

**OHIO ARTS COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING
JUNE 20, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Susan Sofia at 1:10 p.m. in the Gund Gallery at the Ohio Arts Council (OAC), Columbus. Council members in attendance were: Sheila Markley Black, Martha Appel Burton, Nancy Fernandez, Barbara Gould, Sharon Howard, Charlotte Kessler, Martha MacDonell, Peggy Walter, Ginger Warner, **JEFF RICH**, and Neal Zimmers. Members absent were: Barbara Robinson and Mary Wolfe. Also present were: Donna Collins, executive director, Ohio Citizens for the Arts (OCA); Bill Blair, legislative counsel, OCA; and Todd Nist, OAC assistant attorney general. Staff members in attendance were: Julie Henahan, Mary Campbell-Zopf, Jaclyn Reynolds, Jeff Hooper, Jami Goldstein, Jodie Engle, Ken Emerick, Irene Finck, Kathy Signorino, Katherine Eckstrand, Dan Katona, Dia Foley, Kevin Cary, Shannon Ford, Carolyn McClaskey, Susan dePasquale, Pat Henahan, Kathy Cain, Kim Turner and Karine Aswad.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

After recognizing Board members Nancy Fernandez, Ginger Warner, Peggy Walter, Raymond Tymas-Jones, Joe Hale and Charlotte Kessler for their service on the OAC Board, Chair Sofia began the meeting by welcoming and introducing new Board member Barbara Gould. She stated that the meeting's main order of business was to review and approve grant recommendations for FY2008. There are approximately 515 grants to review. An overview of the grant award formula will be given during the grant recommendation report. The Board will need to ratify grants awarded from FY2007 since the March Council meeting. Council will hear reports from the Policy and Planning, the Legislative, the Executive and the Awards Committees. They will also hear updates from OCA, the *Poetry Out Loud (POL) Recitation* competition and the OAC Building Cultural Diversity Initiative. Executive Director Julie Henahan will report on the budget process, the Governor's Executive Order 2007-09s, new personnel and staff activities June through September.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Budget Process Update

Ms. Henahan informed the members that the House and Senate each put another \$1 million to the agency's subsidy budget in addition to the 2.2% increase the governor recommended. This puts the OAC at an 11.1% increase from FY2006/2007 biennial budget of \$22,476,322. These recommendations reverse a three biennia trend of consistent reductions to the agency's budget. The agency appreciates the vote of confidence in the work we do and the staff looks forward to working with the administration. Ms. Henahan added that the Conference Committee will meet from June 21 to 28.

Legislative Visits

Ms. Henahan continues to make visits with the legislators. In total, she made 40 visits to the legislature this spring. She also reported that Kessler, OAC Board member and Chair of the Legislative Committee, and she met with Speaker of the House Jon Husted, Senate President Bill Harris and Senate Finance Committee Vice-Chair Steve Stivers to make the case for public funding for the arts. Board member Martha Burton also met with the governor.

Ms. Henahan thanked the Board members for their efforts of making calls and visits on behalf of the OAC. Their work is greatly appreciated.

Staff Activity through the fall

Ms. Henahan and the Board members reviewed the agency priority work list included in the Council Book.

Executive Order 2007 - 09s: Limits on the Use of Public Funds for Food Purchase

On May 3, 2007 Governor Strickland signed executive order 2007 - 09s that imposes limits on the use of public funds for the purchase of food. The OAC has been operating under a temporary freeze on food purchases since March 6, 2007. The new order lays out guidelines that each state agency must follow when purchasing food for agency activities. The policy directly impacts our panel meetings, Board meetings, workshops, conferences, seminars, Riffe Gallery openings and other meetings.

Ms. Henahan informed the members that management staff has been examining this Executive Order to determine what we are still able to do. We are preparing a list of questions to submit to Quintin Potter, chief financial officer, in the governor's office for final clarifications. As necessary, we will implement new agency policies and processes that will keep us in compliance with the executive order and still allow us to conduct the business of the agency.

Many thanks to the Council Board members who have supported agency activities in the last two months.

Fall Council Board Meeting

The fall Council meeting has been set for September 27, 2007 at the OAC, 727 East Main Street, Columbus, Ohio 43205.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Ginger Warner, to accept the minutes of the Council Board meeting held on March 20, 2007. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Martie MacDonell, to accept the minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting held on March 20, 2007. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Ginger Warner, to accept the minutes of the Nominating Committee meeting held on March 20, 2007. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Ginger Warner, to accept the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on March 20, 2007. Motion carried without dissent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy and Planning Committee

Deputy Director Mary Campbell-Zopf explained that the committee reviewed the 2006-2009 Strategic Plan and that they were happy with the plan being condensed and easier to read. They reviewed and approved the guidelines for the Artist in Residence mini-grant. Director of Community Services Katherine Eckstrand introduced the draft guidelines for the agency's Building Cultural Diversity (BCD) Initiative. The initiative was approved by the committee members. Lastly, they evaluated the on-site form for visiting sub-recipients of federal funds and discussed the recommendation that Council members make some of these visits on behalf of the OAC and the staff. Council members will choose what organization(s) they would like to visit and the staff will conduct the visits to the organizations that were not selected.

