

From: [Mary Millosovich](#)
To: [Economic Development](#)
Cc: [Patti Cary](#); jbutler@alamedaca.gov; [Amanda Gehrke](#); [Yael Schy](#); [Annie Cox](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Grant for AHYH!
Date: Thursday, June 25, 2020 2:28:01 PM

Dear Alameda Public Art Committee,

I write this letter to urge you to vote in support of awarding a grant to AHYH! (Alameda Haunt Your House!). As an Alameda resident and a long-standing member of the judging committee (affectionately named the "boo crew" by one of the early contestants), I have seen first hand how excited people get about this contest. Contestants have planned gatherings around the "judging night," and families plan evening walks and bike rides following a "haunted house map" that is provided by the AHYH! website. Large groups from Bike Alameda! also follow the map. Every year there are requests on social media for a map of the houses in Alameda that decorate for Halloween. AHYH! can provide that.

I understand that this grants pilot program is designed for cultural art events and physical art installations - the contest provides both! Alameda is perfect in so many ways for this contest - from the weather, to the variety of architecture, to the myriad of creative folks on the Island. It brings the community together at a time when we need that more than ever!

The contest also provides a great deal of much-needed publicity and support to the Alameda Food Bank (a recent article mentioned that the food bank's base clientele has gone up ten-fold during the Corona virus SIP). Cars have been lining up for at least a mile to pick up their groceries.

Let's do this, Alameda! Let's get the haunted house map going again and give this art contest the support it deserves.

Sincerely,

Mary Millosovich
(aka Scary on the Boo Crew)