



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

**May 6, 2021 at 1:30 pm
National Hispanic Cultural Center
Online Zoom Meeting**

A meeting of the National Hispanic Cultural Center Board of Directors was held on Thursday, May 6, 2021, via online Zoom meeting.

I. Administrative Actions

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

The meeting was called to order by NHCC Board of Directors Chairman Matt Martinez at 1:33 pm.

Board Members: Matt Martinez, Anita Cordova, Elizabeth Arencon, Holly Jane Barnet-Sanchez, Bill Miera, Vaadra Martinez, NHCC Foundation Trustee Lou Anne Byrd and Interim Executive Director Nick Schiavo (non-voting, ex-officio).

The following Board Members were not present for the meeting: Annette Garcia, Vivian Cuadra, and NHCC Foundation Trustee John Martinez.

Panelist: DCA Cabinet Secretary Debra Garcia y Griego, DCA Chair of Arts & Science Khristaan Villela, DCA Special Assistant to DCA Cabinet Secretary Jane Egan, DCA Marketing & Communications Manager Daniel Zillmann, NHCC Foundation Executive Director Roberta Ricci, NHCC Chair Emeritus Edward Lujan, Assistant Attorney General Robert Sanchez, NHCC Deputy Director Alberto Cuesy, NHCC Visual Arts Director Tey Nunn, NHCC History & Literary Arts Director Valerie Martinez, NHCC Performing Arts Director Reeve Love, NHCC Volunteer Coordinator Annette Lujan, and NHCC Board Administrator Alicia Tenorio.

Attendees: NHCC Staff Jadira Gurule, Patricia Perea, Andres Martinez, NHCC Foundation Staff Melissa Armijo, and Albuquerque Journal Arts & Entertainment Editor Adrian Gomez.

Approval of Agenda.....Matt Martinez

Board President Matt Martinez called for a motion to approve the agenda.

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

Approval of March 25, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.....Matt Martinez

Martinez presented the March 25, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes, as contained in the Board materials.

Barnet- Sanchez made a motion to approve the March 25, 2021 minutes. Byrd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

II. Business Items

New Business

- Presentation and Approval of Torreon Admission Fees.....Nick Schiavo

Interim Executive Director Nick Schiavo stated with the new welcome center guests will have better access to the Torreon, and they would like to offer guided tours starting May 21st. The tour will eventually be every day, Tues through Sunday at 11:00am.

Schiavo would like to start the torreon admission fee at \$2.00 per person.

Miera agrees that it is a good idea to have a small charge because he noticed people do not value free things as much as when they pay.

Barnet- Sanchez mentioned what if a group of 6 or more would like to attend the tour? Will there be group rates? Schiavo said that was a great suggestion and will look into how to structure group rate. Byrd asked who will be giving the guided tours? Schiavo stated he is working with DCA Secretary Debra Garcia Y Griego to have the Docents and Volunteers fill out a waiver form. After that they will receive training from Volunteer Coordinator Annette Lujan and then be able to offer the tours.

Arencon stated that she agrees with Barnet-Sanchez to have a group rate.

Cordova stated that we can always say a minimum suggested donation because some people are willing to give more.

Cordova moved to accept the Torreon Admission Fee of \$2.00 per person, Barnet-Sanchez seconded, and it passed unanimously.

- Executive Director Search Committee Appointment.....Matt Martinez

Martinez stated since the NHCC Board last met, former Executive Director Josefa Gonzalez Mariscal submitted her resignation. In the meantime, Nick Schiavo is our Interim Executive Director.

Attorney General Robert Sanchez stated in National Hispanic Cultural Center Operative statute 18-12-6 n that the ED leads the Hispanic Cultural Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs and that they are the Executive Director of the Hispanic Cultural Division. NHCC Board of Directors will submit a list of qualified finalists to the DCA Secretary who will make that appointment subject to the Governor. Martinez thanked Madam Secretary for her help with the Executive Director Search Committee and helping them get to this process.