MOTION by Martha Appel Burton, seconded by Jeff Rich, to approve the Policy and Planning Committee report. Motion carried without dissent.

Legislative Committee

Board member Charlotte Kessler reiterated that the Conference Committee will be meeting from June 21 to 28. She stated that the Legislative Committee is feeling optimistic about the outcome. She added that Mr. Blair believes that the Board should approach the legislature asking for more money. She and the rest of the Legislative Committee members believe that if Mr. Blair would like to make that request, it would be fine, but they do not feel comfortable doing so themselves. Of course, it is up to each individual Board member as to what they would like to do. The committee members felt a request for additional funds above what had been recommended could be interpreted by the legislature as a sign that the agency was not grateful.

Mrs. Kessler then commended Ms. Henahan on the excellent job she has done contacting and meeting with the legislative members. She also thanked the Council Board members for all they have done in regards to the budget process.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Ginger Warner, to approve the Legislative Committee report. Motion carried without dissent.

Executive Committee

Mrs. Sofia stated that the committee discussed the budget process and the recommendations. She included that the committee initiated a new program, the Building Cultural Diversity (BCD) Initiative and approved Guidelines language for the new Artist in Residence mini-grant.

New *Guidelines* Language Related to Sustainability (Over \$1.5 Million) Program

Director of the Office of Grants Administration and Constituent Services (OGACS) Kevin Cary informed the Board that the committee approved the revised language created to “close the loophole” in the Sustainability (over \$1.5 million) program *guidelines*. He stated that during the spring Council meeting, an issue concerning the Wexner Center for the Arts was reviewed. The organization’s management requested that the center’s grant application not be subject to the cap of \$40,000 from the Sustainability (over \$1.5 million) program. Council supported the staff recommendation that universities should not be considered in the Sustainability (over \$1.5 million) program even if their budgets were over \$1.5 million. The reviewed description was based on language in *Guidelines 2004/2005* and includes other ineligible organizations. They also explain that if institutions receive operating funds from other state agencies, they would need to come into the Sustainability (under \$1.5 million) program.

Executive Order 2007 - 09s (Limits on Food Purchase)

Ms. Henahan explained that there has not been a solution to know the agency will address this very strict order, which has impacted agency operations, especially panel meetings. Our panel meetings are one of the most important activities the agency undertakes. This order has also impacted the activities for the staff. We are no longer able to reimburse staff for their meals when traveling unless they stay overnight. A list of questions to clarify the Executive Order 2007 - 09s will be submitted to Quintin Potter, chief financial officer, in the governor’s office in July.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Ginger Warner, to approve the Executive Committee report. Motion carried without dissent.

Awards Committee

New Language for the Governor’s Awards for the Arts in Ohio Program Guidelines

Board member Martie MacDonell explained that the committee members reviewed and approved the new language for the Governor’s Awards for the Arts in Ohio program guidelines.

Legislator Award Category

Mrs. MacDonell explained that during the last Awards Committee meeting the discussion about adding a new category for a legislator award was brought up. Board member Neal Zimmers believed that it would be great to add this category and honor one specific

legislator. After much discussion the committee came to the same conclusion as they did during last year's Awards Committee meeting. They agreed that the negative implications of this award outweighed the positive outcomes. As suggested by the committee, the staff will ask grant recipients to invite their legislators to event openings in the grant agreement they receive. There is also language in the guidelines they receive encouraging them to invite their legislative members to receptions and to thank them for their support. This has always been a part of the grant agreement packet that we send to our grant recipients but the agency will certainly continue to reinforce that. The committee also discussed "punching up" Mrs. Sofia's speech during the Governor's Awards luncheon.

MOTION by Martha Appel Burton, seconded by Sheila Markley Black, to approve the Legislative AWARDS Committee report. Motion carried without dissent.

GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

MOTION by Martie MacDonell, seconded by Ginger Warner, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Arts Access panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Nancy Fernandez, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Arts Innovation panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

Several Board members wanted to know why a number of organizations were recommended but not funded. Director of Organizational Services Dan Katona explained that the grants in this program are treated much like fellowships; organizations get larger awards to accomplish what they set forth. In order to fund the rest of the organizations that scored high but were not awarded we would need at least another \$50,000.

