



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, November 9, 2022

A regular meeting of the Cuyahoga Arts & Culture (CAC) Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:06 p.m. at Parma Snow Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 2121 Snow Rd, Parma, OH

The roll call showed that Trustees Isenhart, McGowan, Mendez, Scott Taylor, and Sherman were present. It was determined that there was a quorum.

Also, in attendance were executive director Jill Paulsen and CAC staff.

President Mendez noted that CAC had been awarded Philanthropy Ohio's [2022 Michael G. Shinn Award for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging in Philanthropy](#). She congratulated the staff and Board, including past members of the Board of Trustees under whom this work began in 2016, on winning the award. She reiterated the need for CAC to remain committed to equity moving forward. Trustee Sherman asked who nominated CAC for the award and requested that those materials be provided to her. Ms. Paulsen stated that Treye Johnson, formerly of the Federal Reserve and now of The George Gund Foundation, nominated CAC.

President Mendez stated that as the presiding officer she would once again use CAC's public comment policy and related time limits as a guide to manage a respectful and productive Board meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2022 meeting. Discussion: Trustee Sherman said that she had some points she did not agree with in the minutes and provided the other Board members a handout of her response to the minutes. Vote: ayes: McGowan, Scott Taylor, Mendez. nays: Sherman. Abstain: Isenhart. The motion carried.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments on the meeting agenda items.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Paulsen thanked everyone for joining her and the Board. Ms. Paulsen's remarks can be found [here](#).

4. BOARD ACTION

Mr. Sinatra provided an overview of the 2023 grant application and panel review process, including the recommendations for 2023 grantmaking totaling \$11,755,225 for 273 organizations. Mr. Sinatra provided

summary comments which were included in the [grants memo](#) provided to the Board in advance of the meeting.

Approval of General Operating Support 2023 Grant Amounts

Mr. Sinatra presented the Board with the slate of 2023 General Operating Support grantees and highlighted 68 organizations recommended for funding.

The following actions were taken:

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the 2023 General Operating Support grant to Beck Center for the Arts. Discussion: None. Vote – Ayes: McGowan, Mendez, Sherman, Scott Taylor. Nays: None. Abstain: Isenhart. The motion carried.

Organization	Grant Amount
Beck Center for the Arts	\$124,020

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the 2023 General Operating Support grant to Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Public Theatre and SPACES. Discussion: None. Vote – Ayes: Isenhart, McGowan, Mendez, Scott Taylor. Nays: None. Abstain: Sherman. The motion carried.

Organization	Grant Amount
SPACES	\$34,668
Cleveland Museum of Art	\$931,148
Cleveland Public Theatre	\$106,671

Motion by Trustee McGowan, seconded by Trustee Scott Taylor, to approve the 2023 General Operating Support grants (below). Discussion: None. Vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

Organization	Grant Amount
Apollo's Fire Baroque Orchestra	\$101,762
Art House	\$20,482
Art Therapy Studio	\$44,895
Artists Archives of the Western Reserve	\$24,777
Assembly	\$41,599
BAYarts	\$55,757
Broadway School of Music and the Arts	\$21,623
Center for Arts-Inspired Learning	\$91,716
Chagrin Valley Little Theater	\$31,262
Children's Museum of Cleveland	\$98,233

Cleveland Ballet	\$41,618
Cleveland Botanical Garden	\$163,354
Cleveland Classical Guitar Society	\$25,544
Cleveland Institute of Music	\$507,024
Cleveland International Film Festival	\$139,394
Cleveland Jazz Orchestra	\$21,871
Cleveland Museum of Natural History	\$481,344
Cleveland Play House	\$312,221
Cleveland POPS Orchestra	\$62,064
Cleveland Restoration Society	\$75,049
Collective Arts Network	\$29,143
Contemporary Youth Orchestra	\$30,768
Dancing Wheels	\$35,898
Doan Brook Watershed Partnership	\$37,238
Dobama Theatre	\$48,164
Dunham Tavern Museum	\$14,198
Ensemble Theatre	\$18,900
Great Lakes Science Center	\$225,902
Great Lakes Theater	\$182,996
GroundWorks DanceTheater	\$43,362
Heights Arts	\$25,517
ICA - Art Conservation	\$86,746
Ideastream	\$590,496
Ingenuity	\$36,768
Inlet Dance Theatre	\$27,839
Karamu House	\$128,283
Lake Erie Ink	\$27,839
Lake Erie Nature & Science Center	\$79,747
LAND studio	\$143,765
Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage	\$143,078
Morgan Art of Papermaking Conservatory and Educational Foundation	\$36,634
Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland	\$140,402
Nature Center at Shaker Lakes	\$67,248
Near West Theatre	\$72,441
North Coast Men's Chorus	\$24,300
Piano Cleveland	\$55,555
Playhouse Square	\$1,164,989
Progressive Arts Alliance, now Arts Impact	\$45,371
Rainey Institute	\$87,227
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum	\$696,273
Roots of American Music	\$20,760
Shaker Historical Society	\$14,359

