

**OHIO ARTS COUNCIL  
BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 8, 2011**

The meeting was called to order by board Chair Jakki Nance at 12:15 p.m. in Statehouse Room 108 at the Ohio Statehouse, Columbus. Council members in attendance were: Vice-Chair Louisa Celebrezze, Secretary Jeff Rich, Karen Bell, Martha Appel Burton, Matt Colopy, Sara Jane DeHoff, Sharon Howard, Austin Keyser, Charles McWeeny, Tom Schorgl and Sara Vance Waddell. Absent members: Barbara Gould, Charlotte Kessler, Barbara Robinson, Rori Zoldan, Representative Robert Mecklenborg and Speaker of the House Armond Budish. Also present were: Bill Blair, legislative Counsel, Ohio Citizens for the Arts (OCA); Donna Collins, executive director, OCA; and David Fraher, executive director, Arts Midwest. Staff members in attendance were: Julie Henahan, Mary Campbell-Zopf, Karine Aswad, Stephanie Dawson, Ken Emerick, Joanne Eubanks, Dia Foley, Mary Gray, Dan Katona, Amy McKay, Carla Oesterle and Kathy Signorino.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Board Chair Jakki Nance welcomed everyone to the full board meeting and introduced new board members, Austin Keyser and Matt Colopy. Mr. Keyser of Portsmouth is the business manager/financial secretary for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local No. 575. He founded the Portsmouth Labor Mural Project and the Common Cause Agency of Portsmouth. Mr. Keyser shared that he also sits on the board of the Southern Ohio Museum and Cultural Center.

Mr. Colopy of Columbus served in the state's International Trade Division at the Ohio Department of Development. He is also a former employee of the OAC where he helped develop and oversee the International Program. Mr. Colopy stated that he is honored to be back serving the OAC and working with many of the board and staff members he knows so well. As a member of Governor Strickland's administration, he was responsible for advising the governor on variety political issues including international activities. Mr. Colopy acknowledged that this is a very difficult time for the agency, and the state, but there is also great opportunity for the agency.

Ms. Nance reminded the members that all board meetings are open to the public. She added that meetings are audio taped so that citizens can request a copy to learn more about the OAC's work and the board's deliberations. To further promote transparency in the agency's work, we post the meeting agenda to our website under the tab, "About OAC." After the meeting, we will add the minutes from the full board meeting.

Ms. Nance reviewed that the main order of business is to approve the recommendations for the Individual Excellence Awards and ratify awards that have occurred since the last board meeting. The board will also review the agency's budget and strategic plan. We will hear reports from the following committees: Finance, Policy and Planning, Nominating, Education, Legislative/Advocacy Action and Executive. Bill Blair, legislative counsel, Ohio Citizens for the Arts (OCA), and Donna Collins, executive director, OCA will brief us on their work advocating for the OAC's budget. Ms. Nance then welcomed Arts Midwest Executive Director David Fraher for his annual presentation.

Ms. Nance updated the members on her recent activities as chair. She informed them that she has been traveling the state meeting with arts organizations and leaders in order to strengthen OAC's relationships in the field. Ms. Nance stated that she takes her role as chair seriously and has fully committed herself to it. With the help of board members Sara Vance Waddell, Sara Jane DeHoff, Barbara Gould and Sharon Howard, she has met with leaders in Cincinnati, Dayton and Toledo. With the help of board member Chuck McWeeny, she is planning a trip to Athens in April, and will be meeting with leaders in Columbus in May thanks to board member Karen Bell. Ms. Nance is hopeful that she will visit Youngstown in the upcoming months with board member Rori Zoldan's assistance. Nance added that she will attend the *Poetry Out Loud* state finals and will introduce First Lady Karen Kasich who is speaking at the event. She added that due to our special relationship with the Ohio Citizens for the Arts (OCA), especially Executive Director Donna Collins and Legislative Counsel Bill Blair, she has been able to meet with several state legislators to share the agency's mission. She will be participating in Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C. in April. In addition to the travel on behalf of the agency, Ms. Nance has been reviewing the Ohio Administrative Code and the rules and regulations that are relevant to the OAC. As part of her review, Ms. Nance would like to update the OAC bylaws and has established an ad hoc committee to address that need; Mr. Colopy will chair the Bylaws Committee. Additionally, recognizing the significance of the agency's strategic plan, Ms. Nance informed the members that she has created an ad hoc committee that will provide advice to the staff as we seek to implement the plan; board member Sara Vance Waddell will chair the Strategic Plan Committee. A third new ad hoc committee will be discussed under new business.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Julie Henahan welcomed everyone to the OAC board meeting. She also welcomed newest board members, Mr. Keyser and Mr. Colopy.