MOTION by Martha Appel Burton, seconded by Jeff Rich, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Artist in Residence panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Sharon Howard, seconded by Ginger Warner, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Arts Partnership panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

Board member Ginger Warner was concerned about the amount of money Art Opportunities, Inc. was recommended for. She stated that they received a big grant even though they only hire around 20 employees for the summer. She stated that, yes, they do carry out many different programs in the summer but we need to start looking at the number of children they served. Arts Partnership program Coordinator Shannon Ford explained that during the grant review the panel was also concerned about some organizations like Arts Opportunities, Inc. and the small amount of people served but decided that the depth of arts learning was worth funding.

Board member Barbara Gould questioned the degree of social impact the Contemporary Dance Theatre has on its target population. Mr. Ford explained that they were looking at life building skills and ways for the inmates to learn to conduct themselves in constructive ways. He stated that the impact made is determined in the evaluation component of the final reporting that every organization has to complete.

MOTION by Ginger Warner, seconded by Peggy Walter, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Artists & Communities panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of

great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Martie MacDonell, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Charlotte Kessler, seconded by Jeff Rich, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Sustainability for Organization (over \$1.5 Million) panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Ginger Warner, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Sustainability for Organization (under \$1.5 Million) panel and staff recommendations and authorize the Executive Director Julie S. Henahan to make such adjustments and alterations as are found necessary to accomplish the approved grants because of funding limitations or unforeseen factors directly effecting the subject of the grants, such adjustments and alterations not to constitute any change in the purpose of the grant nor the maximum amount that Council has granted. Further, be it resolved, that in cases of great hardship or difficulty, where completion of the artistic endeavor is otherwise impossible, an advance partial payment of not more than fifty percent (50%) of the total grant may be awarded upon such terms as the Council may deem proper. Motion carried without dissent.

OHIO CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS REPORT

Director of the OCA Donna Collins informed the Board that OCA and OAC have seen much success with their Advocacy Plan as it relates to the budget process. They have met significant goals in reaching the general public, arts organizations, community

organizations and arts education organizations in an effort to communicate effectively about advocacy since the start of 2007. Meetings have taken place around the state and while it is a long and time consuming process, it is important in the formation of local advocacy committees and empowering local advocates.

More than 3,000 messages were received by the governor and members of the House and Senate about restoring the OAC's budget through the E-Advocacy Center. The results of these communications have created opportunities for policy makers and their constituents to develop relationships and open lines of communication.

Mrs. Collins stated that the Legislative Committee met with OCA during the budget cycle and streamlined some direct work with key legislators. Ms. Henahan and Mr. Blair worked tirelessly at the Statehouse making visits and coordinating efforts to make all the right contacts. She added that everyone played their part during this budget cycle and it has been a pleasure to do this work on behalf of the arts in Ohio.

Mr. Blair applauded the work between the OAC and OCA staff. He also commended Ms. Henahan on her effort to connect and meet with the legislative members. He stated that this year, more than ever, the two agencies have joined arms and contacted the membership of the legislature, the evidence lies in where we stand in the budget process. Mr. Blair believes that Council should, within the context of being very grateful, go to the House and Senate and ask for more money. He stated that the House and Senate will not take it as a lack of appreciation; they understand that it is what every agency has to do.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

New Personnel

In May 2007, Jeff Hooper joined the OAC staff as the new director of the Office of Arts Learning. Mr. Hooper came to the OAC from the Mad River Theatre Works in Logan County where he had been founder and managing director for over 20 years.

In June 2007 Jaclyn Reynolds joined the OAC as communications specialist in the Public Information Office (PIO). The staff is excited to have Mr. Hooper and Ms. Reynolds on board and look forward to working with both of them.

Ms. Henahan added that interviews for the legislation/PIO assistant have begun. There were 230 applications for this position. First round interviews have concluded and we hope to complete the second round interviews by the end of next month.

Poetry Out-Loud Recitation Contest

Ms. Campbell-Zopf and Special Events Coordinator Engle reported that Tony Jackson, winner of the Ohio *POL* contest went onto the National Competition in Washington D.C. and competed in the regional finals on Monday, April 30. He did a wonderful job, but did not go on to the next round. He and his parents received a tour of the White House and the Kennedy Center as well as met with Representative Deborah Pryce. During the meeting Jackson shared his experience with the program and even recited a poem.

During the luncheon with students, teachers and coordinators, Congressman Tiberi, who hosted *POL* in Ohio, spoke about the arts in Ohio and introduced Jackson Hille, Ohio resident and last year's *POL* national champion. Hille served on the national judging committee and helped select this year's winner, Amanda Fernandez from the District of Columbia. Ms. Campbell-Zopf announced that the *POL* committee is pleased to bring back Chiquita Mullins Lee as the coordinator for Ohio's state competition and that the agency plans to take the contest state-wide next year.

