



The Chicago High School for the Arts Board of Directors Meeting
September 13, 2021 at 4:30pm

Location: Online, via Zoom

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

Welcome / Call to Order / Roll Call

Cynthia Plouché

Executive 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).

Head of School Report

Terri Milsap

Information & Presentations

Artistic Director Report

Tina Boyer Brown

Visual Arts Head Presentation

Whitney Bradshaw

Finance / Treasurer Report

Christine Gallagher

PSO Report

Janette Cortes-Duewel

Committee Reports

Public Participation

Other Items from Board

Adjournment

Next Board Meeting: November 15th



ChiArts Board Meeting September 13, 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 September 13, 2021

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

Others Present: Terri Milsap (Head of School & Principal), Tina Boyer Brown (Artistic Director), Abbey Cullen (Assistant Principal), Shanan Egger (Finance), Ron Grais (Foundation Board Chair), Ursula McGregory (Executive Assistant)

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.

Head of School Report

Abbey Cullen (“Abbey”) shared the report. ChiArts held a 3-day Freshmen Institute to introduce freshmen into the ChiArts building. 150-160 students attended each day. ChiArts also hosted a 2-day Sophomore Institute due to the pandemic, they were never acclimated to the building. 120-150 Sophomores attended.

Attendance was at 96% the first day of school. Only 6 students did not return. Attendance is currently at 90% due to 2 Covid cases including close contact students. There are now new attendance quarantine codes to better track the reason for student absence. Students are glad to be back. Teachers are back in the building on Wednesday. We are still recruiting for an additional Paraprofessional and a Diverse Learning teacher who will work half academic day and half art day.

Covid response in school is as follows: Students will eat lunch in their advisory classrooms. Teachers can sign their group up to eat in the courtyard. Masks are worn at all times. As per the CDC, social distancing is 3 ft, cleaning throughout the day, and health screeners are in place.

The ESSR budget was submitted and will include new position salaries, new text books for math and social studies, summer re-engagement, teacher PD, technology, PPE, PE equipment.



Surveillance testing will be managed by SHIELD. Students and teachers may opt out through a consent form. Unvaccinated teachers must opt in. All teachers and staff must be vaccinated by October 15th.

Information & Presentations

Tina Boyer Brown (“Tina”) shared the Artistic Director report. Students are loving being back in person. Students are practicing the skills of being present together in the arts. We have 630 students which is the largest number thus far, and also meets our goals for enrollment. Brass and strings are most challenging to enroll, so other conservatories increased their max standards to ensure enrollment goals were met.

Auditions for the inaugural *ChiArts Extravaganza: Art Always* is underway. Students may present whatever art they like. We are working with a student leadership team and adult coaches on the project. Also, for the first time, students from any conservatory may audition for both our mainstage play and musical. The play is *Mr. Burns, a Post Electric Play*, and the musical is *Mama Mia* featuring the songs of Abba. Tina will meet with CPS to discuss ways to proceed with audience attendance.

Tina introduced ChiArts new Music Department Head, Anthony Bruno. Visual Arts Department Head, Whitney Bradshaw, presented her social practice project, *Outcry*.

Shanan Egger (“Shanan”) presented the Treasurer report. The U.S. Small Business Administration (“SBA”) – COVID-19 related Paycheck Protection Program Loan – filed an application for forgiveness. The original loan amount was \$1,503,700. The application for forgiveness of \$1,081,426.64 was based on eligible costs. We are awaiting response from the SBA as all materials for forgiveness have been submitted. Once approved, \$422,273.36 will be paid back to SBA based on the agreed upon terms, with the latest date of principal due on, or before 5/12/22. The OIG Investigation has ended pending any direction from CPS Board of Directors. The final evaluation of the budget is underway; the final results are expected by September 27th.

FY 2022 key assumptions: For academics, forecasted increase to net assets of \$250K. Additional funding from ESSR Sources of Funds \$611K and associated costs. Also, updated SPED funding assumption to be more accurate resulting in \$272K of funds. Arts Conservatories is budgeted to break-even.



The ChiArts' Policies and Procedures Handbook has been reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee, seeking approval by the BOD.

Cynthia moved that the board approve the ChiArts' Policies and Procedures Handbook updated as provided in the board packet. Warren Chapman ("Warren") seconded the motion. All approved. None opposed.

Janette Cortes-Duewel ("Janette") gave the PSO report. The PSO has a few committee positions available. Voting ends today. There will be 4 PSO meetings this year, the first will be October 27th. The Executive committee had a meeting with school administrators on ways to be more present, active, and supportive. The PSO is having discussions with the school about creating a 501c3 "friends of" account to better manage fundraising.

Adjournment

Cynthia requested to adjourn the meeting at 5:33 p.m. Kay Mabie ("Kay") made a motion to adjourn, and Warren Chapman ("Warren") seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren Chapman
Secretary