



City of Winston-Salem City Council
Council Agenda Item Summary

Title	Winston-Salem Arts, Culture, and Entertainment Memorial Walk of Fame 2026
City Council Committee	General Government Committee
Staff Lead (Presenter)	Ben Rowe, ACM
Department Head	Deborah Clark
City Manager/ACM	Ben Rowe, ACM

Agenda Item Summary

Recommended Council Action
 Suggested Motion Options

Resolution Approval
 Approval

Strategic Focus Area
 Strategic Plan Objective

Community Advocacy and Engagement
 CAE4: Engaging Residents and Fostering Civic Pride

Anticipated Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Impact Anticipated: See Analysis in Summary

Summary of Information

2026 Winston-Salem ACE Memorial Walk of Fame Panel Recommendations

The ACE Memorial Walk of Fame committee represents a diverse panel of citizens, representing various artistic disciplines and fields within the entertainment industry. They are: Deirdre Anderson, Forsyth Technical Community College; Euricka Felipe, Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County; Whitney Harness, Delta Arts Center; Billy Rich, retired; Corlis Sellers, 40+ Stage Company; Marjorie Silber, retired; Terry Taylor, Old Salem Museum and Gardens.

The panel has reviewed the six nominations that were submitted for consideration based on the following criteria:



Vision: To be a premier city in the region providing world-class amenities while retaining a sense of charm and hospitality
Mission: To provide impactful services that enhance the quality of life for current and future generations
Values: Teamwork * Responsibility * Respect * Integrity * Customer Service

- The nominee(s) is deceased.
- The nominee(s) was a resident of Winston-Salem for at least five years.
- The nominee(s) made a significant contribution to the arts and entertainment industry in one or more of the following areas: music, dance, theater, writing, visual arts, motion pictures, television, or radio. A “significant” contribution would be iconic in terms of renown and the impact on the artistic disciplines or popular culture.
- The nominee(s) exhibited sustained excellence in his or her field for at least five years.
- The nominee(s) made distinguished contributions to the community and civic-oriented participation.

2026 Nominee	Category
Flonnie T. Anderson	Theatre
Joshua Brookshire	Music
Big Ron Hunter	Music
Carlotta Samuels	Music
Harold Calvin Tedford	Theatre
Dr. Robert Ward	Music

The following table presents the panel’s recommendations for election to the 2026 Winston-Salem Arts, Culture, and Entertainment (ACE) Memorial Walk of Fame.

2026 Finalists	Category
Flonnie T. Anderson	Theatre
Big Ron Hunter	Music
Carlotta Samuels	Music
Harold Calvin Tedford	Theatre
Dr. Robert Ward	Music

The General Government Committee will consider the panel’s recommendations and submit the slate of finalists to the Mayor and City Council for final approval and election. The attached resolution presents the finalists for consideration by the Mayor and City Council. The City’s Marketing and Communications Department currently administers the program. Funding for the program is provided by the City’s occupancy tax fund. Anticipated expenses include advertising, printing, materials, and installation of the stars at an estimated annual budget of \$20,000.

The Mayor and City Council elected the following inductees for the Classes of 2016-2025.

Nominee(s)	Year of Nomination	Category
The 5 Royales	2016	Music
Larry Leon Hamlin	2016	Theater
Phil Hanes	2016	Arts/Philanthropy
William Samuel Scales	2016	Theater/Motion Pictures
John luele	2017	Music
Chris Murrell	2018	Music
Dr. Robert Wise	2018	Radio
John H. Heath	2019	Music/Theater
Norman Johnson	2019	Music/Theater
Doris Pardington	2019	Theater
Maya Angelou	2020	Writing
George Lee	2020	Radio/Television
John S. Mueller	2020	Music
Penelope Niven	2020	Writing
A. C. Stone	2020	Radio
John Ehle	2021	Writing
Earline King	2021	Visual Arts
Joe King	2021	Visual Arts
Sam Moss	2021	Music
Stuart Scott	2021	Television
Howell Binkley	2022	Theater
George Hamilton IV	2022	Music
Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin	2022	Theater
Anne Shields	2022	Visual Arts

James Funches	2023	Music
Curtis Hairston	2023	Music
Shirley Holloway	2023	Theater
Charles Greene	2024	Music/Motion Pictures
Bonnie Poindexter	2024	Music/Theater/Writing
Charles Vardell	2024	Music
William Grady Benton	2025	Arts/Philanthropy
Dr. Julian Carr Burroughs	2025	Radio
James Thackeray Diggs, Jr.	2025	Visual Arts
Margaret Snodgrass Mueller	2025	Music

City staff will plan a special ceremony for the 2025_ and 2026_ inductees on July 24, 2026, in conjunction with the International Black Theatre Festival. The Walk of Fame site at The Benton will include the star medallions honoring the members, as well as a directory at the location.

A webpage has been dedicated to this event. Photos and video can be viewed by going to www.cityofws.org/walkoffame.

Analysis of Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact outside of the approved budget

Attachments

- Resolution/Ordinance
- PBO/AATLO
- Exhibits

Committee Action	
For:	Against:

Remarks: