

**NATIONAL HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES**

**December 19, 2019 at 1:30 pm
National Hispanic Cultural Center
Salon Ortega, History & Literary Arts Building
1701 4th Street, SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102**

A meeting of the National Hispanic Cultural Center Board of Directors was held on Thursday, December 19, 2019, in the Salon Ortega in the History & Literary Arts Building of the National Hispanic Cultural Center at 1701 4th Street SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

I. Administrative Actions

Call to Order and Roll Call.....Matt Martinez

The meeting was called to order by NHCC Board of Directors President Matt Martinez at 1:38 pm with the following individuals in attendance:

Board Members: Matt Martinez, Anita Cordova, Bill Miera, Elizabeth Arencon, Vivian Cuadra, Holly Jane Bernet- Sanchez, Margie Huerta, Annette Garcia, Vaadra Martinez, and Acting Executive Director Alberto Cuessy (non-voting, ex-officio). All Board Members were present for the meeting.

Guests: DCA Cabinet Secretary Debra Garcia Y Griego, Legislative Liaiso Michaelene Kyrala, Chair of Arts and Science Khristaan Villela, Deputy Secretary Nick Schiavo, NHCC Visual Arts Program Director Tey Marianna Nunn, NHCC History and Literary Arts Program Director Valerie Martinez, NHCC Board Administrator Alicia Tenorio, NHCC Foundation Director Roberta Ricci, NHCC Foundation Chair Emeritus Edward Lujan.

Public & Staff: NHCC Staff David Gabel, Melissa Armijo, Troy Bradley, Jadira Gurule and Tempest Kendall, Lencho Espinosa, Vanessa Justice, Cassandra Osterloh, Allison Johnson, Rosalie Esquivel, Elena Baca, Annette Lujan and Sarah Brown.

Introduction of Board Members.....Matt Martinez

Martinez began the Board meeting with every Board member giving a brief introduction.

Approval of Agenda.....Matt Martinez

Martinez called for a motion to approve the agenda.

Huerta made a motion to approve the agenda. Miera seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Approval of September Board Meeting Minutes.....Matt Martinez

Martinez presented the September 26, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes, as contained in the Board materials.

Huerta made a motion to approve the minutes. Cuadra seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

II. Business Items

New Business

- **Presentation & Approval of Visual Arts Acquisitions**.....Tey Marianna Nunn

Visual Arts Program Director Tey Marianna Nunn introduced herself to the new Board and discussed the process of receiving Visual Arts Acquisitions. Nunn also presented the visual arts acquisitions itemized in the Board materials. It was noted that the Collections Committee reviewed the artwork and recommend its approval by the Board.

Garcia made a motion to approve the artwork presented. Miera seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

- **Presentation & Approval of History and Literary Arts Acquisitions**.....Valerie Martinez

History and Literary Arts Program did not have acquisitions to present for approval. History and Literary Arts Program Director Valerie Martinez introduced herself to the Board and gave a brief description of the History and Literary Arts Acquisitions process which is included in the Board materials.

- **Discussion and Approval of 2020 Board Meeting Schedule**.....Matt Martinez

Martinez asked Board members to suggest what days and times work best for their schedules to attend Board meetings. Board members agreed to have meetings on Wednesdays every other month at 1:30 pm. Board members also agreed to meet January 15, 2020 at 1:30 in the Visual Arts Building in the VA Boardroom.

Old Business

- **Review & Approve La Fonda del Bosque Lease Renewal**.....Alberto Cuessy

NHCC Interim Executive Director Alberto Cuessy presented the La Fonda del Bosque Lease Renewal presented in the Board materials. Cuessy mentioned that

Huerta moved to renew the La Fonda del Bosque Lease. Miera seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- **Review & Approve La Fonda del Bosque Liquor License Lease**.....Alberto Cuessy

Cuessy announced that the Liquor License Lease for La Fonda del Bosque was not approved in time and will be presented at the January Board meeting.

Review & Approve Pop Fizz Lease Renewal Report.....Alberto Cuessy

Cuessy presented the Pop Fizz Lease Renewal presented in the Board materials. No changes were made to the Lease from last year.

