

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

### SUMMARY MINUTES

Annual Retreat  
Wednesday, January 18, 2023  
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
County Administration II Building, Room 126 (A/B)  
[201 E Main St, Durham, NC 27701](https://www.durhamnc.gov/452/Durham-Cultural-Advisory-Board)

To learn more about DCAB, visit:  
<https://durhamnc.gov/452/Durham-Cultural-Advisory-Board>

#### Durham Cultural Advisory Board Members Present

Michael A Betts, II	Tom Jaynes	Raafe Purnsley
E'Vonne Coleman	Joseph Jordan	Laura Ritchie
Eldrin Deas	Angela Lee, Chair	Aya Shabu
	Andrew Nurkin	Elias Torre

#### Durham Cultural Advisory Board Members Absent

Michael A Betts, II (excused)	Jose G. Medrano	<i>Student Members</i>
Caroline Dwyer (excused)	Mayor Pro Tempore Mark-Anthony Middleton	Erin Lee
	Mitchell E. Sava, Vice-Chair (excused)	Katherine Lopez

#### City of Durham Staff and Representatives Present

Summer Alston, City of Durham	Stephanie Minor, City of Durham
Rebecca Brown, City of Durham	Annette Smith, City of Durham (remote)
	Brenda Hayes-Bright, Durham County

#### Guests Present

Margaret DeMott, Durham Arts Council	Mark Dessauer, Spitfire Strategies
Sherie DeVries, Durham Arts Council	Joy Harrell Goff, BUMP: The Triangle

#### I. **Call to Order & Guest Introductions**

- a. The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m. by Chair Angela Lee.

#### II. **Adjustments to the Agenda**

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

- a. One adjustment noted by Ritchie, item VI b; 10 individuals will be presented for the Cultural Roadmap Planning Group instead of 8.
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
- a. **MOTION:** The Durham Cultural Advisory Board (DCAB) approves the December 2022 summary meeting minutes (Coleman, Jordan 2<sup>nd</sup>).
  - b. **ACTION:** Approved (8-0; 1 abstention Purnsley).
- IV. **Announcements**
- V. **Old Business**
- a. Governance Updates
    - i. DCAB Student Member Application will be open via Submittable to fill the single vacancy; the vacancy will be advertised on the [DCAB website](#) in early February. The Public Art Committee (PAC) has three vacancies for Student Members; the application will be open on the [PAC website](#) in February.
    - ii. City Council will receive the DCAB 2022 Annual Report at their work session on February 9, 2023 at 1:00 pm and on February 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm.
      - a. Coleman suggests using these meetings as an opportunity to advocate for funding; staff suggested DCAB members interested in speaking at the meeting sign up as a “citizen’s matter.”
- VI. **New Business**
- a. Poet Laureate – Term Length
    - i. D.J. Rogers’ contract began in fall of 2022, with end date of June 30, 2023. The Durham Cultural Advisory Board (DCAB) is interested in extended the contract with Rogers until June 30, 2024. The RFP process would begin in January 2024. DCAB members discuss typical term length of poet laureates in the region, including Chapel Hill’s two-year program. Jordan and others are interested in a possible three-year term. Staff will review and evaluate the program through polling community members; future term limits will be discussed following evaluation.
    - ii. **MOTION:** To extend the term of Poet Laureate D.J. Rogers until June 30, 2024 (Shabu, Nurkin 2<sup>nd</sup>).
    - iii. **ACTION:** Approved (9-0).
  - b. Cultural Roadmap Updates & Cultural Roadmap Planning Group
    - i. Ritchie shares updates on Cultural Roadmap’s Request for Proposals (RFP) for Cultural Planning Consultants. Proposals are due on January 26, 2023. Nine firms attended the optional Pre-submittal Zoom Meeting on January 5, 2023. The Cultural Roadmap Planning Group had their first meeting on January 10, 2023 via Zoom; 29 of the 31 members attended. The next virtual meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2023.
    - ii. Coleman presents the list of 10 additional individuals recommended for the CRM Planning Group. DCAB members discuss economic status representation on the Planning Group and suggest using this as one of the demographic data

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

points to better understand their own Board. Nurkin draws attention to the tension that may exist between the representatives of large organizations and private sector representatives on the Planning Group, the interests of the organizations, and the audiences of the organizations; Coleman confirms the Planning Group Chairs are taking this into consideration throughout the process.

1. Pilar Rocha-Goldberg President & CEO of El Centro Hispano, Inc.
2. Carrie Heinonen CEO NC Museum of Life and Science
3. Denise Hester Business Owner, Board Member of Durham Business & Professional Chain, Phoenix Fest
4. Brittany Naba-Munoz, Youth Representative
5. Jodee Nimerichter, Executive Director, American Dance Festival
6. Oscar Garcia Durham County Public Health
7. Kym Register Musician, Owner of Pinhook
8. Quay Weston, Business Owner, Designer working with community nonprofits
9. Girija Mahajan City Council appointed member of the Recreation Advisory Commission, Board member of the Durham Parks Foundation
10. Rodrigo Dorfman, Festivals (community-based events, parades, other celebrations); Individual Cultural Workers & Artists; artists working in all disciplines, arts administrators, curators, museum professionals). Education, Fundraiser, Filmmaker, Curator and writer.