Ms. Henahan reported that with the significant changes that have taken place at the agency and in anticipation of the release of the Governor's budget on March 15, which could require even more profound transformation for us, the OAC staff has been diligently working on a number major projects since the board met in September including:

- FY2012/2013 budget proposal to the Office of Budget and Management
- Arts Education Survey and Arts Partnership program evaluation
- *OAC Strategic Plan 2011-2013*
- Agency communication plan
- Grant deadlines and panel meetings
- New *Arts Part of the Solution* stories
- Revised Arts Ambassadors program

Ms. Henahan stated that while the agency is facing a very challenging budgetary environment, the staff has continued to move forward with this important work and manage the daily responsibilities and activities of the agency. She thanked the board for the encouragement she and the OAC staff have received from them over the last few months as we navigate the state budget crisis and its past and future impact on the OAC. The next four months are the most critical for the agency and could decide the future of the OAC.

Ms. Henahan stated that it is more important than ever for the OAC board to talk with constituents, colleagues, friends, and legislators about the important role arts and culture plays in

their communities and in the state as an economic driver, an integral part of a well-rounded education for our children, and as an indicator of a high quality of life.

Ms. Henahan thanked Ms. Nance for traveling on behalf of the agency and meeting with leaders of arts organizations in Toledo, Cincinnati, Dayton and Cleveland and talking with them about the work of the OAC.

### **Board News**

Ms. Henahan congratulated Ms. Nance for her appointment to a three-year term as a member of the Commission on the Ohio Judicial Center. As a member of the commission, Ms. Nance will serve as a member of the Ohio Judicial Center Foundation Board of Trustees.

Ms. Henahan also recognized Ms. Vance Waddell, who was recently notified that she is one of the 2011 *Cincinnati Enquirer* Women of the Year. She and the other winners will be recognized at a luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Cincinnati on April 26, 2011.

### **Staff News**

Ms. Henahan reported that Carolyn McClaskey, director, Fiscal Office, retired at the end of the year. Also, Jeff Hooper, director, Arts Learning Office, resigned last month. Ms. Henahan thanked the staff for stepping up and taking on additional duties, in particular Carla Oesterle, fiscal assistant and Joanne Eubanks, Arts Learning program coordinator.

### **Budget Update**

As mentioned, the agency is awaiting the release of the Governor's budget on March 15, 2011. Ms. Henahan informed the members that she will let them know as soon as we receive word on the Executive Budget. More information on the agency's current finances will be reviewed during the Finance Committee's report.

### **National Assembly for State Arts Agencies (NASAA) Update**

Ms. Henahan reported that she will be attending the NASAA board meeting April 20-22, 2011 in Washington, D.C. Since the NASAA board meeting in October, she has been participating in monthly Governance Committee phone conferences with NASAA staff and other committee members. The main topic of discussion in the Governance Committee has revolved around striking an appropriate balance of experienced and less experienced board members on the NASAA board during a time of great change for the entire field of state arts agencies.

Ms. Henahan shared that the February NASAA board conference call dealt almost exclusively with the potential impact of reductions or an outright elimination of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) on state arts agencies. Ms. Henahan sent the OAC board an update on the situation in mid-February and noted that she will continue to update them as this evolves. She added that Mr. Fraher attended the Executive Committee this morning and updated the members of the recent NEA activities and their implications for state arts agencies and regional organizations.

### **Arts Advocacy Day**

Ms. Henahan reported that she, Ms. Nance and Deputy Director Mary Campbell-Zopf will be attending the Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., on April 4 and 5, 2011. Arts Advocacy Day brings together a broad cross-section of America's cultural and civic organizations, along

with hundreds of grassroots advocates from across the country, to underscore the importance of developing strong public policies and appropriating increased public funding for the arts. Ms. Henahan added that they will be coordinating with Ms. Collins, executive director, OCA to schedule meetings with Congressional representatives to advocate for continued funding for the NEA and to talk about the effects of its potential policy changes. This year's Arts Advocacy Day is probably the most critical in the event's history.