Huerta moved to renew the Pop Fizz Lease. Cuadra seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously

Review & Approve Pop Fizz Liquor License Lease.....Alberto Cuessy

Cuessy announced that the Liquor License Lease for La Fonda del Bosque was not approved in time and will be presented at the January Board meeting.

Review & Approve of NHCC Welcome Center Design.....Nick Schiavo

Schiavo passed out the schematics of the Welcome Center re-design and walked through the different perspectives of the re-design. He mentioned that this design will provide more access to the Torreón.

Huerta motioned to approve the Welcome Center re-design. Miera (?) seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously

III. Reports

Board President's Report.....Matt Martinez

Martinez thanked all Board members for serving on the Board and expressed his appreciation for their time and how far they travel to get here for Board meetings.

DCA Cabinet Secretary Report.....Debra Garcia Y Griego

DCA Cabinet Secretary Debra Garcia Y Griego began her report by welcoming every Board member. Garcia Y Griego gave a brief introduction of herself stating she is the Department of Cultural Affairs Cabinet Secretary and was appointed by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham in January 2019. Garcia Y Griego introduced members of Department of Cultural Affairs who were presented at the meeting which includes, Nick Schiavo who is the Deputy Secretary, Michaelene Kyrala who is the Legislative Liason, and Khristaan Villela who is the Chair of Arts and Science. She also thanked Cuessy for all his hard work and expressed her gratitude to Cuessy and all the staff members of NHCC for all their hard work.

Performing Arts Program ReportReeve Love

Cuessy reported on behalf of Reeve Love. Cuessy passed out a handout on the Performing Arts Season, which includes lots of amazing music, dance and theatre programming coming up. Some highlights include partnering with Opera Southwest, the Center's 15th annual Carnival celebration, and co-presenting selected shows from Tricklock Company's 20th annual Revolutions International Theatre Festival. Cuessy announced that the Performing Arts proposals have just launched to determine 2020-

2021 season. Any performing artists that would like to present a show at NHCC during this time frame are asked to submit a proposal form by the end of February. We're looking for proposals that will help us present a range of performances that showcase local, national and international talent. Information and guidelines are available on the NHCC website, and a press release will be issued shortly.

Visual Arts Program Report.....Tey Marianna Nunn

I would like to add that I am very proud of each one of our incredible staff members and their incredible power as a superb team. Some Highlights:

In 2019, we conceived, and curated 10 exhibits in the Museum. Five in our museum and five in the education exhibit space in the Domenici Building with museum educator Elena Baca.

Qué Chola, curated by Jadira Gurulé, opened with over 1000 people at the reception and closed with over 750 people attending the closing party. It received regional national and international acclaim in the press.

El Perú: Art in the Contemporary Past, curated by myself (Tey Marianna Nunn) was the first exhibition of Peruvian Art ever at the NHCC and has also received national and international attention most notably with a fabulous review in El Comercio, the New York Times of Perú. The planning of this exhibition also engaged, for the first time, the Peruvian community in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Taos, Las Cruces, Denver and El Paso.

Permanent Collection News

In 2019 we acquired 249 (plus nine new works at this meeting for a total of 258!) new works of art for the permanent collection. The works came from 22 different donors, collectors, artists and other sources. We had one large promised gift: the Adam and Eve Collection from Dr. Joyce Kaser. And just to let new board members know, we currently have three very large promised gifts from other donors. Currently, we are receiving daily inquiries regarding end of year donations of art works, so we expect the number to increase.

Three well-respected museums borrowed multiple works from the permanent collection for national exhibits: The National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago for their Annual Día de los Muertos show and the UCR Artsblock at the University of California, Riverside for their Mundos Alternos exhibit which then traveled to the Queens Museum of Art in New York.

Our registrar, David Gabel has not only been cataloguing the hundreds of new acquisitions, somehow he has found time to rehouse 416 textiles from our significant John Shaw Collection of Guatemalan textiles. And by rehousing, I mean proper archival storage and care.

The NHCC also acquired a brand new beautiful piece of public art. "El Pendente del Cielo" or, Sky Pendent, by Paula Castillo. The large scale metal cut out sculpture or structure, caps off part of the main building. The artist was inspired by lace mantillas and other lacey textiles of Spanish origin. We encourage you to stand under it and look at the shadows the sun casts. The work honors Virginia Lujan and will have a formal dedication in the New Year to which you will all be invited.

We created and/or collaborated on over 100 educational programs including new formats for tours, lectures, and discussions, as well as a new pilot program for art museum docents. Our education programs for kids, Vamos al Museo and our partnership with Water Authority, continue to bring in

thousands of kids to the museum. We also worked with the children's museum of New York in international collaboration/hands on art projects called Civic Kids.

The NHCC Art Museum was selected through a competitive process to participate in the first cohort of OFBYFORALL, an international program lead by museum thought leader, Nina Simon.

In October, I served on the planning committee and we hosted a site visit for the Imagining America Conference, a national conference held this year in Albuquerque. Our curator, Jadira Gurulé, also presented at the Conference on her Qué Chola exhibition.

Speaking of conferences and presentations, our active museum staff traveled to, presented, and represented at meetings and conferences in Las Cruces, Taos, Santa Fe and Las Vegas, Denver, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis, Seattle, Santa Cruz, California, Los Angeles, California, Jackson Mississippi, Houston, Texas and Washington DC.

We had fabulous press coverage and dozens of stories and reviews were produced or written local, national and international media outlets. This includes a number of stories that went out on the Associated Press and were reported on by other newspapers nationwide.

We received funding from the Kellogg Foundation and just a few weeks ago, we received an invitation from the Ford Foundation to the NHCC Art Museum specifically to apply for funding for the coming 2-3 years. Keep your fingers crossed!

Store

The museum and visual arts staff threw themselves behind the idea of having a museum store holiday pop up shop during the weekend of December 7 and 8th and again this past weekend. Sales were very strong , approximately \$800 in two days and best sellers are the tamale man shirts and stickers as well as the roasted green chile car deodorizers a, kitchen tea towels and papel picado earrings. We'd be happy to open the shop up for any of you who still have last minute gifts to buy following this meeting or by request anytime in the next few days.

On behalf of the entire art museum staff we'd like to say welcome to the new Board Member., Happy Holidays and please schedule a visit with us to tour the museum and collections storage. We look forward to working with you in 2020 during our 20th anniversary year.

History & Literary Arts Program Report.....Valerie Martinez

Martinez began her report by presenting HLA Attendance Statistics which is included in the Board packet. She also mentioned HLA Signature Events which includes many programs that are putting NHCC on the map nationally, a couple of these programs are the Children's Bilingual Book Festival which takes place in April, we received a national endowment arts grant for that program as well as the Latinx Writer's Conference, at this time there is not a conference for latinx writers, the largest community of writers of color in the country, and we have the perfect venue and resources for this conference. We are also about to launch a History Festival in February, the Festival is multi-generational and will include activities for all ages. Martinez also passed out a handout of all their partners and co-sponsors and gave thanks to them all.

Martinez also gave a warm thanks to HLA Staff, Vista Volunteers and HLA Volunteers for all their hard work and dedication.

Welcome and thank you all for serving on the NHCC Board of Directors. As you know, the NHCC's mission is to preserve, promote, and advance Hispanic culture, arts and humanities. We do this by presenting over 700 events annually across all programming disciplines – from performing arts, visual arts, history and literary arts, and family and community based events.

This is due in large part to an incredible staff who creates events and curates exhibitions that inspire creativity and help visitors value their heritage. In fiscal year 2019, we welcomed more than 274,000 people to our campus. That number allowed us to be the most visited Latino Cultural Institution in the United States.

As you've heard from each of the Program Directors today, we have something for everyone here at the NHCC. I look forward to working with each and every one of you and look forward to seeing you at several of our events throughout the year.

Staffing Updates

We currently have 5 vacancies - a Rentals Manager position, a Staff Manager position (PA/Ed. Manager), Marketing & Public Relations Supervisor, security guard position, and a janitorial position.