\*\* A representative of the Durham Public Library will be brought forth for the Planning Group in the future.

- a. **MOTION:** To recommend final group as listed above for the members of Cultural Roadmap Planning Group. The Planning Group will have 41 members (Jaynes, Torre 2<sup>nd</sup>).
  - b. **ACTION:** Approved (9-0).
- iii. Coleman announces a forthcoming Press Release with final Planning Group names and affiliations.
  - iv. Ritchie shares that the Triangle Community Foundation will provide additional funding to support the Creative Community Partner.

### VII. Priorities

- a. Facilitator: Mark Dessauer of Spitfire Strategies reviews the FY2021/2022 Priorities to assist DCAB members develop new Priorities for FY2022/2023.
- b. 2022 Priorities:
  - i. **Advocate for more city and county funding and support for arts and culture in Durham.**
    1. Draft policies to serve as guiding principles for equitable City and County Funding.
    2. Consider language from the Racial Equity Task Force to create definitions on what is deemed “arts and culture” to ensure the City and County are leaning on DCAB for involvement.
    3. Support ARP Funding for arts and cultural proposals.

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

4. Encourage greater funding for Events and Festivals.
  5. Continue to support/advocate for Independent Artist Proposal.
    - a. Members: Mitchell Sava, Michael Betts II (staff support: Annette Smith)
- ii. **Support the implementation of a new Cultural Road Map.**
1. Create a Visioning Committee to draft the focus and recommend Steering Committee members.
  2. Ensure continuous communication with City/County Management and elected officials
  3. Raise private sector funds to support the plan.
  4. Lead the recruiting and confirmation of the Steering Committee.
  5. Support the activities of the Steering Committee and consultants.
    - a. Members: Elias Torre, E'Vonne Coleman, Laura Ritchie, Erin Lee (staff support: Annette Smith)
- iii. **Strengthen and improve relationships with artists, arts and cultural organizations, communities, neighborhoods, and people of Durham.**
1. Strengthen our connection and communication with artists, arts and cultural organizations.
  2. Inform neighborhoods of DCAB's role.
  3. Consider strategy sessions that bring in members of the specific affinity groups we believe are being overlooked to help with building thoughtful relationships.
  4. Strengthen our connections with historically excluded communities.
    - a. Members: Michael Betts II, Aya Shabu (need to ask/confirm), Mitchell Sava (staff support: Rebecca Brown/Annette Smith/Stephanie Minor)
- iv. **Advocate for equitable structures and sustainable funding.**
1. Focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging.
  2. Identify anti-racism, social justice, mental health and wellness strategies.
  3. Analyze the intersection between health/wellness and art and culture structures.
    - a. Members: Dr. Eldrin Deas, Tom Jaynes (staff support: Rebecca Brown)
- v. **Support and strengthen the work of the Public Art Committee.**
- a. Members: Caroline Dwyer (staff support: Rebecca Brown/Stephanie Minor)
- vi. **Provide stewardship during the pilot year of the Poet Laureate of Durham.**
- a. Members: Angela Lee, Aya Shabu\* (staff support: Rebecca Brown)

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

- i. \*need to confirm
  
- vii. **The Durham Cultural Advisory Board defines "historically excluded communities" as any group of people (by gender, ability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other identity) who have been or are currently underrepresented either numerically, systemically, in ways of power, in positions of authority, or in adequacy of resources in Durham's arts and cultural social structures.**
  
- c. 2023, Revised Priorities:
  - i. Advocate for more city and county funding and support for arts and culture in Durham. Renew and Revise.**
    - 1. Recommend policies to serve as guiding principles for equitable City and County Funding.
    - 2. Support the implementation of ARP Funding for arts and cultural proposals.
    - 3. Encourage greater funding for Events and Festivals.
    - 4. Continue to support/advocate for Independent Artist Proposal.
      - a. Members: Mitchell Sava, Michael Betts II, Laura Ritchie (staff support: Annette Smith)
      - b. Actionable Next Steps:
        - i. The Cultural Planning Consultant will determine where funding is coming from, who is awarded funding, and outline current funding structure, and benchmark other communities for comparison.
        - ii. Nurkin's students are conducting research projects on best practices for equitable funding distribution; students will present their findings during the April Cultural Roadmap Planning Group Meeting.
  
  - ii. Support the implementation of a new Cultural Road Map. Renew and Revise.**
    - 1. Ensure continuous communication with City/County Management and elected officials
    - 2. Support the activities of the Cultural Roadmap Planning Group and consultants.
      - a. Members: Elias Torre, E'Vonne Coleman, Laura Ritchie, Erin Lee (staff support: Annette Smith)
      - b. Actionable Next Steps:
        - i. Make recommendations to Cultural Planning Consultant for Creative Partner.