The Cleveland Opera	\$15,097
The Cleveland Orchestra	\$1,027,491
The Music Settlement	\$193,895
The Musical Theater Project	\$52,611
The Singing Angels	\$30,461
Ukrainian Museum-Archives	\$16,739
Valley Art Center	\$33,268
Verb Ballets	\$39,379
Western Reserve Historical Society	\$198,587
Zygote Press	\$27,284

Approval of Cultural Heritage 2023 Grants

Mr. Sinatra stated that the Board would be asked to approve the grant amounts and score for the 12 Cultural Heritage organizations recommended for funding.

The following action was taken after the presentation:

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the Cultural Heritage grants (below). Discussion: None. Vote: All Ayes. The motion carried.

Organization	Score	Grant Amount
AfricaHouse International		\$16,400
Buck Out Cleveland	93.5	\$8,953
Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers		\$5,000
Djapo Cultural Arts Institute		\$19,648
DuffyLit		\$22,613
Foluke Cultural Arts		\$30,000
Greater Cleveland Urban Film Foundation		\$30,000
Julia De Burgos Cultural Arts Center		\$30,000
LatinUs Theater Company		\$30,000
Mojuba! Dance Collective		\$9,658
Sankofa		\$5,000
Slovenian Museum and Archives		\$12,432

Approval of Project Support 2023 Grants

Mr. Sinatra stated that the Board would be asked to approve the grant amounts and scores for the 196 Project Support grants.

The following actions were taken after the presentations

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the 2023 Project Support scores and grant amounts for FRONT International and Jewish Federation of Cleveland. Discussion: Trustee Sherman asked if any grantees received their full grant request. Mr. Sinatra confirmed that 50

organizations received their full grant request. Trustee Sherman said she wanted to confirm whether any applicant requesting more than \$5,000 received their full request amount. Mr. Sinatra said they had not, based on their performance in panel review and the formula used to determine grant award amounts. Vote: Ayes: Isenhart, McGowan, Mendez, Scott Taylor. Abstain: Sherman. The motion carried.

Organization	Score	Grant Amount
FRONT International	81.25	\$ 16,250
Jewish Federation of Cleveland	76.00	\$ 15,200

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the 2023 Project Support scores and grant amounts (below). Discussion: None. Vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

Organization	Score	Grant Amount
Abrepaso Flamenco	82.25	\$ 4,000
Achievement Centers for Children	82.75	\$ 4,000
America Asian Pacific Islander Organization	90.00	\$ 5,000
America SCORES Cleveland	87.25	\$ 17,450
American Hungarian Friends of Scouting	75.00	\$ 10,184
American Slovenian Polka Foundation	81.00	\$ 4,000
Aradhana Committee	91.75	\$ 5,000
Art of Me	98.50	\$ 5,000
Artful	84.50	\$ 4,000
Arts Renaissance Tremont (ART)	87.25	\$ 4,000
Baldwin Wallace University	92.75	\$ 18,550
Barton Center, Inc.	85.75	\$ 4,000
Baseball Heritage Museum	76.75	\$ 4,000
Bellaire Puritas Development Corporation	89.25	\$ 5,000
Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging	89.50	\$ 5,000
Berea Arts Fest	82.00	\$ 5,050
BigHearted Blooms	90.75	\$ 5,000
Blazing River Freedom Band	82.75	\$ 1,056
BlueWater Chamber Orchestra	84.25	\$ 4,000
BorderLight	89.75	\$ 17,950
Brite Cleveland	89.75	\$ 17,950
Brooklyn Heights Service Clubs	82.25	\$ 4,000
Building Bridges Murals	83.75	\$ 4,000
Canalway Partners	86.75	\$ 4,000
Carolyn L. Farrell Foundation for Brain Health	78.50	\$ 15,700
Case Western Reserve University	85.25	\$ 4,000
Catholic Charities Diocese of Cleveland	88.25	\$ 4,000
Cavani String Quartet	88.75	\$ 17,750
Cedar Fairmount Special Improvement District	75.50	\$ 4,000
Celebrate the Arts Performance Academy [†]	89.50	\$ 5,000

Cesear's Forum	81.50	\$ 4,000
Chagrin Documentary Film Festival	81.75	\$ 16,350
Choral Arts Cleveland	90.25	\$ 5,000
City Ballet of Cleveland	77.25	\$ 4,000
CityMusic Cleveland	86.25	\$ 17,250
Cleveland Chamber Choir	84.50	\$ 8,602
Cleveland Chamber Collective	81.50	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Chamber Music Society	88.25	\$ 13,238
Cleveland Chamber Symphony	88.25	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Composers Guild	87.75	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation	83.25	\$ 16,650
Cleveland Dance Project Company	93.25	\$ 5,000
Cleveland Grays Armory Museum	78.75	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Inner City Ballet†	82.25	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Leadership Center	80.00	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Opera Theater	91.50	\$ 5,000
Cleveland Philharmonic Orchestra	75.25	\$ 3,200
Cleveland Photo Fest	83.25	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Print Room	88.50	\$ 17,700
Cleveland Rape Crisis Center	91.00	\$ 5,000
Cleveland Repertory Orchestra	88.00	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Rocks: Past Present and Future	86.75	\$ 17,350
Cleveland School of the Arts Board of Trustees	89.00	\$ 17,133
Cleveland Seed Bank	84.75	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Shakespeare Festival	81.50	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Silent Film Festival and Colloquium	85.25	\$ 4,000
Cleveland TOPS Swingband	80.25	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Treatment Center	83.75	\$ 8,427
Cleveland Uncommon Sound Project	94.25	\$ 5,000
Cleveland Wind Symphony	77.25	\$ 4,000
Cleveland Women's Orchestra	80.75	\$ 4,000
CollectivExpress	86.75	\$ 4,000
Colors+Youth Center	94.75	\$ 5,000
Comité Mexicano	86.75	\$ 4,000
Community Cup Classic Foundation	79.75	\$ 4,000
Connecting for Kids of Westlake OH	93.50	\$ 5,000
convergence-continuum	80.50	\$ 12,779
Coventry PEACE Campus	83.75	\$ 4,000
Coventry Village Special Improvement District	82.50	\$ 4,000
DANCEVERT	89.75	\$ 5,000
Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio	84.75	\$ 4,000
Downtown Cleveland Alliance	87.50	\$ 17,500
East Cleveland Farmers' Market Preservation Society	77.00	\$ 2,512