Martinez appointed 5 members to the Executive Director Search Committee. The members appointed is NHCC Board member Holly Barnet-Sanchez, DCA Chair of Arts & Science Khristaan Villela, Chair of National Hispanic Cultural Center Foundation Trustees LouAnne Byrd, Public Representative is

Jay Czar And National Hispanic Cultural Center Board President Matt Martinez.

Martinez asked Villela where position has been posted. Villela stated the position is posted on the American Alliance of Museums, Hispanic Arts Professions Network, in the Albuquerque Journal and New Mexico Association of Museums list, and also on the Department of Cultural Affairs website.

IV. Reports

DCA Cabinet Secretary ReportDebra Garcia y Griego

DCA Cabinet Secretary mentioned that the Deputy Secretary/Interim Executive Director Nick Schiavo will deliver an Executive Director Report and any relevant DCA updates at the same time for the sake of time.

Lastly, Garcia Y Griego thanked members of the Board for their ongoing patience and support, and mentioned they are a great dedicated group to work with. She also thanked LouAnne Byrd for reaching out to Schiavo to help make this interim period a period of growth with the NHCC Foundation.

NHCC Foundation ReportRoberta Ricci

NHCC Foundation Executive Director Roberta Ricci began her report by stating the Foundation has moved back into their offices. She has hired two new employees. The first employee is the Development & Membership Manager Justin Martinez who will start on May 24th. The second employee is Madeline Lucas as a Professional Intern to use her skillset to help on projects.

Planning for Maravilla is going great. Foundation is currently securing all sponsorships for Maravilla.

Board is moving forward on Strategic Plan and will present something next Board meeting.

Miera asked if she can give a background on Justin Martinez. Ricci stated that Martinez is currently a student at UNM Anderson School of Management. He is currently an Academic Advisor. He is just very eager and passionate about our mission. He also came highly recommended. Madelyne Lucas got accepted into Georgetown University so will be with us till the fall. She will be concentrating on Board Community engagement and working on files. She will also help with Maravilla. Professional Internship will really help push the Foundation forward.

Byrd thanked Ricci for all she does working with just a staff of two, doing so much. Byrd also thanked Jim Long for all his help with Maravilla.

Martinez asked Lujan if he had anything he would like to add. Lujan welcomed Schiavo and thanked him for all his hard work on the New Mexico Mutual Welcome Center. The pandemic has been a bummer but it showed us that we can be an International and National Center and take our programs virtually.

NHCC Executive Director ReportNick Schiavo

NHCC Interim Executive Director Nick Schiavo began his report by discussing the proposed wayfinding signage that was sent to the Board. Schiavo asked Cassandra Osterloh to walk the Board through the slides of the signs and the different locations the signs will be. Ricci stated that the Foundation was not on these signs and if they can be added. Schiavo stated they will add Foundation asap.

Schiavo welcomed feedback from the Board. Martinez mentioned he liked the signs and hopes we can get approval soon.

Visual Arts Program ReportTey Nunn

Visual Arts Director Tey Nunn began her report by stating the Art Museum will reopen on May 14, 2021. They are currently installing their newest exhibit *MIRA, MIRA on the Wall: Reflecting on 20 Years of NHCC Exhibitions* at the NHCC Art Museum. The community gallery will still have fabulous *Southwest of Eden: The Art of Adam & Eve*, till July 2021.

Albuquerque Journal Arts & Entertainment Editor Adrian Gomez interviewed Nunn and Gurule this morning and the Art Museum will be on the cover of the Venue on Friday, May 7, 2021.

Nunn mentioned they have 4 online exhibits on the NHCC website. The *MIRA MIRA on the Wall: Reflecting on 20 Years of NHCC Exhibitions*, *Because It's Time: Unraveling Race & Place in New Mexico*, *Que Chola*, and *Incubation: Art During Covid* from Albuquerque High students.

Lastly, Nunn read a Limerick that won first place in VA contest that they had during the holidays. "There was a great team at NHCC they dreamed of exhibits for all to see. They worked hard and laugh, they worked fab at their craft, with art all felt happy and free."