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

### iii. Strengthen and improve relationships with artists, arts and cultural organizations, communities, neighborhoods, and people of Durham. **Renew and Revise; subcommittee members will rewrite.**

1. Strengthen our connection and communication with artists, arts and cultural organizations.
2. Inform neighborhoods of DCAB's role.
3. Consider strategy sessions that bring in members of the specific affinity groups we believe are being overlooked to help with building thoughtful relationships.
4. Strengthen our connections with historically excluded communities.
  - a. Members: Michael Betts II, Aya Shabu (need to ask/confirm), Mitchell Sava (staff support: Rebecca Brown/Annette Smith/Stephanie Minor)
  - b. Actionable next steps:
    - i. Review of DCAB members and representation, including Zip Codes.
    - ii. Invite local Arts organizations to make presentations, conduct a listening tour and visit arts organizations, distribute a newsletter, and develop a communication plan.

### VIII. Break

### IX. American Rescue Plan Updates

- a. Presenter: Sherie DeVries of the Durham Art Council (DAC).
  - i. DeVries introduces DAC's current draft proposal to utilize the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds through *Invest to RestART*, a DAC program divided into 3 categories:
    1. RestART grants to arts and cultural non-profit organizations.
      - a. Proposed: 25 – 30 grants ranging from \$10,000 - \$20,000 dependent on level of economic loss.
    2. RestART Training payments to individual artists.
      - a. Proposed: 80 artists participate in three trainings each, each artist to receive \$1,000 for each of the three trainings.
    3. Arts and cultural capacity training, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility and Inclusion trainings, available to arts and cultural organizations and small businesses.
      - a. Proposed: Up to 70 arts and cultural organizations and small businesses would receive a participation payment of \$1,000; minimum 3 trainings would be required, and payments range from \$3,000 - \$5,000 depending on eligibility.
    4. DeVries provides a list of proposed training topics.
      - a. DCAB members suggest DAC make clear to artists that trainings were the best option and easiest from a reporting standpoint,

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

adding media-specific training i.e. painter to mural artist, and adding personal and financial management trainings i.e. how to qualify for a housing downpayment. These trainings will also be open to the public for a small fee.

### X. **Public Proposal for Public Art**

- a. Presenter: BUMP: The Triangle is a semi-finalist for the Z. Smith Reynolds Inclusive Public Art Grant. Joy Harrell Goff, Bump's Executive Director, presents their Portals Project for the grant proposal and requests a letter of support from DCAB.
  - i. Goff presents visual renderings of the multi-site installation of sculptural doors and doorways in four historic African American neighborhoods on private property: Hickstown, Bragtown, Hayti, and Old East Durham. Each sculpture will depict history, memories, and values of the residents in each neighborhood that most represents them. The lead artists are Malcolm Goff and Paul Evans; the project will incorporate a grassroots community engagement team that has already met with several key elders and community leaders who have shared their stories and enthusiastic support for public art in their neighborhoods. There is significant community support from SEEDS, as well as confirmed sites on private properties in East Durham and Hickstown.
    - a. **MOTION:** The Durham Cultural Advisory Board (DCAB) will provide a letter of support for Bump!: The Triangle's Portals Project Proposal on private property for the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Public Art Grant (Coleman, Deas 2nd).
    - b. **ACTION:** Approved (6-0; 2 abstentions, Shabu and Lee).

### XI. Mark Dessauer returns to discuss the remainder of the priorities.

#### **iv. Understand the intersection between Durham's health/wellness organizations, local artists, and our community's art and culture structures. Renew and Revise.**

- a. Members: Dr. Eldrin Deas, Tom Jaynes (staff support: Rebecca Brown)
- v. **Support and strengthen the work of the Public Art Committee.**
  - a. Members: Caroline Dwyer (staff support: Rebecca Brown/Stephanie Minor)
  - b. This is a core value.
- vi. **Provide stewardship during the pilot year of the Poet Laureate of Durham.**
  - a. Members: Angela Lee, Aya Shabu\* (staff support: Rebecca Brown). \*need to confirm.
  - b. Ongoing; core value.

## Durham Cultural Advisory Board

- XII. **The Durham Cultural Advisory Board defines "historically excluded communities" as any group of people (by gender, ability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other identity) who have been or are currently underrepresented either numerically, systemically, in ways of power, in positions of authority, or in adequacy of resources in Durham's arts and cultural social structures.**
- XIII. **Final Thoughts and Discussion**
- XIV. **Public Questions**
- a. None.
- XV. **Adjournment**
- a. The meeting was adjourned by Lee at 6:05 p.m.
  - b. Next Meeting will be held on February 15, 2023 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. virtually.
    - i. Agenda Items to review: Recommendation of Approval for New DCAB Membership to City Council; deadline for recommendations to City Clerk's office is Thursday, February 16.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Minor

For updates on City of Durham's Public Art Projects, visit:  
<https://durhamnc.gov/3319/Current-Public-Art-Projects>

For updates on Durham County's Public Art Program, visit:  
<https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-a-e/engineering-and-environmental-services/durham-county-public-art-program>