Edward E. Parker Museum of Art	85.75	\$ 4,000
Empowering Epilepsy	88.50	\$ 5,000
ENCORE Chamber Music	75.75	\$ 7,438
Environmental Health Watch	92.75	\$ 18,550
Euclid Beach Park Now	82.00	\$ 4,000
Famicos Foundation	86.25	\$ 4,000
Far West Center	93.50	\$ 5,000
Food Strong	91.00	\$ 5,000
Fostering Hope Ohio	92.50	\$ 5,000
Friends of the East Cleveland Public Library	86.50	\$ 4,000
Friends of the McGaffin Carillon	77.50	\$ 7,402
From Me 2 U	88.50	\$ 5,000
Front Steps Housing and Services	93.25	\$ 5,000
FrontLine Service	93.25	\$ 5,000
FutureHeights	89.25	\$ 5,000
Gardening in the District	82.25	\$ 4,000
German Music Society	86.25	\$ 1,600
Greater Cleveland Film Commission	89.25	\$ 5,000
Greater Cleveland Neighborhood Centers Association	86.25	\$ 17,250
Group Plan Commission	90.25	\$ 5,000
Harvard Community Services Center	89.00	\$ 5,000
Hasani Management Inc	80.25	\$ 4,000
Heights Youth Theatre	88.50	\$ 16,387
Henry Johnson Center	88.75	\$ 5,000
Hispanic Police Officers Association	87.00	\$ 4,000
Historic Gateway Neighborhood Corporation	87.00	\$ 11,636
Hospice of the Western Reserve	88.50	\$ 15,283
In Harmony Therapeutic Services	75.00	\$ 10,612
India Fest USA	87.50	\$ 4,000
International Women's Air & Space Museum	88.00	\$ 4,000
Italian Cultural Garden	79.75	\$ 4,000
Jennings Center for Older Adults	86.50	\$ 17,300
Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland Ohio	89.00	\$ 5,000
Jones Road Family Development Corporation	77.25	\$ 12,681
Kaboom Collective	85.75	\$ 4,000
Kulture Kids	88.25	\$ 17,272
Lakewood Young Filmmakers Academy	90.00	\$ 4,950
LakewoodAlive	89.50	\$ 5,000
Larchmere PorchFest	87.00	\$ 4,000
Les Délices	75.75	\$ 15,150
LGBT Community Center Greater Cleveland	89.50	\$ 5,000
Literary Cleveland	91.00	\$ 18,200
Little Italy Redevelopment Corporation	83.00	\$ 3,200

Little Lumpy's Center for Educational Initiatives	81.00	\$ 13,094
Local 4 Music Fund	90.75	\$ 18,150
LYLESART	97.00	\$ 5,000
Maelstrom Collaborative Arts	76.75	\$ 15,350
Malachi Center	90.50	\$ 4,750
Mandel JCC	78.00	\$ 15,600
May Dugan Center	86.00	\$ 4,000
Men of Independence	80.50	\$ 4,000
MidTown Cleveland	91.75	\$ 5,000
MorrisonDance	91.75	\$ 5,000
Music and Art at Trinity	79.75	\$ 13,807
Naach Di Cleveland	88.25	\$ 4,000
NAMI Greater Cleveland	89.00	\$ 5,000
New Avenues to Independence	85.50	\$ 3,485
No Exit	87.75	\$ 4,000
North East Ohio Musical Heritage Association	93.00	\$ 5,000
North Union Farmers Market	89.00	\$ 5,000
Northeast Ohio Hispanic Center for Economic Development	85.50	\$ 3,600
Northwest Neighborhoods CDC	90.00	\$ 9,660
Notre Dame College	83.25	\$ 7,992
OCA Cleveland	89.00	\$ 5,000
Oh Sew Powerful, Inc.	91.25	\$ 5,000
One South Euclid	95.25	\$ 3,000
Open Doors Academy	90.75	\$ 18,150
Open Tone Music	75.00	\$ 15,000
Pakistani Cultural Garden	79.75	\$ 4,000
PALS for Healing	85.25	\$ 17,050
Parma Area Fine Arts Council	79.75	\$ 2,000
Poise Entertainment Education Inc	79.25	\$ 4,000
Polish Village Parma	82.00	\$ 4,000
Praxis Fiber Workshop	85.75	\$ 4,000
Providence House	89.25	\$ 5,000
Quire Cleveland	84.25	\$ 4,000
Reaching Heights	82.75	\$ 4,000
Refresh Collective	94.00	\$ 18,730
Refugee Response	96.25	\$ 5,000
Renovare Music	75.00	\$ 6,396
Roberto Ocasio Foundation	82.75	\$ 4,000
Rollin' Buckkeyez	90.50	\$ 5,000
Schmooze Ohio	83.00	\$ 2,000
Shaker Arts Council	93.25	\$ 5,000
Slavic Village Development	80.25	\$ 4,000
SOS: Strengthening Our Students	87.00	\$ 4,000

