

The Chicago High School for the Arts Board of Directors Meeting

September 14, 2020 at 4pm

Location: Online, via Zoom

To attend via video conferencing, please reach out to Paul Cook (pcook@chiarts.org), who will send the appropriate information.

Call to Order / Roll Call

Cynthia Plouché

Approval of Minutes of August 17, 2020 Meeting

Head of School Report

Terri Milsap

Information & Presentations

Student Performance

Artistic Director Report

Tina Boyer Brown

Finance / Treasurer Report

Christine Gallagher

Executive Director Report

José Ochoa

PSO Report

Liza Pappas & Janette Cortes-Duewel

Action Items

Bylaws Proposed Revisions

Emeritus Board Member

Committee Reports

Public Participation

Board/Head of School Other Items

Closed Session

In accordance with section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act (the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the public body)

Adjournment

Next Board Meeting:

November 16

The Chicago High School for the Arts (ChiArts®) develops the next generation of diverse, artistically promising scholar-artists through intensive pre-professional training in the arts, combined with a comprehensive college preparatory curriculum.

ChiArts Board Meeting September 14, 2020

The Chicago High School for the Arts
Board of Directors Meeting
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Online - via Zoom
Minutes for September 14, 2020

Present (on call): Duffie Adelson, Carlos Azcoitia, Lesley-Ann Brown-Henderson, Inger Burnett-Zeigler, Warren Chapman, Janette Cortes-Duewel, Chris Falcon, Carol Friedman, Christine Gallagher, Deirdra Lucas, Kay Mabie, Liza Pappas, Cynthia Plouché

Absent: John McCambridge

Others Present: Tina Boyer Brown (Managing Director of Arts Conservatories), Paul Cook (Executive Assistant), Ron Grais (Foundation Chair), Jim Mabie (Founding Chair), Terri Milsap (Principal), José Ochoa (Executive Director)

Quorum: Yes

The meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of The Chicago High School for the Arts (“ChiArts”) was held pursuant to a Call & Notice served on all Directors. Board Chair, Cynthia Plouché (“Cynthia”) called the general assembly to order at 4:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Cynthia requested approval of the June Board Meeting minutes. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Head of School Report

Terri Milsap (“Terri”) shared her report. She began by focusing on the demographics of the Student Body, and Board members raised questions to get a better understanding of the student population. Terri shared a high-level overview of the Remote Learning Plan, including city-wide guidelines from CPS and items that are specific to ChiArts. Student and teacher expectations are now clearer and more thorough (in contrast to last spring’s version of Remote Learning). There remains a strong focus on access to devices and internet for all students; at this point, almost all students have what they need. Teachers have been provided resources to aid them with technological challenges, as well as resources that help them expand their technological knowledge base.

Terri shared the recent development that ChiArts is required to host an in-person SAT/PSAT during October. Plans are underway to figure out how to make that happen safely and effectively.

Information & Presentations

The Board watched a video performance of the song “Shenandoah”, sung by Senior Vocalist Daniel Cashman Fields. The song was his audition for the National Association for Teachers of Singing competition, where he placed 3rd in his category (classical).

Tina Boyer Brown (“Tina”) shared the Artistic Director report. She talked about the idea of “Present, Practice, Prepare” - three guiding words for the student body. Tina shared that this year’s performance season would be all online, and shared a video titled “The Show Must Go Online”; the performance dates will be released, soon. Tina spoke about the

current focus on clear & effective communication amongst the Arts faculty, as well as about recent hiring of Arts Instructors.

Christine Gallagher (“Christine”) presented the Treasurer report. Our annual audit is underway, and is expected to be completed, on time, by November 1. In regards to the PPP Loan, Christine confirmed that there are no updates to the status since the August Board meeting.

Jose Ochoa (“Jose”) shared the Executive Director report, focusing on the Development team’s upcoming appeals and events. Kerfuffle, ChiArts’ annual gala, is scheduled for May; the Development team is creating plans for both an in-person event and a virtual event, depending on the state of the pandemic. Jose then discussed Alumni events, recent and upcoming, which have received much online engagement. He spoke about our recent success with Summer Camp programming for elementary school students, and shared a video about the experience.

Action Items

Cynthia talked through the proposed changes to the Bylaws: changing language to reflect updates in staffing positions; changing the number needed for a Quorum; removing Committee Chairs and some responsibilities from the Executive Committee; and creation of a Board Emeritus position.

There was a discussion about the Principal’s Job Review. All agreed that it should be an annual procedure. Some questions were raised, about the timing of it, as well as what rubric would be used to evaluate. It was agreed to continue this particular discussion at the November meeting.

Warren Chapman (“Warren”) made a motion to accept the changes (changing language to reflect updates in staffing positions; changing the number needed for a Quorum; removing Committee Chairs and some responsibilities from the Executive Committee; and creation of a Board Emeritus position), and Duffie Adelson (“Duffie”) seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Cynthia shared that Jim Mabie (“Jim”), Founding Board Chair, had been recommended to fill the Board Emeritus position. Duffie made a motion to elect Jim Mabie to this new position, and Christine seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Committee Reports

Cynthia led a discussion about Committee membership, and all Board members chose at least one committee on which to serve. Assignments as follows:

	Finance	Governance	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI)	Program Excellence	Alumni Engagement & Retention (EAR)	Executive
Chair	Gallagher	McCambridge	Lucas	Adelson	McGowen (ChiArts)	Plouché
Member	J.Mabie	Falcon	Azcoitia	Chapman	Brown-Henderson	Chapman
Member	Plouché	Plouché	Burnett-Zeigler	Friedman	Falcon	Friedman
Member				Grais	K.Mabie	Gallagher
			(+ChiArts leadership)	(+ChiArts leadership)		

Closed Session

As noted in the Agenda, Cynthia suggested a move into a Closed Session, in accordance with Section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act (the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the public body). Warren made the motion, and Jim seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. The Closed Session occurred; no votes / actions were taken.

Public Participation

Cynthia opened the floor to any Public Participation; there was none.

PSO Update

Liza Pappas (“Liza”) shared that there is an upcoming PSO meeting at the end of September. The PSO is currently looking at merchandise vendors who will ship to home, with a goal for a November opening of the ChiArts Online Merchandise Shop.

Adjournment

Cynthia requested to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 p.m. Jim made a motion to adjourn, and Duffie seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren Chapman
Secretary