



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

**MINUTES**

**DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2021**

**Call to Order**

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities was called to order at 5:30 pm, Wednesday, September 22, 2021, in open session via the Cisco Webex virtual meeting platform, with Chairperson Reggie Van Lee presiding.

**Roll Call**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Reggie Van Lee, *Chairperson*; Cicie Sattarnilasskorn; Alma H. Gates; Gretchen B. Wharton. Cora Masters Barry; Maggie Fitzpatrick; Quanice Floyd; Rhona Wolfe Friedman; Hector Torres; José Alberto Uclés; Derek Younger; Kymber Menkiti; Carla Sims; Maria Rooney; Natalie Hopkinson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

MaryAnn Miller

**STAFF ATTENDEES:**

Heran Sereke-Brhan, *Executive Director*; David Markey, *Deputy Director*; J. Carl Wilson, *General Counsel*; Lauren Dugas Glover, *Public Art Manager*; Brian Allende, *Resource Allocation Officer*; Patrick Realiza, *Social Media Specialist*; Kerry Kaleba, Alorie Clark, Khalid Randolph, Travis Marcus, Robert Nuñez, Alissa Maru, *Grants Managers*

**Quorum**

A quorum was determined to be present.

**Land Acknowledgment**

The Chair read the acknowledgment of the ancestral lands of the Nacotchtank and Piscataway Peoples.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

The meeting's agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

**Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of the August 18, 2021, regular meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

**Welcome**

Chair Van Lee welcomed everyone to the meeting. Pursuant to Article X, Section 2 of the Commission's Bylaws, Chair Van Lee announced the committee chairs for FY 2022: Gretchen Wharton, Grants Committee Chair; Maggie Fitzpatrick, Public Art Committee Chair; Quanice Floyd, I.D.E.A. Committee Chair; Hector Torres, Arts Education Committee Chair; Kymber Menkiti, Finance Committee Chair; Rhona Friedman, Bylaws Committee Chair.

**Public Comment Period**

Jenny Bilfield and Christopher Morgan both made remarks expressing concerns about the restructuring of the General Operating Support grant program awards in FY22, and potential negative impacts the restructuring could have.

### **Director's Report**

Executive Director Sereke-Brhan gave the Director's Report, stating that the annual Art All Night arts festival would take place the coming Friday and Saturday. The agency was also in process of recruiting a public affairs coordinator and senior grants officer; both recruitments are being conducted by the firm PoliHire.

### **Finance Update**

Brian Allende, Resource Allocation Officer, gave the finance update. Over \$28 million has been encumbered out of \$31 million in grants for FY21. Approximately \$3 million in grant payments need to be issued.

### **Grants Committee Report**

Grants Committee Chair Gretchen Wharton and departmental staff presented the committee's funding recommendations for the following FY22 grant programs: Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program (AHFP), Arts and Humanities Education Projects (AHEP), Field Trip Experiences (FTE), East of the River (EOR), General Operating Support (GOS), and Projects, Events and Festivals (PEF). Committee Chair Wharton moved the following resolutions on behalf of the Grants Committee:

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendations for the FY 2022 Arts and Humanities Fellowship Program grants as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$2,685,000.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous.**

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendations for the FY 2022 Arts/Humanities Education Projects grants program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$460,000.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous.**

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendations for the FY 2022 Field Trip Experiences grants program as presented, for an overall total funding amount of \$515,487.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous**

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the funding recommendation for the FY 2022 East of the River grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$875,272.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous**

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***Resolved, that the Commission accept the findings for the FY 2022 General Operating Support grant as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$15,786,469.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous**

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendations for the FY 2022 Projects. Events, of Festivals (Individuals) grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$393,050.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous**

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendations for the FY 2022 Projects. Events, of Festivals (Organizations) grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$474,642.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous**

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### **Public Art Committee Report**

Public Art Committee Chair Maggie Fitzpatrick and departmental staff presented the committee's funding recommendations for the following FY22 grant programs: Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant and Public

Art Building Communities. Committee Chair Fitzpatrick moved the following resolutions on behalf of the Grants Committee:

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendations for the FY 2022 Public Art Building Communities grant program as presented for an overall total funding amount of \$615,325.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous**

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***Resolved, that the Commission adopt the recommendation for the FY 2022 Art Exhibition (Curatorial) Grant program as presented for a total funding amount of \$30,000.***

Roll call vote:

*AYES: Banks, Barry, Fitzpatrick, Floyd, Friedman, Gates, Menkiti, Sattarnilasskorn, Sims, Torres, Uclés, Wharton, Younger, Van Lee*

*NOES: none*

**Adopted, unanimous**

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**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Chair Van Lee adjourned the meeting at 6:53 pm.