

**New York State Council on the Arts
Committee Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2019 1:30PM-3:40 PM
300 Park Avenue South, 10th Floor, New York, NY**

Present: Katherine Nicholls (Chair), Scott Eberle, Joan Hornig (joining via the WebEx video conferencing system (“WebEx”)), Jayne Keyes (WebEx), Eric Latzky, Laudelina Martinez (WebEx) (Co-Chair Performing, Literary & Visual Arts Committee), Richard Mittenthal (Co-Chair Multi-Disciplinary Arts Committee), John Morning (Co-Chair Performing, Literary & Visual Arts Committee), Hal Payne (WebEx), Deborah Ronnen (WebEx).

Quorum present: Yes

Others in attendance:

Mara Manus, Executive Director
Megan White, Deputy Director of Programs
Abigail Young, Deputy Director of Operations and General Counsel

Program Staff:

Individual Artists

Arian Blanco, Program Director
Orin Chait, Program Officer
Panelist Representative: Tracie Holder, Independent Artist/Filmmaker

Presenting

David Huff, Program Director
Panelist Representative: Gargi Shinde, Director of Programs, Chamber Music America

State and Local Partnerships

Leanne Tintori, Program Director

Regional Economic Development Council

David Huff, Program Director
Orin Chait, Program Officer
Katie Steger, Interim Program Director

Meeting called to order by Chair Katherine Nicholls at approximately 1:30 pm.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

KATHERINE NICHOLLS: Good afternoon and welcome. Thank you all for joining us. To remind all in attendance; this is a public meeting that is being recorded.

I am Katherine Nicholls, Chair of the New York State Council on the Arts.

Today we will be holding a joint meeting of the Performing, Literary & Visual Arts and Multi-Disciplinary Arts Committees. We will review the funding recommendations for calendar year 2020 for these three programs: Presenting, Individual Artists, and the Regional Economic Development Council (also known as REDC) Initiatives and Capital Fund. We will also review one application from the State and Local Partnerships program, and three applications from our September 2019 Council meeting.

Before we begin, I would like to highlight our updated Fiscal Year 2020 REDC Initiative and Capital fund opportunities.

The Fiscal Year 2020 NYSCA REDC and Capital Fund application portal officially opened on May 1 and closed July 26th. The REDC Initiatives include NYS Arts Impact Awards, Workforce Development, and Workforce Fellowships. In response to our field and the collective desire to create a continuum across this program, the REDC team took great strides to reexamine the FY2019 opportunities, resulting in the following:

1. The creation of 2-year opportunity grants and extensions in the Workforce Development Initiative, which is a response to significant feedback from the field regarding more time to convert position to a permanent position.
2. Workforce Fellowship Initiative was more deliberately tailored to create opportunities for historically underrepresented groups, encouraging organizations to think holistically and intentionally about how they foster and support the next generation of the arts workforce.
3. The Arts Impact awards were created to offer ten \$100,000 grants to prioritize multi-region or statewide projects that reach diverse audiences.
4. Lastly, we are offering a small mid-size capital fund with returned funds from 2019. New grant amounts range from \$49,500- \$150,000 (previously \$50,000 - \$250,000).

More information regarding the REDC and Capital opportunities will be provided this afternoon by our REDC team.

Over the summer, our council, staff and panelists from across the state have continued the work in program reviews. Since our last meeting in September, we have held 30 days of panel sessions to inform today's recommendations.

I would like to acknowledge the panelist representatives joining us here today: Tracie Holder (Independent Artist and Filmmaker), and Gargi Shinde (Director of Programs, Chamber Music America).

Each panelist is an expert in their respective field and provides great insight into the grant review process. From May through October, over 200 field experts served as NYSCA panelists, and our process depends on you. Thank you for your service and welcome.

As you know, applications for 2020 programs were received by NYSCA no later than March 28th, 2019. Following that, Program directors and panelists reviewed all applications, and today, we will be presenting their funding recommendations for several of NYSCA's programs.