#### **ArtsLab/Leading at the Speed of Change Workshop**

Ms. Henahan informed the members that the OAC is partnering with the Indiana Arts Commission, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and Arts Midwest to present a free workshop in Fort Wayne, Indiana on April 14 and 15, 2011 for our respective constituents. ArtsLab is a three-year capacity building program dedicated to nurturing a thriving regional arts ecosystem by developing the core leadership skills and management capabilities of smaller arts organizations.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Tom Schorgl, to accept the minutes of the OAC board retreat held on September 29, 2011. **Motion carried without dissent.**

MOTION by Sara Jane DeHoff, seconded by Sharon Howard, to accept the minutes of the OAC Education Committee meeting held on September 30, 2011. **Motion carried without dissent.**

MOTION by Sara Vance Waddell, seconded by Sara Jane DeHoff, to accept the minutes of the OAC Panel Selection Committee meeting held on September 30, 2011. **Motion carried without dissent.**

MOTION by Martha Burton, seconded by Sara Vance Waddell, to accept the minutes of the OAC Policy and Planning Committee meeting held on September 30, 2011. **Motion carried without dissent.**

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Louisa Celebrezze, to accept the minutes of the OAC Executive Committee meeting held on September 30, 2011. **Motion carried without dissent.**

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Chuck McWeeny, to accept the minutes of the OAC board meeting held on September 30, 2011. **Motion carried without dissent.**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **Finance Committee**

Committee Chair Tom Schorgl informed the members that the committee reviewed the agency's budget. Ms. Henahan directed the members' attention to the FY2012-2013 budget proposal that was submitted to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) on November 1, 2010. She stated that FY2011 budget reflects the 10 percent holdback required by OBM. All state agencies were instructed by OBM to prepare budgets at 90 percent of their FY2011 funding levels for FY2012-2013 budgets. Ms. Henahan added that the OAC exercised its option to submit a second proposal for 100 percent of FY2011 funding levels for special activities related to arts education and creative economy activities. Ms. Henahan directed the members' attention to the budget spreadsheet at their places. There was also another spreadsheet that represented the known

funding and will be updated as we proceed through the budget season. Mr. Schorgl shared that the committee recommended putting this chart on the OAC website. Board member Martha Burton suggested that we also include a document showing the history of funding for the OAC as well as a list of staff and how many have been cut. The before-and-after comparison will be valuable to our advocacy efforts. Ms. Henahan stated that we could do that as well as work with OCA to get this information on their website. Mr. Schorgl expressed that we could go as far as 1999 and show how much money the agency received as well as how much money the agency rewarded in each county. Board member Sara Jane DeHoff expressed that legislators are interested in what is going on in their area and this would be very beneficial. Ms. Campbell-Zopf added that the Grants Office can create an excel sheet that shows how funding is in each district and/or counties. Mr. Colopy responded that this will be a lot of work but breaking it out by county is essential.

Ms. Henahan informed the members that she along Ms. Campbell-Zopf and Ms. Oesterle met with Kimberly Eckhart, budget analyst, and Tracey Najera, section chief for education, OBM on February 15, 2011. OBM requested this update meeting to discuss recent fiscal and arts learning staffing changes. Ms. Henahan stated that both OBM and the OAC concurred that filling both positions at this time is not possible or practical given the unknowns of the next state budget and funding from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). They discussed the agency's FY2012-2013 budget and anticipated income from Percent for Art program fees in the next biennium. The Percent for Arts income will be less than previous years because we have recently caught up on collecting the fees that were owed to the OAC. We will not see a big influx of income from those fees added in the next biennium like we did in this biennium. Ms. Henahan added that she did ask OBM representatives if they knew what the FY2012-2013 budget recommendation might look like and they responded that they did not. Ms. Najera shared that the Blue Book will be released on March 15, 2011.

John Cunningham, administrator, Central Services Agency, Department of Administrative Services (DAS), was also invited to attend the meeting to discuss the services that his department that might benefit the OAC. Central Services provides human resources (HR) and fiscal support services to smaller boards and commissions. They currently have 32 organizations that they work with and are eager to add the OAC to their client list. The two quoted costs, for HR and fiscal services, were higher than expected, approximately \$62,040.00. For the time being, the OAC is not going to retain Central Services support and will continue handling this work internally.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Martha Burton, to approve the Finance Committee report.  
**Motion carried without dissent.**

### **Policy and Planning Committee**

#### ***Strategic Plan 2011-2013 Update***

Ms. Henahan reported that Ms. Campbell-Zopf and Research and Program Development Director Dan Katona presented on the *2011-2013 Strategic Plan*. Ms. Henahan shared a draft copy of the plan stating that there will be an executive summary of the full plan. The full plan will not be printed as it was distributed during the meeting but will be available to the public on our website. Real world examples from across Ohio and the country were used to illustrate key concepts and the vitality of Ohio's arts and cultural sector. The plan is brought to life through the wide range of beautiful, vivid images submitted by schools, arts and cultural organizations and artists.

