

## Arts Education Committee Report Hector Torres, Committee Chair

The Arts Education Committee met on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. In attendance were Commissioners Torres (Committee chair) Maggiano, and Commission chair, Van Lee, Deputy Director, David Markey, Arts Learning Specialist, Marcia Howard and Arts Learning Coordinator, Andrea Brown

## Words on Fire Poetry Festival

This year, 15+ District teens representing 9 public, private, and charter schools will gather to compete for a chance to advance to Poetry Out Loud's National Finals on May 2nd. Sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Poetry Foundation, this program encourages students to explore both pre-20th century poetry recitation and performance. The festival also includes a written and slam poetry component featuring original works produced by teens via the guidance of classroom teachers and local teaching artists. Words on Fire Poetry Festival will be held on Saturday, March 16th at UDC Auditorium for the Arts. Doors will open at 12 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, more information can be found on CAH's website.

## **Arts Education Programming**

The Arts Education and Public Arts Departments are working in partnership with the DC Child and Family Services Agency to promote the Thriving Families Exhibition. The program invites District youth grades K-12 and young adults to submit artwork and poetry around the theme, "What Does Thriving Look Like to You"? Participants will have the opportunity to have their artwork and poetry on display for 6 weeks in the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Gallery from March 22nd until May 3rd.