



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Aaron L. Myers II, Executive Director

November 20, 2023

The following is a summary of the agency's activities and operations.

1. Staff Updates

New Staff:

Welcome to our newest staff members, Public Affairs Specialist Denise Tolliver, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer Claradith Landry. Interviews for a Program Analyst will begin this week.

2. Additional Space Granted

The Commission has been awarded some additional space within the current CAH building. The grants division will be relocating to that area allowing for more working room for staff.

3. Council of BIDS/Deputy Mayor of for Planning and Economic Development

Executive Director Myers and Commission Chair Vanlee met with the members of the Council of BIDS and the Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development, Nina Albert to discuss available opportunities to pair District creatives with vacant property owners. This partnership benefits both the artists and the property owners. The artists will get much-needed space for performances, gallery displays, and practice venues. The property owners benefit by having someone occupying the space who can assist with the upkeep. Owners will also avoid paying the vacant property tax.

Another space survey requesting additional information will be sent out to grantees. We are asking all our grantees who receive our survey to please complete and return it to CAH ASAP.

4. Grant Fellowship Meet-UP

The Grant Fellowship Meet-UP that was held Wednesday, November 7th was a major success. There were more than 400 people who attended the event, who met with CAH Grant Managers, Commissioners and Grant Awardees. The networking opportunities were immeasurable.

5. New Grant System Payout

As of October 2, 2023, for FY2024, the Notice of Grant Awards (NOGA) Purchase Orders (Pos) were issued from the District Integrated Financial System (DIFS) and will no longer be issued from PASS. Because of this change, NOGA invoices for FY2024

should be submitted via the DIFS Supplier Portal and **NOT** the DC Vendor Portal. Any invoices submitted via the NOGA Portal that are not related to a NOGA PO that begins with the alphanumeric number P23 will be automatically rejected. To invoice for non-NOGA Purchase Orders that contain the PO prefix, use the DC Vendor Portal via <https://vendorportal.dc.gov/Account/Login>.

To update any company information, please go to https://cfo.dc.gov/supplier_portal and click on the Existing Suppliers button. For questions you may email suppliers@dc.gov or call Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm (EST) (202) 442-6670.

6. Grant Input Email

CAH will be establishing an independent email to obtain grant ideas from the DC creative community. We are asking for their thoughts on our grant process, such as, what parts of the creative community have the greatest need for grants and how CAH may improve its granting process? This information will be taken into consideration as we conduct our grant reassessment.

7. Commissioner Hopkins Folk Life Presentation

I would like to congratulate Commissioner Natalie Hopkins on the success of her Folk Life Presentation held on the 31st of October. There were approximately 50 people in attendance.

On that note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Commissioner Hopkins for her hard work and dedication to her position as Commissioner. You have been a steadfast supporter of the District's creative community and your advocacy for diversity is unwavering. I believe I speak for everyone here when I say you will truly be missed, and we wish you well in your future endeavors. Also, do not be a stranger, we still want to see your face at the CAH events.