many stakeholders have contacted us expressing their concerns to protect and preserve public art in Venice. On May 2, 2006, the Venice Arts Council voted to approve the establishment of the **Endangered Art Fund** dedicated to preservation of public art works in Venice. The Venice Neighborhood Council voted to support in principal the **Endangered Art Fund** on June 20, 2006. Preliminary funds will be used to repair and remove the tagging on the *Endangered Species* and *Jaya* murals by Emily Winters, the *Venice Poetry Wall* and related walls curated by Beyond Baroque. The Fund also advocates for the preservation of the Venice Beach Graffiti Walls.

The focus of the preservation fund will be on public murals, sculptures, and related art works in the public realm. The goal of the fund is to help support the preservation, restoration, and protection of these works of concern to the community and neighborhoods. Specific projects will be supervised, in coordination with stakeholder input by the Venice Arts Council and the individual organizations having expertise in the concerned areas.

The **Endangered Art Fund** has developed a list of endangered works, and with the assistance of the community and others, will begin mobilizing and preparing for their protection and preservation. Your support will help us begin this important process.

We have received three bids from conservation organizations recommended by the Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department and chose Nathan Zakheim Associates for their expertise and credibility with the City of Los Angeles. The total costs is \$88,604. Therefore, the Venice Arts Council is requesting \$20,000 from the Venice Neighborhood Council for Nathan Zakheim Associates to remove graffiti and restore the *Endangered Species Mural* located on 801 Ocean Front Walk facing Park Avenue and the *Jaya Mural* located at 316 South Venice Boulevard facing Dell Avenue in Venice. We expect to complete the project in 8 weeks.

The Venice Neighborhood Council contribute will be acknowledge on the mural, Endangered Art Fund publications, press releases, website and restoration dedication ceremony.

Nathan Zakheim & Associates Art Conservation Studio is owned and operated by Nathan Zakheim who has worked in the conservation of paintings and related art objects since 1978. He has been a Professional Associate of The American Institute for the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Objects since 1990; and he has served as Treasurer of the Washington Conservation Guild. Clients include many federal government collections as well as private collections and individuals, embassies,

churches, historical societies, auction houses, fine arts dealers and even artists themselves. Studio work has been featured in articles in Forbes (April, 1986) and The Washington Post (May 28, 1987 and June 27, 1991) as well as House Beautiful, Town and Country, Washingtonian and recently featured on KNBC Channel 4 TV.

The Venice Arts Council has approached the owners of the buildings, elected officials, businesses and individuals to partner with us in our efforts to raise funds to repair the murals and walls and to support the fund. All necessary permits and insurance requirements have been met for this request.

Your support is needed to help us reach our goal to fund the graffiti removal and mural restoration to prevent additional graffiti and further damage to the murals especially before the raining season begins.

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Winters  
Chair, Venice Arts Council  
739 Palms Boulevard  
Venice, CA 90291

CC: Venice Neighborhood Council Budget Committee