**New York State Council on the Arts**

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

**July 23, 2019 11:00AM-1:45 PM**

Present: Katherine Nicholls (Chair), Lisa Baker, Scott Eberle (joining via the WebEx video conferencing system (“WebEx”)), Joan Hornig, Janet Kagan, Jaynne Keyes, Hildy Kuryk, Eric Latzky, Laudelina Martinez (WebEx) (Co-Chair Performing Literary & Visual Arts Committee), Richard Mittenthal (after first vote) (Co-Chair Multidisciplinary Arts Committee), Nazee Moinian (after first vote), John Morning (Co-Chair Performing Literary & Visual Arts Committee), Rita Paniagua (Co-Chair Multidisciplinary Arts Committee), Hal Payne, Deborah Ronnen.

Quorum present: Yes

Others in attendance:

Mara Manus, Executive Director

Megan White, Deputy Director of Programs

Abigail Young, Deputy Director of Operations and General Counsel

Program Staff:

*Architecture + Design*

Kristin Herron, Arts Program Director

Cristiana Peña, Director, James Marston Fitch Charitable Foundation, Panelist Representative

*Electronic Media and Film*

Karen Helmerson, Arts Program Director

Fabiana Chiu-Rinaldi, Arts Program Officer Bartholomew Bland, Executive Director, Lehman

College Art Gallery, Panelist Representative

*Facilities*

Christine Leahy, Arts Program Director

Ken Tabachnick, Executive Director, Merce Cunningham Trust, Panelist Representative

*Folk Arts Program*

Robert Baron, Arts Program Director

Elinor Levy, Program Coordinator, Arts Mid-Hudson, Panelist Representative

*State and Local Partnerships*

Leanne Tintori, Arts Program Director

Ariel Shanberg, Executive Director, Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, Panelist Representative

Meeting called to order by Chair Katherine Nicholls at approximately 11 am.

**CHAIR’S WELCOME**

**KATHERINE NICHOLLS:** Good morning and welcome. Thank you all for joining us. To remind all in attendance; this is a public meeting that is being recorded.

I am Katherine Nicholls, Chair of the New York State Council on the Arts.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our colleague Estrellita Brodsky, who has stepped off the Council, for her exceptional service to New York State. Estrellita was a vital member of our Council, and she will be missed by her colleagues and the staff.

I am very pleased to welcome Hildy Kuryk to the New York State Council on the Arts. We are thrilled to have her begin her service during such an exciting time for the Council. Please join me in welcoming Hildy.

Today we will be holding a joint meeting of the Arts’ Performing, Literary & Visual Arts and Multidisciplinary Arts Committees. We will review the funding recommendations for calendar year 2020.

As you know, applications for 2020 programs were received by NYSCA no later than March 28th, 2019. Following that, Program directors and panelists reviewed all applications, and today, will be presenting their funding recommendations for the five of NYSCA’s 15 programs: Folk Arts, State and Local Partnerships, Architecture + Design, Electronic Media and Film, and Facilities.

Program directors and panelist representatives will present their funding recommendations to the Committee co-chairs, who will then vote to confirm the recommendations. Committee co-chairs will present the funding recommendations to council members this afternoon during our Council Meeting.

Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge the panelist representatives joining us here today. Each panelist is an expert in their respective field and provides great insight into the grant review process. From May through September, over 200 field experts will serve as NYSCA panelists, and our process depends on you. Thank you for your service and welcome.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**KATHERINE NICHOLLS**: Committee and Council members, NYSCA has determined that the Committees gathered today have a basis to enter into **executive session**. Section 105(1)(f) of the Open Meetings Law permits a public body to enter into an executive session to discuss: “...the … financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation.”

I request a motion and second for a vote for the Committee meetings to enter into Executive Session to review and discuss the panel ratings, and resulting funding recommendations, of the particular not-for-profit corporations applying for funding this year in the program areas presented by the Committees today.

*Motion of the Committee to enter into Executive Session is made and seconded. The motion to enter into Executive Session carries unanimously with the Committee members in the room and on WebEx with no oppositions or abstentions.*

**Katherine Nicholls:** The motion carries and we will now go into Executive Session. We will return to an open Committee meeting at approximately 12:50PM to take the Committee vote on the proposed funding recommendations for these particular applications for presentation at the Council meeting later today. We respectfully ask all non-invited guests here with us to leave the meeting.

*[The meeting continues in Executive Session for Committee members and invited guests.]*

**KATHERINE NICHOLLS:**  Welcome back to the public portion of the meeting for the New York State Council on the Arts Committees. I am Katherine Nicholls, Chair of the New York State Council on the Arts. Thank you all for joining us. To remind all in attendance: this is a public meeting that is being recorded.

*Chair Katherine Nicholls then calls upon one Co-Chair from each of the Performing, Literary & Visual Arts and Multidisciplinary Arts Committee to jointly ask for a motion to accept the funding recommendations made by the Folk Arts, State and Local Partnerships, Architecture + Design, Electronic Media and Film, and Facilities programs.* *Motion of the Committees to accept the funding recommendations by the five programs is made by the Co-Chairs and seconded. Katherine Nicholls then asks Megan White to read any conflicts for the vote and reminds the Committees that those members cited as having a conflict will be deemed to be recused on their vote with respect to the applicable applications from the cited organization. Deputy Director of Programs Megan White then reads the conflicts:*

*Architecture + Design: Lisa Baker (Cornell University); Joan Hornig (Fashion Institute of Technology Foundation); Mahnaz (Nazee) Moinian (Barnard College); Electronic Media & Film: Lisa Baker (Cornell University); Laudelina Martinez (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute); Mahnaz (Nazee) Moinian (The Jewish Museum); Facilities: Hildy Kuryk (American Dance Institute, Inc.); John Morning (Henry Street Settlement); State and Local Partnerships: Hal D. Payne (Arts Services Initiative of Western NY, Inc.).*

*The motion to accept the funding recommendations made by the Folk Arts, State and Local Partnerships, Architecture + Design, Electronic Media and Film, and Facilities programs carries unanimously with the Committee members in the room and on WebEx with no oppositions or abstentions.*

**ADJOURN**

**KATHERINE NICHOLLS:** Thank you all for your ongoing service and commitment to NYSCA. I move to adjourn our committee meeting for today.

*Motion of the Committee to adjourn is seconded. The motion to adjourn carries unanimously with the Committee members in the room and on WebEx with no oppositions or abstentions.*

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:45 pm.