

Cornelius Arts Center Transitions to Cain Center for the Arts

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

1. WHEN WILL THE TRANSITION OCCUR?

Transition planning is underway, and the **targeted turn over date is January 1, 2021**, in time for the Cain Center to launch the 2021 winter session.

The Cornelius Arts Center will continue to operate under the direction of the Town's PARC Department until the transition is complete, at which point all arts programming will be turned over to the Cain Center.

There will be no interruption to the visual arts programs during transition planning. The PARC Department is working closely with the Cain Center to help facilitate a seamless transition with minimal impact to Cornelius Arts Center students and program participants.

2. WHY IS THIS TRANSITION HAPPENING?

Town officials decided to implement this transition due to the anticipated opening of the new Cain Center for the Arts.

Visual arts has been part of the Town's PARC programming for many years. The opening of a larger, state-of-the-art facility creates an opportunity to evolve and enhance overall arts programs.

We also anticipate the new facility will serve as a catalyst for economic development in the Cornelius Town Center.

Additionally, transitioning the Cornelius Arts Center to the Cain Center for the Arts now allows the Cain Center further opportunities to offer programs before the new center opens.

3. HOW ARE DECISIONS FOR THIS TRANSITION BEING MADE?

A planning team, with representation from both the Town and Cain Center, has been established and is working through many components of the transition, including the development of programming, staffing, pricing and operating models.

While transition planning is underway, there is still much work to be done and many unknowns that the team is working to address. The Town and the Cain Center are partnering closely to help facilitate a seamless transfer of operations with minimal impact to Cornelius Arts Center students and program participants.

4. IS THIS THE FIRST TIME THE TOWN HAS PARTNERED WITH AN OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION?

No. This not an uncommon partnership for the Town. PARC has partnered with other organizations in the past to grow popular programs, such as with LKN Little League and Charlotte Independence. As of FY19, PARC has a total of 26 unique partnerships.

5. WHAT HAPPENS IF THE TARGETED TURN OVER DATE IS NOT ACHIEVED?

There are various factors that could impact the targeted turn over date to the Cain Center. If the transition is not complete in time for the Cain Center to launch the 2021 winter session, PARC will continue managing all visual arts programs and activities through the season. A new targeted turn over date will then be determined; **the goal is to have no interruption to the visual arts programs and activities mid-session.**

6. WILL THE CAIN CENTER INCREASE THE CORNELIUS ARTS CENTER'S PRICES WHEN THEY TAKE OVER OPERATIONS?

Pricing will remain relatively the same for classes completed by December 31, 2020; as per PARC's usual program management, minor price adjustments may occur between sessions.

The Cain Center is committed to continuing PARC's mission of providing accessible art programs and activities for the entire community. Like PARC, the Cain Center will determine their program fees and charges thereafter based on a variety of factors including direct and indirect costs, resident and non-resident participation, market analysis, demographic variables, and overall community benefit. Additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

7. WILL CORNELIUS RESIDENTS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE A DISCOUNT FOR CLASSES?

Resident discounts will continue for programs completed by December 31, 2020. The Planning Team is evaluating the Cain Center's pricing and operating models thereafter; additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

8. WILL CORNELIUS RESIDENTS CONTINUE TO RECEIVE PRIORITY REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES IN HIGH DEMAND?

Priority registration will continue for programs completed by December 31, 2020. The Planning Team is evaluating the Cain Center's pricing and operating models thereafter; additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

9. WILL THE CAIN CENTER CONTINUE TO OFFER THE SAME PROGRAMS AND CLASSES AS THE CORNELIUS ARTS CENTER CURRENTLY OFFERS?

Current program and class offerings will remain relatively the same through December 31, 2020; as per PARC's usual program management, offerings may vary between sessions based on demand, instructor availability and other factors. The Planning Team is evaluating the Cain Center's programming and operating model thereafter; additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

10. WILL THE CAIN CENTER OFFER NEW PROGRAMS AT THE CORNELIUS ART CENTER? IF SO, WHAT TYPE OF CLASSES WILL THEY OFFER?

The Planning Team is evaluating the Cain Center's programming and operating model and will share additional information as decisions are made.

11. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CERAMICS CLASS AFTER THE CAIN CENTER TAKES OVER?

The Cain Center and Town officials understand that ceramic arts is important to the community and the Planning Team is exploring options for the ceramic arts programs and classes. Additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

12. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CORNELIUS ARTS CENTER'S CURRENT STAFF AND INSTRUCTORS?

Town and Cain Center officials are currently evaluating the Cain Center's staffing and operating model and discussing the arts program's needs with PARC management. Additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

13. HOW WILL THIS CHANGE AFFECT THE TOWN'S BUDGET?

As of January 1, 2021, the Town's remaining 2021 fiscal year budget for the Cornelius Arts Center includes an allocation for the Cain Center to operate the Cornelius Arts Center for the remainder of the fiscal year. Allocations thereafter will be considered as part of the Town's annual budget process.

14. WHAT PROGRAMS WILL BE MANAGED BY THE CAIN CENTER ONCE THE TRANSITION IS COMPLETE?

PARC currently manages 224 programs, which includes all classes and activities hosted at the Cornelius Arts Center as well some summer camps held at JV Washam Elementary School and other locations. All 224 programs will be turned over to the Cain Center for management when the turn over is complete. The Planning Team is evaluating the Cain Center’s programming and operating model thereafter; additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

15. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CORNELIUS ARTS CENTER ONCE THE CAIN CENTER’S NEW ART FACILITY OPENS?

Town and Cain Center officials plan to continue offering visual arts programming at the Cornelius Arts Center until the new Cain Center for the Arts facility opens. The Planning Team is evaluating the Cain Center’s programming and operating models thereafter; additional information will be shared as decisions are made.

16. WHAT IS THE CAIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS?

The Cain Center for the Arts is a nonprofit organization established in 2017. Its mission is to provide exceptional visual arts, performing arts and social experiences to the Lake Norman region. They are also building a public arts and community center in the Cornelius Town Center that will become the hub for the Town’s aspiring arts district.

The new facility is slated to include a 400-seat theater, gallery space, an outdoor town green and plaza, and classrooms to host national and regional shows and performances, as well as community, private and civic events.

The Cain Center for the Arts is currently in a \$25M fundraising campaign to build and support the center. Construction for the new facility is expected to begin early 2021 and the Cain Center is anticipated to open by the end of 2022.