Program directors and panelist representatives will present their funding recommendations to the Committee co-chairs, who will then vote to confirm the recommendations. Committee co-chairs will present the funding recommendations to council members this afternoon during our Council Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

KATHERINE NICHOLLS: Committee and Council members, NYSCA has determined that the Committees gathered today have a basis to enter into executive session. Section 105(1)(f) of the Open Meetings Law permits a public body to enter into an executive session to discuss: "...the ... financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation." I request a motion and second for a vote for the Committee meetings to enter into executive session to review and discuss the panel ratings, and resulting funding recommendations, of the particular not-for-profit corporations applying for funding this year in the program areas presented by the Committees today.

Motion of the Committee to enter into Executive Session is made and seconded. The motion to enter into Executive Session carries unanimously with the Committee members in the room and on WebEx with no oppositions or abstentions.

The motion carries and we will now go into executive session. We will return to an open Committee meeting at approximately 3:40PM to take the Committee vote on the proposed funding recommendations for these particular applications for presentation at the Council meeting later today. We respectfully ask all non-invited guests here with us to leave the meeting.

[The meeting continues in Executive Session for Committee members and invited guests.]

KATHERINE NICHOLLS: Welcome back to the public portion of the meeting for the New York State Council on the Arts. I am Katherine Nicholls, Chair of the New York State Council on the Arts. Thank you all for joining us. To remind all in attendance: this is a public meeting that is being recorded.

I would like to ask one Co-Chair from each of our Performing, Literary & Visual Arts and Multi-Disciplinary Arts Committee to jointly ask for a motion regarding the funding recommendations made by the Individual Artists, REDC, Museum, Presenting, and State and Local Partnerships, and Visual Arts programs.

Chair Katherine Nicholls then calls upon one Co-Chair from each of the Performing, Literary & Visual Arts and Multi-Disciplinary Arts Committees to jointly ask for a motion to accept the funding recommendations made regarding the Individual Artists, Museum, Presenting, REDC, State and Local Partnerships, and Visual Arts programs. Motion of the Committees to accept the funding recommendations regarding the six programs is made by the Co-Chairs and seconded. Katherine Nicholls then asks Deputy Director of Programs Megan White to read any conflicts for the vote and reminds the Committees that those members cited as having a conflict will be deemed to be recused on their vote with respect to the applicable applications from the cited organization. Deputy Director of Programs Megan White then reads the conflicts:

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| Individual Artists | Arts Services Initiative of Western NY, Inc. | Hal D. Payne |
| Individual Artists | Henry Street Settlement | John Morning |
| Individual Artists | Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | Laudelina Martinez |
| Individual Artists | Women's Project & Productions Inc | Janet Kagan |
| Presenting | Carnegie Hall Corporation | Mahnaz Moinian |
| Presenting | Carnegie Hall Corporation | John Morning |
| Presenting | Henry Street Settlement | John Morning |
| Presenting | The Symphony Space, Inc. | Richard Mittenthal |
| Regional Economic Development | Manhattan Theatre Club, Inc. | Hildy Kuryk |
| Regional Economic Development | Museum of Arts and Design | Joan Hornig |
| Regional Economic Development | New York City Center, Inc. | Laura Aswad |
| Regional Economic Development | Saratoga Performing Arts Ctr | Jayne Keyes |
| Regional Economic Development | The Jewish Museum | Mahnaz Moinian |

The motion then carries unanimously with the Committee members in the room and on WebEx with no oppositions or abstentions.

ADJOURN

KATHERINE NICHOLLS: As this is our final committee meeting of the year, I wish to thank you all for the great work we have achieved together this year, for your ongoing service to New York State, and your commitment to NYSCA. I move to adjourn our committee meeting for today.

Motion of the Committee to adjourn is seconded. The motion to adjourn carries unanimously with the Committee members in the room and on WebEx with no oppositions or abstentions.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:45 pm.
