

# Conflict Diamonds

by  
**fenix lax**

[iamfenixlax.com](http://iamfenixlax.com)

Good morning Mayor and Commissioners. Thank you for having me. My name is Fenix Lax. I am the artist that was commissioned to do the Black History Month landmark popart show downstairs 3 weeks ago, which was not funded by any company or organization, but was brought together by regular community members like myself. Since then, I have been hard at work building my legacy to put my art up with the Andy Warhol's, Jackson Pollock's, and Pablo Picasso's. I have started my company, "Conflict Diamonds", where I, as a commissioned artist, work with companies and foundations to expose their soul purpose and brand messages through my art. I then have a Red Carpet art show, where community leaders are invited to speak about what it takes to be a Mayor, Commissioner, teacher, or art director. My company pushes the boundaries of each art show to become a interactive event, where people get to be part of a new art movement and get to meet the leaders of today and tomorrow. As a young hispanic community member of Portland, it has been hard to access most of the art information. For example, when City Hall is hosting an event that may need artwork, it is not usually made public knowledge, which does not let other artists, such as myself, have a fair chance at getting contracted. But then again, life isn't always that easy. One has to fight everyday for what they believe in and want the most. I am a young artist business man that has taken my art to the next level. To help companies and teach the youth about "Art that Matters", a percentage of what I make from the commissions will always be donated to kids in foster homes to provide necessities like art and school supplies. You can find some of my art at the Artist Repertory Theater on the topic "Race". With that said, I would like to thank you all so much for allowing me this great opportunity to show my artwork here last month. I would greatly appreciate it for you all to introduce me to people and/or organizations that believe in projects like mine that teach the youth that there is a career in the Arts. In the coming years I will work on making Portland, Oregon the art capital of the world next to France.

*Fenix Lax*  
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[fenixlaxart@gmail.com](mailto:fenixlaxart@gmail.com)

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**Mario Cruz, aka Fenix LAX, founder and owner of Conflict Diamonds Company, has taken his love for the arts to the next level in pursuit of giving back to the community he flourished in.**

**He was first recognized in his high school newspaper for his outstanding poetry. He also deemed himself newsworthy in Portland newspaper The Skanner in which he was praised for his talents as a professional artist. The Los Angeles Times also gave recognition to their LA native for being one of the few good graffiti artists of his time.**

**With his powerful photography and illustration, Fenix LAX has been commissioned to do artwork for the Artist Repertory Theater and the monumental Portland Black History Landmark exhibit in Portland's City Hall.**

**While there are many organizations in other countries in support of helping disadvantaged youth excel through the arts, Fenix LAX's company brings a hands-on opportunity for the youth in your very own backyard. Conflict Diamonds collaborates with organizations and companies to deliver a brand message of social commentary through art and art shows. Having included topics such as race and community resource awareness, Conflict Diamonds continues to breach impending boundaries to impact the general public, get new clients involved, and to take part in a cultural movement**

**CONFLICT DIAMONDS 5-STAR MISSION IS TO**

- ☒ BRING POWERFUL ART TO ITS TARGET AUDIENCE**
- ☒ EXPOSE THE SOCIAL COMPONENT CONNECTING A MESSAGE TO THE VIEWER**
- ☒ BRING OUT THE LEADING PEOPLE OR ARTIST OF EACH GENRE**
- ☒ NETWORK WITH PEOPLE WHO AIM TO MAKE CHANGE IN THEIR COMMUNITY**
- ☒ OFFER ONE-OF-A-KIND LIMITED EDITION ART PRINTS**

**A percentage of Conflict Diamonds sales is donated to kids in foster homes to provide necessities like shoes, art and school supplies. Conflict Diamonds is the right fit for any company or organization because it takes art shows to the next level and brings them to the forefront with the power of art that matters!**

  
Fenix Lax

PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION REQUEST  
Wednesday Council Meeting 9:30 AM

Council Meeting Date: 3-21-12

Today's Date 3-8-12

AUDITOR 03/08/12 PM 1:23

Name Fenix LAX

Address 11730 SW BELLAIRE lane apt#16

Telephone 503 544-0067 Email FenixLAXART@gmail.com

Reason for the request:

As a Hispanic Community member of the city of Portland, it has been hard to find art information and art contracts without the commission already handed out to preferred vendors. I need to have transparent information, on what's available as far as art contracts for business owners like me that are artist.

Fenix LAX  
(signed)

- Give your request to the Council Clerk's office by Thursday at 5:00 pm to sign up for the following Wednesday Meeting. Holiday deadline schedule is Wednesday at 5:00 pm. (See contact information below.)
- You will be placed on the Wednesday Agenda as a "Communication." Communications are the first item on the Agenda and are taken promptly at 9:30 a.m. A total of five Communications may be scheduled. Individuals must schedule their own Communication.
- You will have 3 minutes to speak and may also submit written testimony before or at the meeting.

*Thank you for being an active participant in your City government.*

**Contact Information:**

Karla Moore-Love, City Council Clerk  
1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 140  
Portland, OR 97204-1900  
(503) 823-4086 Fax (503) 823-4571  
email: [Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov)

Sue Parsons, Council Clerk Assistant  
1221 SW 4th Ave., Room 140  
Portland, OR 97204-1900  
(503) 823-4085 Fax (503) 823-4571  
email: [Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov)

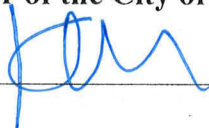
Request of Fenix Lax to address Council regarding transparent information on available art contracts (Communication)

MAR 21 2012

PLACED ON FILE

Filed MAR 16 2012

**LaVonne Griffin-Valade**  
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Leonard		
Adams		