Board member Sara Jane DeHoff inquired whether the agency could sell copies of the strategic plan. She stated that she is willing to purchase copies of the plan to distribute to institutions and legislators. It is a beautiful and informative piece, and if we distribute copies it would be beneficial to have a price tag listed on the back of each printed copy. Ms. Nance stated that the staff will look into the cost of a limited print run.

Ms. Campbell-Zopf added that the staff is very proud of this plan. We all understood the importance of showing the vibrancy of the Ohio's arts and cultural sector and to give concrete examples of what is happening in communities across the state. This was our moment to tell the Ohio story. The final version of the plan will have captions on each picture. Ms. Nance asked the board to review the draft and give input where needed.

A number of board members commented that the *2011-2013 Strategic Plan* was a great read; a great tribute to the state and is informative. Ms. Nance commended the staff on the incredible job.

#### *New OAC Public Records Policy*

Ms. Henahan shared that the Policy and Planning Committee discussed the new OAC Public Records Policy and directed the members' attention to the draft copy in their books. Ms. Campbell-Zopf reported that every state agency is required to have a policy that outlines its compliance with Ohio's Sunshine Laws. We used a model developed from the Attorney General's office and adapted for our agency. We will be making changes to the document, per the committee's input, before making it available to the public. Ms. Henahan added that the committee recommended that the staff increase the number of business days in which to respond to records request from the public. We will extend the time to seven business days. The agency receives around 100 public information requests per year.

#### *The Ohio Open Meetings Act*

Ms. Henahan reviewed that in the Council Book is an excerpt on the Ohio Open Meeting Act from the 2010 *Ohio Sunshine Law: an Open Government Resource* Manual. Board members have inquired, in the past, whether the OAC can conduct board and committee meetings via teleconferencing. Ms. Henahan reviewed that the Act states that "a member of a public body must be present in person at a meeting in order to be considered present, or to vote or be counted as part of a quorum." Public bodies are required to conduct all public business in open meetings that the public might attend and observe. Ms. Henahan then asked the members to re-familiarize themselves with the section on Executive Sessions.

MOTION by Tom Schorgl, seconded by Louisa Celebrezze, to approve the Policy and Planning Committee report. **Motion carried without dissent.**

#### Nominating Committee

Committee Chair Jeff Rich reported that the Nominating Committee reviewed the member composition of the Executive Committee for FY2011/2012. The committee recommended the following individuals to serve on the Executive Committee: Jakki Nance, Louisa Celebrezze, Sara Jane DeHoff, Sharon Howard, Sara Vance Waddell and Tom Schorgl.

MOTION by Karen Bell, seconded by Matt Colopy, to approve the Nominating Committee report. **Motion carried, four abstentions: Sara Jane DeHoff, Sharon Howard, Tom Schorgl and Sara Vance Waddell.**

### Education Committee

Committee Chair Sharon Howard reported that the Education Committee members spent most of their time reviewing initiatives that were recently completed or are in process.

#### *2010 Ohio Arts Education Survey*

Ms. Campbell-Zopf updated that the agency has conducted an arts education survey every five years since 1989. This is the most comprehensive survey to date because we surveyed schools and not just school districts as in the past. She directed the board's attention to the Arts Learning memo in the Council Book for details. The OAC with its arts education partners, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education (OAAE), are working to complete this survey.

#### *Imagination Conversations*

Ms. Howard informed the members that the Ohio Imagination Conversations were completed and were successful. The Lincoln Center has asked the OAC to identify two representatives to take part in a concluding event, a Creativity Summit in New York City this summer. The OAC will submit those names within the next couple weeks. The individuals have not been identified yet. Ms. Howard volunteered to represent the agency in New York.

#### *Arts Education Policy*

Ms. Howard reviewed that on Friday, January 28, 2011, the OAC conducted a conference call with the agency's state partners for arts education—ODE and OAAE—to gather recommendations related to arts education policy that would need a common focus for fiscal years 2011-2012. The meeting was recorded and sent to Dr. Craig Dreeszen, principal, Dreeszen & Associates to help him as he prepares for the Arts Partnership program evaluation. Ms. Campbell-Zopf added that we met with the partners to discuss policy issues that need to be improved or strengthened. Concepts from the partners' conversation were also used to formulate strategic actions listed under Goal Three, Objective Three in the agency's strategic plan.

#### *Arts Learning Program Evaluation*

Ms. Howard reviewed that the AL staff was again working with Dr. Craig Dreeszen on the second phase of the AL program's evaluation, which focuses on the Arts Partnership program. The goal is to complete this work by the end of April. Selected board members will be interviewed as part of the evaluation process. The resulting findings will be critical to our decision-making process as we move through the budget process and plan for the future.

#### *Arts Learning Guidelines and Applications*

Ms. Howard reported that the committee looked at the Arts Learning program guidelines as well as the sampling of applications and final reports that were included in the Council Book. The committee members discussed how to better encourage our constituents to contact their legislators about events and grants they have received.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Sara Vance Waddell, to approve the Education Committee report. **Motion carried without dissent.**

### Legislative/Advocacy Action Committee

Committee Chair Louisa Celebrezze reported that the Legislative/Advocacy Action Committee's purpose is to work closely with OCA to advocate and educate all Ohioans about the role of the arts in community life, the value of public funding for the arts and the important role OAC plays in state government and at the local level. She commended the OAC staff on their work and efforts, especially in light of the recent staff reductions and budget cuts.

#### *Communication Plan Report*

Ms. Celebrezze reviewed that the committee heard a detailed report from the OAC's Director of the Public Information Office (PIO) Amy McKay on the agency's communication plan. Ms. Celebrezze directed the members' attention to the communication report in the Council Book. She highlighted a number of agency activities: ongoing communication with the board; meetings with media outlets; and social media efforts. OAC and OCA websites are great resources for constituents and citizens. Ms. Celebrezze stated that these activities help with the effort of spreading the message across the state.

#### *Arts Part of the Solution Stories*

Ms. Celebrezze added that the staff is continuously working on new *Arts Part of the Solution* stories that highlight the important work of our constituents across the state. These stories engage our citizens and help them see that they are stakeholders in this agency's work.

#### *OCA Meeting with OAC Staff*

The committee then learned about Ms. Collins' meeting with the OAC staff in February. The meeting was successful and a CD of her presentation and the ensuing discussion was sent to the OAC board via regular mail.

#### *Arts Ambassador Program*

Ms. Celebrezze added that the committee was briefed on the agency's Arts Ambassador Program. We are inviting nearly 100 constituents who have been identified as eloquent communicators to serve as arts ambassadors. Arts Ambassadors are citizens who are knowledgeable about the work of the OAC and the arts, great communicators, responsible, and strong motivators of others to speak on behalf of the arts. Ms. Celebrezze discussed the nomination sheet that was distributed and asked the members to recommend any individual they feel would be a strong arts ambassador. Ms. Campbell-Zopf directed the member's attention to the program materials that will be sent to these advocates including:

- Invitation letter
- Ten Easy Steps to Smarter Communication
- Advocacy Mistakes to Avoid
- Samples of Letters and Op-ed Pieces
- Essential Web Resources

MOTION by Tom Schorgl, seconded by Jeff Rich, to approve the Legislative/Advocacy Action Committee report. **Motion carried without dissent.**



### Executive Committee

#### *Governor's Executive Order 2011-03K*

Ms. Nance stated that the committee reviewed Executive Order 2011-03K that outlines the state's ethics laws and required training. The policy applies to state employees and board members.

#### *Agency Communication Plan Report*

The committee heard a communication plan report from Ms. McKay. Ms. Nance commended Ms. McKay and Stephanie Dawson, legislative affairs and PIO assistant, for their efforts. As a two-person office, they are doing a great job working on the media plan as well as other communication strategies. Ms. Nance encouraged the board members to suggest and make contact with any media outlets with which they have relationships.

#### *2011 Governor's Awards for the Arts*

Ms. Nance reported that OCA has sold 18 tables to date for the Governors Awards for the Arts luncheon. Also, the program booklet is currently one ad short of what we sold last year (1/4 page) and is available to anyone interested. Ms. Nance thanked the OAC and OCA for working together to present this year's award's ceremony and encouraged all the members to attend. Ms. Burton suggested that board members review the award winner list and contact people in those areas asking them to buy program ads.

#### *Ohio Arts Foundation, Inc.*

Ms. Henahan reviewed that during the Ohio Arts Foundation's (OAF) September board meeting, the OAF board members asked that Ms. Henahan discuss with the OAC board any future activities that the agency is working on that they could support. The corpus of the foundation has diminished to the point where it is just below \$100,000. Ms. Henahan shared that she and Ms. Nance spoke about the funding and the following projects came up as possibilities: the strategic plan's executive summary; research projects that the OAC should be looking at in terms of the economic impact of the arts; and the possibility of a statewide conference on the arts and the economy. Ms. Henahan stated that originally, when we spoke about the statewide conference, we had hoped to partner with the Ohio Department of Development (DOD). Due to changes within the DOD we will need to reconsider our approach. During the committee meeting, Ms. DeHoff recommended that the staff take time to plan this event to ensure that we get the right and best speakers and partners for the event.

Ms. Howard suggested contacting regional economic development organizations and leaders. Mr. Colopy agreed stating that we might want to approach larger organizations as well, like Proctor and Gamble. Mr. Schorgl suggested that we not limit ourselves to nonprofit arts and cultural sector but also consider for-profit arts and cultural organizations as well as publishing companies, instrument-making companies, etc. We need to make sure we include speakers from the for-profit side of the creative industries.

#### *Agency Priority Work*

Board members reviewed the listing of agency priority work from March through June 2011 that was included in the Council Book.

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Sara Vance Waddell, to approve the Executive Committee report. **Motion carried without dissent.**

## **OHIO CITIZENS FOR THE ARTS**

Ms. Nance thanked OCA for the great and critical work they have been doing on behalf of the OAC.

Bill Blair, legislative counsel, OCA, stated that we are at a historic time in the agency's life. This budget cycle determines the future of the OAC. Mr. Blair expressed that he is still upset about the large budget cut we received in the last biennium. We received a 47 percent cut during a time when we had the support of the governor, house and senate members. This year, we have a Republican governor who truly believes that less taxation and less government is better than more. He has allied with more legislators than ever in the House and Senate who believe that public support for the arts is inappropriate. At the federal level, the Republican Study Committee, a group of 175 House Republicans, led by Representative Jim Jordan of Ohio, recommended zeroing out the federal funding for the National Endowment for the Art (NEA) and the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH). Throughout this country, there are governors and legislators who are recommending zeroing out arts councils. Mr. Blair stated that OCA has been out for the past year talking to all the members that were running for office. We have had been speaking to the current governor and legislature about the importance of the arts in Ohio and the role it plays in citizens' lives. We are a part of the lives of all the people in this state and have great impact on the state's economy. Mr. Blair encouraged the members to continue to speak to the leaders in their communities about the impact of the arts. OCA will continue to advocate and ramp up its effort to reach arts institutions in the state. We need to deliver the message of what will happen to the state and the arts organizations if the OAC is not in existence. Organizations need to make the case of how important the OAC state funding is to their work. Mr. Blair reaffirmed that we need to continue communication with the legislature. He added that Governor Kasich has stated that he understands the value of the arts. He has two daughters and has seen the impact of the arts in their lives. Mr. Blair stated that OCA will advocate for the maintenance of the OAC's budget. Mr. Blair emphasized that OAC board members are citizens of Ohio and have the right to advocate and must talk to their legislators about the arts. Legislators listen to their constituency. We all need to work together on behalf of the arts.

## **National Arts Advocacy Days, April 4-5, 2011**

Ms. Collins reported that citizens from Ohio will work together in Washington D.C. to advocate for the arts, arts education, and other related issues with members of Congress. Americans for the Arts will host a professional development and informational training day prior to the day on the Hill to prepare advocates and allow state constituencies to work in teams of two or three individuals to meet with every member of Congress. Ms. Collins stated that students from The Ohio State University (OSU) will be joining her, Ms. Henahan and Ms. Campbell-Zopf. She recognized board member Karen Bell for her leadership in getting the OSU students involved. Ms. Collins is serving as Ohio's State Captain for Americans for the Arts, which gives her the opportunity to schedule all of the visits for the Ohio delegation going to Washington D.C., work with the college students prior to the Washington visit, and then report back to Americans for the Arts on all of our efforts.

In addition to the training and legislative visits, attendees have the opportunity to participate in the Annual Nancy Hanks Lecture. Academy Award-winning actor and artistic director of the

Old Vic Theatre, Kevin Spacey will deliver the 24th Annual Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy.

### **National Endowment for the Arts**

Ms. Collins reported that in January 2011, the Republican Study Committee released a legislative proposal that called for terminating more than 100 programs and agencies including the NEA, NEH, Arts in Education, funds for Community Development Block Grants, and funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. On Thursday, February 17, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to make a deep cut to the NEA.

