**SEATTLE ARTS COMMISSION**

Minutes

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Hybrid Meeting - In-Person @ King Street Station 3rd Floor Panel Room OR Zoom

**Commissioners present:** Vee Hua, Holly Jacobson, Athena Scott, Leslie Anderson, Kayla DeMonte

**Staff in attendance**: Allie Lee, Kathy Hsieh, Jenny Crooks, Ashraf Hasham

**Guest:** Arthur Ngeru (Operations Coordinator, LANGSTON)

**Call to Order, Introduction, Land Acknowledgement (4:04)**

Approval of Minutes:

* Leslie moved to approve the January commission minutes. Holly seconded. Approved.

Public Comment:

* No public comment.

Welcome/Land Acknowledgement/Announcements

* Holly – suggests bringing in a commissioner to represent Indigenous community.
* Vee - Seattle Asian American film festival <https://seattleaaff.org/>
  + Highlighted Michael Chang documentary, American Son
* Vee/Jenny – [Indigenize Productions: Indigequeer Live at Seattle Rep](https://www.seattlerep.org/audience-programs/upcoming-events/special-events/indigenize-productions-indigequeer-live-at-seattle-rep/)
* Leslie – Nordic Utopia event at National Nordic Museum <https://nordicmuseum.org/exhibitions/nordic-utopia>
  + Also upcoming Indigenous event at National Nordic Museum, will be announced here <https://nordicmuseum.org/calendar>
* Arthur – Since I Been Down film and Q&A at LANGSTON <https://beendown.eventive.org/schedule/65a6b55495a7fa004fe28d0e>
* Jenny – Doors Open cultural access program <https://www.4culture.org/doors-open/>
  + Does not include funds for individual artists
  + Kayla – Calandra Childers is the new Program Director for Doors Open – would like to propose that we invite her to a SAC meeting to hear about the program, its vision, and build relation.
  + Kathy – re: advocacy, these funds will be stretched thin and should not be reason to decrease funding for arts.

**Co-Chairs Report  
Briefing: Vee Hua**

* SAC Executive Committee agreed to have ARTS leadership/staff attend second half of monthly SAC Executive Committee meeting
* Council connection – SAC would like to coordinate with ARTS before reaching out to CM Woo
  + Gülgün will attend next SAC Execs meeting to discuss
  + Allie will provide CM Woo’s staff contact information.

**Director’s Report / ARTS Update   
Briefing: Allie Lee on behalf of Gülgün Kayim**

* The Mayor’s Office announced a City-wide hiring freeze on January 19th and all hiring after that date needed to have an exceptions request granted by the Mayor’s Office. ARTS’ priorities were critical services and Mayor priorities. ARTS submitted a first batch of exception requests and were notified that we were granted all eight of the eight positions we requested. We have been approved to proceed with the hiring for:
  + Deputy Director
  + Operations Coordinator
  + Grants Project Manager
  + Public Arts Program Supervisor
  + Communications Specialist (temporary)
  + Events Booking Rep, Sr (part-time)
  + KSS Activation Program Specialist (temporary)
  + Hope Corps Arts Program Specialist (temporary)
* Youth Arts grant is open for the next two weeks: <https://www.seattle.gov/arts>

SAC Questions/Comments:

* Kayla – Is everything back on track with hiring timeline?
  + Allie/Kathy – Yes, however some of the hires are slightly delayed but not by more than 2-3 weeks.
* Holly – Will Hope Corps resume?
  + Ashraf – Yes.

**Committee updates  
Briefing: Committee Co-Chairs**

* FED – Did not meet in January. Will discuss 2024 workplan and past FED goals at upcoming February meeting. Jenny Crooks will be attending FED as ARTS subject matter expert.
* CIC – ARTS staff have been keeping CIC in loop in terms of ongoing grants, feedback needed, etc. Hiring freeze/funding implications also came up and was getting ready for advocacy but happy to hear it’s all been sorted out. Working to bring on more community members; thank you Ashraf for letting us know what’s going on and how to be supportive.
* PAAC – Next meeting is 2/27; reviewed and recommended approval for Seattle Center activations artist selection, Duwamish Longhouse planning artist selection, and Fresh Perspectives call for artists. Was also given an overview of SDOT’s 2024 strategic planning and its public art element.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm