

Dear T.O. Artist,

Somewhere in the shadows of oak trees, I claim you can still talk to the artists of the past. My theory is, when the curtains open at the Kavli, or when the concertmaster first walks out to tune her violin, or when all the actors finally remember all their lines, the artists of the past watch, and listen, and play with us. Authors, and painters, and wanderers have passed through these shadows for a thousand years. Chumash *alchuklash* made paintings in these shadows. Ray Bradbury wrote novels in these shadows. Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis shot *Hollywood or Bust* in these shadows, right there on Thousand Oaks Blvd, at a spot where you can now rent a Ferrari. These are the shadows we live in.

The City of Thousand Oaks has an incredible legacy of fostering and furthering the arts. The Arts and Culture Roundtable is here to continue that legacy and honor those shadows of the past by standing with the artists of the present. The Arts and Culture Roundtable is here as your voice. We are your liaison with City Council. Perhaps most importantly, we are your peers, made up of representatives from several local cultural organizations, arts educators, and are artists ourselves. It is our job to represent the cultural interests of the community and advise City Council on ways to serve it better. Yes, it's true, we asked, and City Council really did agree to this arrangement.

In the shadows of oak trees, decades ago, you could hear the actual *MGM* Lion roar from Thousand Oaks Blvd. I have been told it was impossible to ignore. My hope for the Arts and Culture Roundtable is to be just as loud.

Thank you for keeping those shadows alive,

Anthony Angelini
Chair