Last week, as the federal government raced to avoid a potential shutdown, both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate passed a stop-gap funding measure for FY2011 to keep the government operational for another two weeks, while they work on a final appropriations bill for the rest of the fiscal year. This legislation makes \$4 billion in domestic spending cuts, including a number of federal education programs. Among the programs terminated in this legislation are the \$40 million Arts in Education program (AIE) through the U.S. Department of Education, which supports model and professional arts education grants and funds VSA and the Kennedy Center Arts Education Program. This termination of the AIE program is alarming, and all the more so because of the drastic cuts the NEA underwent a few weeks earlier in the House legislation that would reduce its budget by 26 percent, the largest cut in 16 years.

On Friday, March 4 the Senate Democrats released their "Long-Term" Continuing Resolution proposal and it included \$167.5 million for the NEA and \$25 million for the AIE program at the U.S. Department of Education. However, this level of support in the Senate is not expected. Ms. Collins underscored the importance of maintaining our advocacy efforts on behalf of the NEA.

Ms. Collins stated that there are several policy-related issues regarding the NEA that will be part of our future discussions as they will directly impact funding from the NEA to the state agency and other program areas.

### **Arts Day and the Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio, May 11, 2011**

Ms. Collins reported that the Arts Day Committee, chaired by Peggy Fein, has been working to capacity in preparation for the May 11 event and thanked the OAC staff for their hard work. She congratulated the 2011 Ohio Student Arts Advocate High Schools and stated that OCA is making visits to these high schools and taking one of their two legislators along for the visit. The students will then participate in Arts Day 2011 by delivering packets of information about the arts and arts education to each member of the Ohio Legislature and then attending the luncheon. A member of the House or Senate has met with students at their high schools already this year in preparation for the students' trip to Columbus for Arts Day. David Leist, a retired professional theatre educator and board member of the OAAE is providing the student advocates with a one-hour coaching session at their schools. They are working on public speaking, body language, messaging, eye contact, appearance, etc.

Ms. Collins thanked the members who have already secured their table sponsorship(s). She invited each member to become a sponsor. The cost of a table sponsorship is \$1,000 and includes ten seats, name recognition in the program, and assistance with securing legislators for your table, if needed.

### **Ohio Citizens for the Arts Engagement**

Ms. Collins updated that she and Mr. Rich, President, OCA board, have met with leaders from more than 50 arts and cultural organizations over the last couple of months to keep them apprised about our work and efforts to support the arts and culture through the OAC. She is pleased with the conversations they have had and the information they have been able to share. Each gathering has been unique – with most having an advocacy training component.

### **www.OhioCitizensForTheArts.org**

Ms. Collins reported that OCA is using social network platforms to communicate with citizens around the state. She shared that Phase II revisions of the OCA website have been completed. The site is more attractive, user-friendly and content manageable. The response from folks using the site has been positive.

### **Ohio Citizens for the Arts Board of Trustees' Meeting**

The OCA board of trustees will meet on March 16 at 10:30 a.m. at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts. Ms. Collins invited the OAC board members to the meeting.

### **ARTS MIDWEST PRESENTATION**

Arts Midwest Executive Director David Fraher explained that Arts Midwest is one of six regional nonprofit arts organizations in the United States. It is based in Minneapolis and works directly with state arts agencies (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, ND, OH, SD, WI) and is funded through a variety of sources including the NEA and a membership fee collected from each state it serves. Mr. Fraher distributed an organizational report that detailed major programs and a wide range of activities in Ohio.

Mr. Fraher also reported that Arts Midwest is working on their strategic plan. When Arts Midwest was created, regional arts organizations were formed to do the work that SAAs couldn't accomplish on their own. Over time, it evolved and became partners with SAAs in providing programs and services to the communities, artists and constituent organizations. As part of the new strategic plan, the organization will continue to provide partnership opportunities in the states but will focus on helping the SAAs survive, re-invent, re-tool, re-brand and move forward.

### **GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Ken Emerick, director, Office of Individual Artist Grant Programs and Services (IAGPS), led the board members through the FY2011 Individual Excellence Award recommendations made during the November 29-December 3, December 6-9, and December 13-16 2010 panel meetings. As a cost-savings measure, the meeting were held at the Rhodes State Tower. Mr. Emerick acknowledged Kathy Signorino, program coordinator, IAGPS, for her work with the program and overseeing the panel meetings.

**MOTION** by Jeff Rich, seconded by Chuck McWeeny, that we, the Ohio Arts Council Board, approve the Individual Excellence Award panel recommendations. **Motion carried without dissent.**

### **RATIFICATIONS**

**MOTION** by Jeff Rich, seconded by Martha Burton, to ratify grants awarded in Special-Organizations FY2010 and FY2011, Artists with Disabilities Access FY2011 and Capacity Building FY2011. **Motion carried without dissent.**

## **ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST**

Ms. Henahan directed the board's attention to the materials found under items of General Interest in the Council Book.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Nance noted that the board needs to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues associated with changes in employment status; this is pursuant with ORC-121.22, division (G)(1).