Building Cultural Diversity Initiative

Community Development Director Eckstrand explained that even though the OAC has always been a leader in the area of cultural diversity, it has seen a reduction in its services to diverse artists and arts organizations due to the past reductions in budget, transition in the agency's grant programs and several staff retirements and resignations. We have identified a need to better understand the current landscape and have devised a two prong approach. First, provide grant funding now and, second, identify Ohio's diverse arts and cultural sector and gain input from these sectors. The reason this is an initiative as opposed to a program is because we want to be flexible and be able to change it to meet the needs of the field. BCD bears some relationship to the Capacity Building program but in addition to Capacity Building, BCD will also fund program, project and operating costs of an emerging minority arts organization. BCD was developed by reviewing the agency's past efforts, the Minority Arts Program and Building Diverse Audiences, as well as current grant programs. Ms. Eckstrand also reviewed the programs of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts. She informed the members that BCD grants will have a rolling deadline, will be awarded on first-come first-served bases, will be reviewed by an in-house panel, will be competitive, will require submission of an application and a final report through the On-Line Grant Application system (OLGA) and will require organizations to send a representative to an OAC convening held in the spring. Applicants must have a 25% cash match instead of a typical 1 to 1 match since most organizations will be new or emerging and will be startup organizations. We will be marketing this program on the OAC Web site as well as developing other promotional materials, i.e. presentations at conferences, through regional coordinators and key regional organizations, individuals and media.

Fiscal Office User Manual for Staff

Director of the Fiscal Office Carolyn McClaskey stated that through the years the agency has had a couple of procedures manuals in the Fiscal Office. One is issued by the OAC to staff to aide them with the best way to process their fiscal needs and the second is issued by the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) explaining how to properly process expenditures. The manual that is issued by the agency is now completed and up-to-date. The manual from OBM is being updated to document the new Ohio Administrative Knowledge System (OAKS). The state will implement the new financial portion of this business enterprise system on July 2. When completed, the system will integrate human resources, financial and asset management into one system statewide. Ms. McClaskey also told the Board members that the staff handbook has also been updated. Nearly all the information that we need to access will be available through the Web.

RATIFICATIONS

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Sharon Howard, to ratify grants awarded in Capacity Building, International Partnership, Arts Partnership, Special-Organizations and Artists with Disabilities Access. Motion moved without dissent.

BOARD AND STAFF COMMENTS

Board member Ginger Warner stated that in the interest of arts advocacy and arts education, she would like to propose updating the OAC logo to make it stand out and be more recognizable. It has occurred to her while advocating for the arts and attending performances around the state that the logo does not stand out and is sometimes overlooked due to the other more visible logos included on the same page. This might be a problem because many legislators do not recognize our brand and do not realize how much they help fund in their regions through the OAC. She stated that if the OAC does not have an identity then the state does not have an identity. Mrs. Warner spoke with a graphic designer who put together different graphic depictions of the OAC logo that she would like to propose to the Board for their consideration. She did not bring the samples with her but will e-mail them to the Board members and the OAC staff.

Mrs. Warner stated that she does not want to get rid of the agency's logo as it is today; she would just like to add a few words to make it bolder. She suggested adding:

“Funding for the Arts

State of Ohio

The Ohio Arts council”

This will help citizens and legislators identify that funding has been provided by the state. She does not want to change the logo on all the printed materials already out there but she would like to change the logo that our constituents and grant recipients will be using. Board member Martha Burton agreed with Mrs. Warner and stated that many from her region do not know how much is funded by the Ohio Arts Council, a state agency.

Board member Sharon Howard showed concern about the agency's branding and that they should not replace the old logo but enhance it. She also stated that the OAC should dictate to its grant recipients what the font, size and shape of the logo needs to be. Interim Director of PIO Jami Goldstein passed out the logo requirements that are a part of the grant agreement. The logo requirement tells the constituents exactly what the dimensions and how the logo should be used. Mrs. Howard interjected by saying that the OAC should not give organizations an option of which one to use, they should only have one. Ms. Goldstein explained the reason why we have two different logos; the print of Ohio is used for smaller publications and the other logo is used where there is more room. If they try to resize the other logo and make it too small no one would be able to read it. It is challenging to make sure that every organization complies with the agency logo requirements.

Approved as Amended: September 27, 2007

The Board agreed to review a variety of different organizations in their regions, to see how they are using the OAC logo and be prepared to discuss this topic further at the September Board meeting.

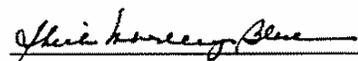
Board member Neal Zimmers suggested that the legislative members be assigned positions on the different Committees.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.



Susan Saxbe, Chair



Sheila Markley Black, Vice-Chair