

From: suelsmith@comcast.net
To: [Economic Development](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Inclusion of Hebrew on the Unum sculpture
Date: Friday, January 7, 2022 3:24:13 PM

Hello

In reviewing the languages to be included on the new Unum sculpture, it seemed glaring that Hebrew was not included . I would respectfully request that Hebrew be added to the list .

My family , as well as hundreds of other families, belong to one of the four Synagogues in the county. Additionally there are 1,000s of unaffiliated Jewish families here . A large portion of us who identify as Jewish use Hebrew as part of both our religious and/or secular lives on a daily basis .

Sonoma County is making great efforts towards inclusivity of the very diverse ethnic and cultural heritage represented in our County. Please reconsider the list of languages to be considered , add Hebrew to the list, and make all of us who are Jewish and Hebrew speakers feel we are recognized as part of the melting pot that is our beautiful Sonoma County community.

Thank you for your consideration .

Sue and Ed Smith .

Sebastopol

707 823-2377

From: [heythere50](#)
To: [Economic Development](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Unum sculpture
Date: Friday, January 7, 2022 2:02:56 PM

I reviewed the list of words and languages submitted for inclusion in the Unum sculpture recommended for approval by the Art in Public Places Committee on January 10.

I regret that Hebrew was not listed as a recommended language. Although we may have a small population of native, conversational Hebrew speakers among our Santa Rosa residents, Hebrew is the language of Judaism and as such, is spoken on a regular daily and weekly basis in the homes of Jewish residents and in our three Santa Rosa synagogues: Shomrei Torah, Beth Ami and Chabad. I believe our combined Santa Rosa synagogue membership numbers in excess of 1000 families. In Santa Rosa, there are also hundreds, if not thousands, more individuals and families of the Jewish faith that are not affiliated with our Santa Rosa synagogues.

I propose, as a minimum, that the Hebrew word *Shalom* --meaning peace-- and also used as a salutation and as a blessing, should be included within the Unum sculpture. I believe that I listed the word *Shalom* when I completed the online survey several months ago which elicited community response for words to be included in the sculpture. In advance of the January 10th meeting, please share this email with members of the Art in Public Places Committee and the artist. I appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Bruce Berkowitz

From: [Asher](#)
To: [Economic Development](#)
Cc: [Thompson, Tara](#); nina@ninabonos.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Item 4.1 Art in Public Places Committee special meeting 10Jan2022
Date: Sunday, January 9, 2022 4:49:33 PM

To the Art in Public Places Committee and involved civic leaders:

I support Nina Bonos's observation that it would be a regrettable and significant oversight if the Hebrew word "shalom" were omitted from the forthcoming *Unum* sculpture in Courthouse Square.

The meaning of "shalom" is more profound and broader than might seem from its common translation as "peace," one of the "Recommended Words." Shalom signifies "completeness" and "wholeness," qualities that are essential for peace within each person, between and among individuals, and among the peoples of our community and all humankind.

A well-written Wikipedia article* cites many examples of shalom as a rootstock in Judaism, Christianity, Islam, religions with millennia of cultural impacts that spread beyond their faith communities. * <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shalom>

Shalom encompasses the unity so well expressed by the selection of the name "Unum." The completeness and wholeness found in a peaceful human spirit are central to the theme of the Courthouse Square project. "Shalom" encompasses all that the artist and this commendable public art project strive for and without this word our public square would be less whole, a lesser symbol of the unification of the virtuous qualities and social units found among the Recommended Words.

Although there may be little Hebrew spoken here daily in society and commerce, it is curious that Hebrew would be omitted from the languages of Santa Rosa when each week Santa Rosans at our varied local houses of worship and sites of assembly regularly speak the Hebrew word shalom and its Greek, Latin, and Arabic equivalents, not to mention conversations in the general public that use words cognate with or derived from Hebrew, for example, hallelujah, cherub, cider, jubilee, and sabbatical. I hope the Art in Public Places Committee will say, "Amen" to inclusion of shalom.

Thanks for your consideration.

In peace,

/Asher/
Asher R. Sheppard
4960 Hoen Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95405-7438
H: 707 538 8528
W: 707 538 8509
Mobile: 909 762 0461
asher.sheppard@att.net

From: [Caryn fried](#)
To: [Economic Development](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Unum sculpture
Date: Saturday, January 8, 2022 11:40:50 PM

Greetings Art in Public places committee,
I was more than disappointed when I learned that 15 languages of our community would be represented on the Unum sculpture, but the one that represents my community, Hebrew, was not included. How is it that all other communities in Santa Rosa are represented but not mine? When I first heard of this art project i was very excited and submitted SHALOM, a Hebrew word. **שָׁלוֹם (shalom)** is a Hebrew word meaning peace, harmony, wholeness, completeness, prosperity, welfare and tranquility and can be used idiomatically to mean both hello and goodbye. Therefore, Hebrew should be included as one of the languages.

This project was to be about diversity and inclusion in Santa Rosa. So not to have this community represented is a grave mistake. It would disenfranchise the Jewish population in Santa Rosa. Hebrew is not just the language of Israelis, it is a universal language for all Jews. Although we don't speak it daily, it is spoken in prayer, and often SHALOM is used when greeting one another. Also non Jews use the greeting Shalom, it is universal. It makes no difference if you are or aren't a religious Jew you identify with Hebrew and SHALOM. Just as Arabs might or might not be Islamic, but they identify with the Arabic language, Jews Identify with Hebrew. The population in Santa Rosa of Jews and Arabs is very similar and it would be a great slight to not include Hebrew when you are including Arabic as one of the languages.

Thank you for your consideration and hard work.

Caryn Fried
436 Oak Vista
Santa Rosa 95409
707-570-6618

From: [Thompson, Tara](#)
To: [Cleary, Eileen](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Unum Sculpture
Date: Monday, January 10, 2022 8:37:43 AM

From: Dino Bonos <dinocbonos@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 9, 2022 6:41 PM
To: Thompson, Tara <TThompson@srcity.org>
Cc: Nina (c) <nina@ninabonos.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Unum Sculpture

Tara and the Art in Public Places Committee,
I hope you will seriously consider including Greek language text in the Courthouse Square Unum sculpture.

I believe it is important for our community to recognize and appreciate how the ancient Greek language and culture continue, to this day, to impact and influence almost every element and aspect of our society.

Significance of Greek Language

Much of the lexicon of many languages, including English and the Romance languages, comes from Latin or Greek--Latin also being influenced greatly by Greek. Any word that ends in -logy can be easily recognized as Greek, and many words in English and other languages use prefixes and suffixes with Greek origins.

History of Public Art: Origins

Greek cities were early advocates of the edifying virtues of religious and social art (predominantly sculpture), capable of being viewed and appreciated by the community at large. A supreme example of public art in Ancient Greece is the [Parthenon](#) (c.447-422 BCE) on the Acropolis at Athens.

History of Greek Culture

The Western world was highly influenced by the ancient Greeks.

The Greeks changed the way the world looks at art, math, architecture, philosophy, sports, and drama. Without the ancient Greeks, the modern world would not be the same. Men such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle changed the way we look at philosophy.

History of public spaces

The ancient Greeks with their *agora*, or central meeting place, at the heart of their cities, made this form of urban space not just famous, but compelling, too. Every public square since, not just in the Western world but around the globe, has had something of the *agora* about it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dino Bonos

3609 Hacienda Dr.

Santa Rosa, CA 95405

707-479-3716