

**The Chicago High School for the Arts Board of Directors Meeting**

**January 11, 2021 at 4pm**

**Location: Online, via Zoom**

**To attend via video conferencing, please reach out to Ursula McGregory  
(umcgregory@chiarts.org), who will send the appropriate information.**

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Welcome / Call to Order / Roll Call

Cynthia Plouché

Approval of Minutes of November 16, 2020 Meeting

Head of School Report

Terri Milsap

Information & Presentations

Student Showcase

Visual Arts, Class of 2021

Artistic Director Report

Tina Boyer Brown

Finance / Treasurer Report

Christine Gallagher

PSO Report

Liza Pappas & Janette Cortes-Duewel

Committee Reports

Public Participation

Board/Head of School Other Items

Adjournment

Next Board Meeting:

March 15, 2021

*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 January 11, 2021**

The Chicago High School for the Arts  
Board of Directors Meeting  
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Online - via Zoom  
Minutes for January 11, 2021

**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, Jim Mabie, Kay Mabie, John McCambridge, Liza Pappas, Cynthia Plouché

**Absent:** Deirdra Lucas

**Others Present:** Tina Boyer Brown (Artistic Director), Abbey Cullen (Assistant Principal), Shanan Egger (Finance), Ursula McGregory (Executive Assistant), Terri Milsap (Principal & Head of School), Eric Morris (Dean of Students), Andrew Van Herik (Teacher)

**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 4:00 p.m. Ursula McGregory ("Ursula") took the roll call.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Cynthia requested approval of the November Board Meeting minutes. Jim Mabie ("Jim") made a motion to approve the minutes as is, Leslie Ann Brown-Henderson ("Leslie Ann") seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

### **Board Chair Report**

Cynthia Plouché ("Cynthia") reported that they are working with CPS to renew the school's contract. There is nothing significantly different with the new contract than with the previous contract. Progress is being made and they are nearing the end of the process.

Cynthia shared that the new board configurations are in place, the focus will now be on getting the committees up and running. Framework for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee is taking shape led by Deirdra Lucas and including Ingar Burnett-Zeigler, and Carlos Izcoitia, along with ChiArts leadership. Also taking shape is the Program Excellence committee led by Duffie Adelson, and including Carol Friedman, Warren Chapman, and Ron Graise, and ChiArts leadership.

### **Head of School Report**

Terri Milsap ("Terri") shared her report. ChiArts is nearing the end of 1st semester. Students will not take the traditional final exams due to remote learning, but will give presentations and complete projects. Attendance has decreased to 87%, but per CPS, we are at a 95% because the Arts portion of the day is not considered. We will continue to track the entire day in order to strategize to improve attendance. The remote schedule change that was mandated by CPS is in place and students and teachers have adjusted.

Terri extended an invitation for the Program Excellence committee to tour the school virtually to gain a sense of the work the teachers are doing. There is no information on school re-opening.

Terri expressed the need for a Post Secondary Counselor. The senior advisors are not specialized in post secondary counseling and are becoming taxed. The position could be part-time if necessary. Terri also shared that because of increased English Language Learner students, she was required by CPS to hire an EL teacher who has done a great job thus far. Terri also shared that the DL Case Manager vacancy has been filled.

Eric Morris was introduced to the board as the new Dean of Students.

Terri shared that ChiArts leadership met with Deeply Rooted, a dance organization in talks about summer intensives, master classes, and internships for the ChiArts students. They also met with staff at Northeastern Illinois University to discuss the possibility of dual enrollment for ChiArts students. Talks will continue to work out the details.

### **Student Performances**

A video was shared of Senior Visual Artists Christine Meinders and Elizabeth Curry.

### **Information & Presentations**

Tina Boyer Brown (“Tina”) shared the Artistic Director report. *The Tempest*, the Senior Actors play, will be released January 28th. The next *Free Verse* and the Freshmen Visual Arts show will happen at the end of February.

Tina shared that the Music department and Dr. McCowen did an outreach project video of holiday music and distributed it to Senior Homes. The next outreach will be a culmination of *Free Verse*, to be distributed to Middle Schools.

Tina shared that admissions dropped this year, but may be attributed to the remote learning environment. Outreach is happening to encourage students to turn in application materials. Tina also shared that she is starting a Student Arts Council to encourage student voice in arts programming and decision making. Summer camp is happening virtually. Natalie Chami, founding arts teacher is leaving ChiArts for an opportunity with a music company in marketing and education. Sarah Inendino is the interim vocal chair.

Christine Gallagher (“Christine”) presented the Treasurer report. The external audit of financial statements is complete and has been submitted to CPS. There are no changes to the status of the PPP loan. There’s been no major changes to the regulation that would change our opinion on the forgivability of the loan.

Liza Pappas (“Liza”) gave the PSO report. The PSO meeting was Dec. 8th and there were about 40 people attending. Bryn Poulton, the School Counselor was the guest speaker. Dean Morris will be the guest at the next meeting. PSO is sponsoring PSO Chit Chats as a way to keep parents connected. Parents are asking for a Post Secondary Counselor and asking for more AP classes for their students.

### **Committee Reports**

No committee reports were given.

### **Public Participation**

Andrew Van Herik, Teacher, voiced concern about the need for a Post Secondary Counselor, and potential demand for in person learning from CPS before vaccinations are issued.

**Adjournment**

Cynthia requested to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 p.m. Jim Mabie (“Jim”) made a motion to adjourn, and Carlos Azcoitia (“Carlos”) seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Warren Chapman  
Secretary