Roll call was taken in order to adjourn to Executive Session: Jakki Nance, yes; Louisa Celebrezze, yes; Jeff Rich, yes; Karen Bell, yes; Martha Appel Burton, yes; Matt Colopy, yes; Sara Jane DeHoff, left early; Sharon Howard, yes; Austin Keyser, yes; Charles McWeeny, yes; Tom Schorgl, left early; and Sara Vance Waddell, yes. **Motion carried.**

The board went into executive session. OAC board members and Executive Director Henahan and Deputy Director Campbell-Zopf were the only staff to join the board in the session.

The OAC board came out of executive session at 3:05 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Nance stated that she would like to discuss the creative economy statewide conference that was mentioned earlier in the meeting. As part of the planning process, Ms. Nance will be adding a new ad hoc committee that will be chaired by board member Sharon Howard.

Ms. Henahan reviewed that the OAC first recommended hosting a statewide conference in the agency's extended budget request proposal to the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) for FY2010/2011. The conference will focus on leading research as well as best and promising practices for diversifying local economies, revitalizing downtowns, enhancing local pride and sense of place, and strengthening public planning processes through the arts and culture. The conference will be relevant to elected officials at the local, regional and state levels, professionals working in the nonprofit and for-profit arts and arts education sectors, and professionals working in planning and economic development. Because we did not receive funding to host the conference, we put the idea on hold until we have the available funding and when the staff and board members have the time to focus on planning this event. Ms. Henahan and Ms. Nance discussed using the funds available at the Ohio Arts Foundation. This process will also entail fundraising and partnering with the private sector (maybe PNC). Ms. Henahan stated that nothing has been planned other than what was written in the proposal to OBM because of the transitions and changes the OAC has been dealing with over the past year. We included this proposal again in this year's extended budget request to OBM.

Ms. Nance stated that since we know that the OAF funding is a possibility, it would be great for the OAC to organize and host this event in 2011. She will be creating a new ad hoc committee, Conference Committee, and asked board members to let her know if they would like to serve on it. She added that it is critical for the board to assist the staff in this effort. Ms. Celebrezze inquired when in 2011 this event will take place. She expressed concern that with the staff time and the budget process we are going through, 2011 might be too soon. Ms. Nance stated that this will be up to the committee to decide. Ms. Howard responded that there has been little to no talk

about this event and added that we might be pushing it to later in 2012 because we would like to seek corporate sponsorships and those requests take a while. Ms. Nance added that corporate budgets are usually set in October so it would be beneficial for us to approach them with this idea soon, before October 2011, and try to get in their 2012 budget.

Ms. Bell stated that the OAC is engaged in building the argument for the role of the arts in economic development and it might be a great idea to link the conference to that notion. The OAC staff is going to be swamped with advocating and spreading the message of the agency and the arts across the state. Advocacy and this conference have to be linked as one because the staff will not be able to focus on two huge events at the same time. Ms. Nance stated that the staff's busy schedule is the reason she thought it would be great for the board to help facilitate the conference. If this is something that we think is important we need to start looking at how we are going to make it happen—how, when and where. Once the ground work is laid, we can pass it on to the staff to implement.

Ms. Bell informed the members that it will be beneficial for us to look at how OSU has implemented their conferences in the past. They have put on events that focus on creative economy. Mr. McWeeny stated that the OAC has a lot of potential partners for this event and it will be helpful to partner with someone who has done this before and who has the resources we need.

Ms. Henahan informed the board the last OAC statewide conference was in 2000 in Columbus. Many of the staff who had experience in hosting an event of this size no longer work for the agency.

Ms. Nance thanked the board and stated that we need to commit and begin working toward implementing this.

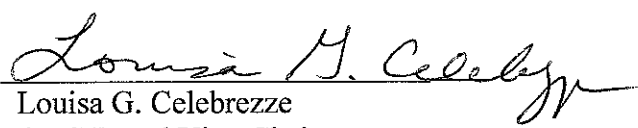
#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Jeff Rich, seconded by Charles McWeeny, to adjourn the Ohio Arts Council Board meeting. **Motion carried without dissent.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.



Jeffrey A. Rich  
OAC Board Chair



Louisa G. Celebrezze  
OAC Board Vice-Chair