StandUP! For Change	80.25	\$ 4,000
Stellar Acrobatic Dance Academy	82.75	\$ 4,000
Suburban Symphony Orchestra	90.25	\$ 5,000
Talespinner Children's Theatre	86.00	\$ 17,190
Tender Hearts Crusades	87.50	\$ 4,000
The Association of African American Cultural Garden	96.25	\$ 5,000
The City Club of Cleveland	88.50	\$ 17,700
The Gathering Place	92.50	\$ 5,000
The German Central	86.50	\$ 4,000
The Harvard Square Center	81.75	\$ 4,000
The Land	81.75	\$ 4,000
The Makers Alliance	90.75	\$ 5,000
The Movement Project	80.25	\$ 15,009
Thea Bowman Center	84.25	\$ 4,000
Tremont West Development Corporation	84.75	\$ 8,962
UCI	86.25	\$ 15,927
Ukrainian Cultural Arts Association of Greater Cleveland	92.75	\$ 4,700
Union Miles Development Corporation	91.25	\$ 5,000
Upcycle Parts Shop	86.75	\$ 4,000
UpStage Players	86.50	\$ 4,000
Ursuline College	82.00	\$ 4,000
VIVA Bavaria	83.00	\$ 4,000
West Park Kamm's Neighborhood Development	77.75	\$ 3,600
West Shore Chorale	80.50	\$ 4,000
West Side Catholic Center	90.25	\$ 5,000
Western Reserve Chorale	89.50	\$ 5,000
Western Reserve Land Conservancy	83.25	\$ 4,000
Westown Community Development Corporation	84.00	\$ 4,000
Windsong, Cleveland's Feminist Chorus	81.00	\$ 4,000
Woodland Cemetery Foundation of Cleveland	79.75	\$ 4,000
Writers in Residence	95.75	\$ 4,999
Youth Challenge	90.50	\$ 5,000

Trustee Mendez thanked the applicants and CAC staff for their diligent work and thanked the Cuyahoga County residents for their generous support.

5. FINANCE AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Trustee Mendez stated that the 2023 Board meeting schedule was included in the packet for the Board's approval.

Motion by Trustee Scott Taylor, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to approve the 2023 Board Schedule. Discussion: Trustee Sherman asked that the location of future meeting be more accessible (centrally located) for community members to attend. Trustee Scott Taylor agreed with Trustee Sherman, noting that

the impact of COVID-19 has caused a decrease in participation in public events overall. Trustee McGowan also agreed and said that CAC should find locations on public transit lines while also noting that CAC serves the entire County, which is large. Trustee McGowan also asked that CAC staff share the participation number of the Zoom for the Board Meeting. Vote: All ayes. The motion carried.

Ms. Harris' financial report can be found [here](#).

Trustee Sherman asked about the forecast modeling (provided to the Board earlier in the year) and to how to determine the overhead cost of administering the GOS program. Trustee Sherman noted that there was an amount budgeted in the model for 2027 to provide grants even if the levy was not renewed. Ms. Harris explained this number is a place holder to indicate that some level of staffing would exist even if the levy were to end. She explained that the model considers that 20 years of grants would be provided and since the tax needs to be collected the prior year to distribute grants, even if the levy were to end, grants would be made in 2027. She emphasized that this was just a forecasting model and not a budget. Ms. Harris noted that it is too far out to provide actual numbers. Trustee McGowan said she appreciated the operating number included in the forecast modeling. Trustee McGowan added that 8% overhead is very lean for the size of this organization.

6. CONNECT WITH CULTURE

Ms. Murphy welcomed Geralyn Presti, Executive Director of The Music Settlement.

Ms. Presti, said that CAC funding has been important to their work, that the work of music truly connects people. Ms. Presti provided an overview of the arts services TMS provides to the residents of Cuyahoga County.

7. ASSEMBLY FOR THE ARTS

Jeremy Johnson, President and CEO of Assembly for the Arts, provided an update on the current work of Assembly. He said that announcements for ARPA grant awards for artists and creative for-profit businesses totaling approximately \$1.5 million would be announced in the coming weeks.

The next meeting will be held at 3:30 pm on Wednesday, December 14, 2022.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Isenhart, seconded by Trustee McGowan, to adjourn the meeting. No discussion. Vote: all ayes. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:16 pm.

Attest:

Karolyn Isenhart, Secretary, Board of Trustees