Barnet-Sanchez congratulated Nunn on all her hard work.

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

History & Literary Arts Program Director Valerie Martinez began her report by stating the History and Literary Arts Program houses a library, archives, and special collections, presents two to four exhibits a year, and coordinates a wide range of history and literary arts programs serving children, youth, adults, seniors, and families. HLA serves anyone interested in Hispanic/Latinx history, literature, and culture.

HLA's spring schedule for January to June of this year includes 78 events—historical talks and lectures, literary events, workshops, classroom visits, virtual exhibit tours, podcast episodes, conference presentations, a book festival, a summer writing program for teens, and more. All these events, except the upcoming Voces Summer Writing Institute for Teens (during the month of June), have been conducted online.

A few highlights Martinez mentioned were as followed: In April, the NHCC Children's Bilingual Book Festival. This four-day event featured 33 author readings, illustrator demonstrations, workshops for parents and educators, bilingual story time sessions, presentations by kids, and more. The festival was extremely successful both in terms of attendance and the quality of presenters. Over the four days they had 1,325 attend the festival, including 601 children under 12, 93 youth, and 631 adults.

Also new this past year is HLA's podcast, "La Hilacha: The Unraveling Thread" which they launched in April of last year.

Martinez mentioned in terms of most recent attendance numbers, that in 2020, despite the pandemic, despite quarantine, despite teleworking from home, HLA virtual programs drew 10,991 participants. Just to give you an idea, in 2019, when our programming was entirely in person, attendance was 11,089. One of the distinct advantages of online programming was—virtual programming which enabled HLA to engage visitors and participants from 23 U.S. states and 4 countries outside the U.S.

This year, we are on track to exceed these numbers. From January 1st of this year to today, HLA has engaged a total audience of 5,242, including 995 children, 810 youth and 3418 adults.

Because of the success of virtual programming, HLA will always include some degree of virtual programming, including live-streaming events, in the future.

Martinez mentioned the HLA building is open. HLA opened the main hallways to the general public on Thursday, April 29th and will remain open on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays, from 10 am to 4 pm, until further notice and approval from DCA.

Lastly Martinez mentioned she is indebted to her HLA staff, Anna, Cassandra, Sutherland and Patricia, who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment and dedication to their mission in what can only be described as one of the most difficult years of our lives.

Performing Arts Program Report.....Reeve Love

Performing Arts Program Director Reeve Love began her report by thanking the Board president and members for the opportunity to provide a program update on behalf of all Performing Arts program staff members, including Andres Martinez, James Chávez, Pepe Gallardo, Santiago Candelaria, Kirk Brown, David Rivera, Liz Miera, and Dahveed Torres.

Following the long-awaited transition of Bernalillo County into green and now the jump into turquoise, we are looking forward to resuming live programming, as well as the scheduling of numerous rental events either booked or requested, in Center venues.

In the meantime, in compliance with state regulations and COVID-safe practices, PA continues to film selected performances in the REDCPA's Albuquerque Journal Theatre.

This past weekend, with funding secured by the NHCC Foundation from AARP, they presented *Conjunto Blues*, a deeply personal one-person performance by San Antonio-based playwright, actor, and musician Nicolás Valdez exploring the social and historical conditions that led to the development of conjunto music as an expression of cultural resistance and liberation. The pre-recorded production opened on April 29 and was available on-line through the evening of May 2. This event also included a question-and-answer session with Valdez, via Zoom, on opening night, as well as a subsequent on-line workshop with the artist, exploring the complexity of conjunto music's origins and evolution and incorporating interviews with prominent figures in the conjunto music scene, and an AARP webinar on the relationship between brain health and the arts.

PA continues to work with other long-term collaborators and new collaborators both to expand virtual programming and to plan live programming as feasible. Their next project, *Klez mariachi*, a collaboration with Casa Barelás, is a klezmer and mariachi encounter featuring Duke City Hora and Mariachi Trio Jaliscience, bringing together two musical traditions that may have met at other times throughout history in a presentation that highlights both genres and culminates in a fusion of the two or a conversation between them. The virtual performance will premiere this summer, with a live performance to be scheduled as feasible when public health orders permit.

