

Click [HERE](#) for a printable calendar of upcoming events!

## Speakers

**January 13, 2021**

[Daniel Nevers, Executive Director, Berkeley Art Center](#)  
"Reimagining the Community Art Center"

**January 20, 2021**

[Denaya Shorter, Community Engagement Program Officer, Ecology Center](#)  
"The Berkeley Climate Action Coalition and the Zero Waste Education Project."

**January 27, 2021**

[Josh Costello, Artistic Director of the Aurora Theater](#)  
"Running a Theater During the Pandemic"

**February 03, 2021**

[Past Presidents' History Presentation](#)

**February 10, 2021**

[Fred Collignon, UCB Prof Emeritus, Harvard PhD Economics, and long-time teacher](#)  
"Is Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) the secret to financing the Green New Deal and Economic Recovery?"

## Events

No Events found

## Birthdays

[Kenneth L. Hickey](#)

January 11th

[Irene R. Hegarty](#)

January 13th

[Steven Beckendorf](#)

January 17th

[Austin Henderson](#)

January 25th

[Jeffrey L. Hunt](#)

February 2nd

## Mayor Arreguin Updates BRC on the State of the City

By Elizabeth Roessner



Our speaker on January 6 was Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin. He started his talk thanking Berkeley Rotarians for their commitment to the betterment of our community and for the work that the club does to support the unhoused and youth and elderly. COVID-19 was at the forefront of his talk. To date there have been 1940 confirmed cases in Berkeley with 12 deaths. In the last 30 days, there have been 619 new cases. ICU capacity in the Bay Area has been fluctuating around 7% capacity. The good news is that 2075 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine have been delivered to Berkeley and those are being administered to healthcare workers under Phase 1A of the state distribution plan. He expects the current Stay at Home order to last until at least the end of January.

Additionally, Mayor Jesse highlighted that affordable housing unit developments are under way and given the influx of available office spaces, there is talk of further development using that extra inventory. He also let us know that after what seems like forever, University Avenue at the Marina and its surrounding roads are scheduled to be re-done. Once complete, you won't need an All-Terrain Vehicle to get to the Marina! Other paving and road construction is either underway or in the works.  
[Read More](#)

## Where's My Blue Hand?

By Joan Collignon

Folks who upgrade their Zoom version whenever they're asked (usually a good idea) were disconcerted last week to find that they couldn't raise their (formerly) blue hand. The Participant List no longer displayed the icon at the bottom, and we were reduced to waving our arms at Austin in order to question the Mayor.

Zoom's support staff had the answer: Look on the main Zoom screen, at the bottom, under Reactions the button to the right of the green Share Screen icon. Click on that and you'll get several options, including Raise Hand.

[Peter D. Campbell](#)  
February 9th



We are disappointed that the Hand is no longer blue, but skin toned. Here are the directions for setting your skin tone:

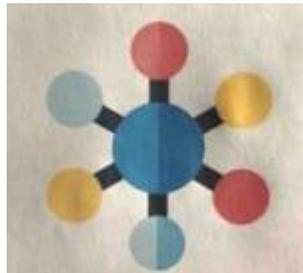
### Setting the skin tone for your reactions

1. In the Zoom client, click your profile picture and then click **Settings**.
2. In the **General** tab, select your reaction skin tone.

If this is too arcane don't worry. Just wave your arms at Austin when you want to ask a question

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## Introducing the Connection Grant



### Berkeley Rotary Endowment

### Launching CONNECTION Grants

### A two-year grant with community partners

*Fellow Rotarians, we hope you will take time to read this message regarding the Proposed Connection Grant a new type of large grant from the Berkeley Rotary Endowment. It will provide background and answer some of your questions on the proposal.*

*On January 20 the members will be polled to provide direction to the Board. If you have more questions ask any Board member or the Grants Committee co-chairs.*

Berkeley Rotary is considering launching a new type of grant - we call it a CONNECTION Grant - that will build on our connections to the community. It will be a single two-year grant that will total up to \$100,000 (drawn from 50% of the Spendable Reserve) from the Endowment.

[Read More](#)

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