We concluded interviews for the Rentals Manager position early this week and have made a selection. The necessary paperwork will be submitted to Human Resources in Santa Fe this Friday.

The Staff Manager position is on hold until the new Executive Director is hired. This will give the new Exec. Director an opportunity to evaluate the position and determine how to best fill it.

We have received the applicant list for the Marketing Supervisor position and will begin interviewing qualified applicants in the next few weeks.

We are close to filling the security guard position and janitorial positions and are awaiting on final approval.

We did recently hire a new Finance Manager for the NHCC and the employee will begin on January 13, 2020. This will be a welcomed addition to the Finance Team.

Last but not least, we hired a part-time customer service representative by the name of David Saiz to work the Art Museum admissions on Saturday and Sunday. David is from Los Lunas, New Mexico and has been volunteering and interning here at the Center for almost five years. He is currently a graduate student in the Art and Art History Department at the University of New Mexico and is both a welcoming and knowledgeable presence at the admissions desk for the museum.

NHCC Capital Improvements

The NHCC has a number of general capital needs throughout campus – from addressing trip hazards, necessary HVAC repairs, repairing and preserving the wood columns in HLA and Canoa fountain, security upgrades, IT infrastructure upgrades, and new stucco just to name a few. In 2018, we completed a facility assessment study which identified all the deficiencies in every building and throughout the grounds. The facility assessment proposes solutions as well as approx. costs for the repairs. Additionally, the same firm who completed the facility assessment completed a campus master plan for the NHCC with recommended facility upgrades and site improvements.

Thanks to DCA and the capital funding we receive from the legislature every year, we're making significant progress on addressing all facilities issues.

Attendance and Revenue

Attendance – Overall attendance numbers for FY20 decreased by 23,000 compared the same period last fiscal year. This represents a 19.3% decrease. Unfortunately,

Revenue – Overall revenue for FY20 increased by \$419.75 which is a slight increase compared to the same time period last fiscal year.

NHCC Foundation ReportRoberta Ricci

Ricci welcomed the Board and mentioned she is looking forward to working with them. Ricci introduced Foundation staff Melissa Armijo, Executive Assistant and Larry Espinoza, Development and Membership Manager. She also thanked Edward Lujan for his mentorship and guidance since she began at the Center, he has been instrumental to NHCC's success. Last Year the Foundation raised over \$1M dollars and was able to exceed their goal. This year Foundation's goal is to exceed \$1.25M dollars. Foundation will be working closely with the DCA Legislative Liason Michaelene Kyrala. Ricci announced the date for Maravilla 2020 will be September 12, 2020.

IV. Closed Meeting Session

In accordance with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, specifically NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H), Subpart (2), Discussion of Limited Personnel Matters relating to the search for a new Executive Director of the NHCC.

Martinez moved that the Board go into closed meeting at this time, in accordance with the New Mexico Open Meetings, Act, specifically NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H), Subpart (7), Discussion of Limited Personnel Matters.

Huerta moved the motion to go into Closed Meeting Session at 3:27 pm. Barnet-Sanchez seconded the motion.

Tenorio took roll call:	VOTE
Matt Martinez	Yes
Elizabeth Arencon	Yes
Holly Jane Barnet- Sanchez	Yes
Anita Cordova	Yes
Vivian Cuadra	Yes
Annette Garcia	Yes
Margie Huerta	Yes
Vaadra Martinez	Yes
Bill Miera	Yes

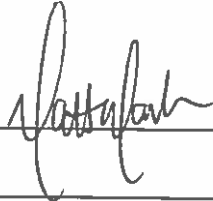
Huerta moved to come out of closed session, noting for the record that the matters discussed by the Board in the closed session were limited only to those specified in the motion for closure. Miera seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously at 4:37pm

Martinez stated that the Board has put together a list that will be submitted to the Cabinet Secretary pursuant to Section 18-12-6 in regards to the Executive Director Appointment.

V. Adjournment

Huerta made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Garcia seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

Board President  Date 1-15-20
Board Secretary _____ Date _____