Ongoing educational programming initiatives:

Love mentioned the annual summer institute Circo Latino, presented virtually in 2020, is transitioning back to a primarily in-person model in compliance with current public health orders, pending final approval and adherence to the PHOs in effect in June. This program is one of a few summer programs offered by DCA divisions now being considered for in-person implementation this year. The other summer institute offered by the NHCC's Performing Arts program, the Manoa Project, is projected to remain virtual in 2021.

Education Programs Coordinator Dahveed Torres is continuing to participate in initiatives involving the coordination of efforts among all DCA educators, and to work with Desiree Sedillo, current recipient of the NHCC's Herrera Internship, on research for a program that would focus on healing through the arts for predominantly Hispanic veterans.

The NHCC collaborated with Instituto Cervantes on two series offered in April and May:

Del corto al largo (y viceversa)—two films (a short subject and a feature film) by each of four filmmakers whose work has been presented over the course of their careers at Alcine, the film festival of Alcalá de Henares in Madrid. Alcine, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, is one of the oldest film festivals in Spain, and this cycle showcases the work of the festival and demonstrates how filmmakers may work in one format or another, depending on their interests and the stories they have to tell.

Zonazine documental—four films presented in collaboration with Spain's Festival de Málaga. The festival, established to promote Spanish cinema, will celebrate its 24th anniversary next month, and these four documentaries were screened there in 2019. This series takes its name from one of the components of the festival, and it has been an integral part of Instituto Cervantes' programming since 2014, sharing the best work of contemporary Spanish and Latin American documentary filmmakers.

PA hopes to resume on-site film programming as soon as public health orders and Center resources permit, as well as to continue ongoing collaborations on film series and festivals and explore new ones.

Box Office Manager David Rivera is continuing to attend intensive training on the Tessitura ticketing system, in preparation for the system going online later this month for museum admissions for all DCA divisions, with other functions to follow, including ticketing for performances at the NHCC. David will train other NHCC staff members who will use the Tessitura system as part of their assigned duties.

Volunteer Program Report.....Annette Lujan

Volunteer Coordinator Annette Lujan began her report by stating over the past year, the NHCC volunteer program has focused on staying engaged and connected with NHCC volunteers. This includes newsletters and moving volunteer monthly first Friday online via zoom.

Lujan thanked LouAnne Byrd for providing Starbucks gift cards for the volunteers that were raffled off during first Friday.

NHCC is preparing to bring volunteers back to the Center. Lujan will be providing volunteers with training for Torreon tours and volunteers will be giving tours of the fresco soon following training.

AmeriCorps VISTA members Gaby, Paloma, Naomi, and Sutherland have done amazing work with VA and HLA. Their year of service ends in early July.

In May and June, we will be preparing to apply for a continuation of our AmeriCorps grant, if we receive it, it will give us another year of VISTA service at NHCC.

Board President's Report Matt Martinez

Board President Matt Martinez began his report by thanking Madam Secretary Debra Garcia Y Griego, DCA Chair of Arts & Science Khristaan Villela, DCA Marketing & Communications Manager Daniel Zillmann, and Interim Executive Director Nick Schiavo for all the hard work they do for the Center.

He also thanked the Center staff for all their hard work and for keeping the Community engaged virtually through this difficult pandemic. He also thanked Miera and Huerta for all their hard work with the Executive Committee.

Martinez mentioned how exciting it is to see the Board and all the hard work they have done moving forward. He also thanked the Foundation for all their hard work as well.

Lastly, Martinez announced that Dr. Margie Huerta resigned from the Board.
Next meeting, we will have an election of officers.

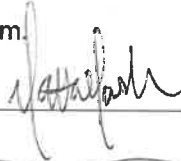
IV. Adjournment

Board President Martinez called for a motion to adjourn.

Byrd made a motion to adjourn, Miera seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Board President _____



Date 5-6-21

Board Secretary _____



Date 5/6/21

