

Indiana Arts Commission Quarterly Business Meeting

Friday, September 6, 2024, 9:00 a.m. (ET)

Federal Hall

Kenneth L. Smith and Theresa Kathryn (Klein) Smith Magna Carta Courtroom

90 N 7th St

Terre Haute, IN 47807



Anne Penny Valentine, Chair

There will be a brief break at approximately 10:00 a.m. (ET)

Members Present: Azizi Arrington-Slocum, Réna Bradley, Chad Bolser, Dave Haist, Greg Hull, Mark Maxwell, Jake Oakman, Renee Thomas, Anne Penny Valentine, Scott Wylie

Members Present via Zoom: Walter Knabe, Daniel Martinez, Laurie Burns McRobbie, Kelsey Peaper

Members Absent: Sofia Souto

IAC Staff Present: Jordan Adams, Eric Ashby, Connie Brahm, Lydia Campbell-Maher, Austin Hendricks, Miah Michaelson, Stephanie Pfendler, Gwendolyn Pickett, André Zhang Sonera

RAP Partners Present: Sherri Wright

Special Presenters Present: Jon Kay, Keith Ruble

Others Present: Indiana State University President Dr. Mike Godard, Senator Greg Goode-District 38, Terre Haute Mayor Brandon Sakbun

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order** Commission Chair Anne Penny Valentine called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

a. **Welcome.**

- i. **Welcome from ISU President Mike Godard.** Indiana State University President Mike Godard welcomed everyone to the space and Indiana State University (ISU). He gave a brief history of the Magna Carta Courtroom and thanked the Commission for the partnership that the IAC and ISU have together. He highlighted the importance of the arts in higher education in people's lives. President Godard also gave a special thanks to Commissioner Azizi Arrington-Slocum for her work both at the university and with the IAC. He highlighted the projects that the IAC funds that ISU is involved with, including the Community School of the Arts, the School of Music, and the School of Arts and Design.
- ii. **Welcome to IAC Commissioner Daniel Martinez (Region 9).** Ms. Valentine welcomed Commissioner Daniel Martinez to the meeting and the Commission as a whole. Mr. Martinez gave a brief hello and introduction onto who he is and what he does in Region 9. He thanked the IAC for his posting as a new commissioner. He noted that he is excited to work with the IAC during his tenure on the commission.
- iii. **Welcome from Terre Haute Elected Officials.** Ms. Valentine welcomed Terre Haute Mayor Brandon Sakbun. He welcomed the IAC to the city and highlighted the importance that Terre Haute places on art and culture. He recognized the work by Arts Illiana and the improvement to the parks and memorials within the city, as well as naming specific arts institutions in Terre Haute. He highlighted how arts programs can improve the lives of residents of any city and actively creates placemaking within said locales.
- iv. **Jon Kay introduces Keith Ruble (with a demonstration at the break and after the meeting).** Ms. Valentine introduced Jon Kay, the commission's partner at Indiana University heading Traditional Arts Indiana. Mr. Kay gave a review of what Traditional Arts Indiana is. He introduced and gave a summary of Keith Ruble and how Traditional Arts became incorporated into the IAC's programs. Mr. Ruble spoke briefly about his craft as a traditional bowl maker and woodworking. Ms. Valentine thanked Mr. Kay and

Mr. Ruble for their introduction. Mr. Ruble mentioned he would be demonstrating his craft in the hallway during the break.

- b. **Roll Call.** Indiana Arts Commission Administrative Assistant Austin Hendricks called the roll. All were present as listed on page one.

2. **Approval of Agenda and June 14, 2024, Meeting Minutes.** Ms. Valentine called for any changes to the agenda. None were spoken. She then called for a motion to approve the prior meeting's minutes. Commissioner Jake Oakman moved, and Commissioner Scott Wylie seconded. By roll call vote all were in favor and the motion passed.
3. **Consent Agenda.** Ms. Valentine called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. She called for any changes. None were spoken. She then called for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Greg Hull moved, and Ms. Arrington-Slocum seconded. By roll call vote all were in favor and the motion passed. Items in the consent agenda are listed below.

a. **Reports for review:**

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| i. FY26-FY27 Budget Preview. | vii. Lifelong Arts Update. |
| ii. Arts Trust Report. | viii. Fellowship for Creative Teaching2024 Guidelines Change. |
| iii. Communications Report. | ix. Fellowship for Creative Teaching2025 Program Framework. |
| iv. Staff Updates and Activity Report. | x. Summer Institute for Creative Teaching Report. |
| v. External Partnership Update. | |
| vi. Every County Funded Update. | |

4. **Senator Goode Welcome.** At this juncture, Senator Greg Goode joined the meeting. As he is the senator from the area, Ms. Valentine paused the meeting to allow him to welcome us to his city. He highlighted the successes of Terre Haute in both its arts and culture and its strengths in other industries to make it a "jewel of Indiana."
5. **Traditional Arts Indiana Report.** Mr. Kay presented this agenda item. He gave a brief recap of the Traditional Arts program, specifically highlighting that it is a partnership between Indiana University and the Indiana Arts Commission. He noted that the program seeks to bring in people to engage with the traditional folk arts, as well as spotlight current practitioners of said art forms. He also highlighted the state and national funding provided for this program, as well as the other programs like it at other state arts agencies. He shared a few upcoming events that the program is hosting including a ceremony to honor a few notable artists next month for their work in the traditional arts, including non-western traditional arts.

6. **Committee Reports.**

a. **Committee on the Future.**

- i. **FY24 Year-End Financials.** Indiana Arts Commission Deputy Director of Operations and Strategic Partnerships André Zhang Sonera presented this agenda item. Mr. Zhang Sonera thanked the OPS team for their work in closing FY24. He noted that in this memo there were some blue highlights. He explained that these signify changes to the budget as a result of the non-receipt of the grant from the Family and Social Services Administration. Since the grant came at the end of the FY24, it was added to FY25. Mr. Zhang Sonera will present a modified budget for FY25 including that grant at the December QBM. He highlighted the grant from National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) for Lifelong Arts (LLA). He also noted that there was a \$311,000 surplus at the end of the year and that all surpluses go back to the state reserves. Mr. Zhang Sonera noted that some of the changes are mostly due to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grants and that the excess is a result of the period of understaffing during FY24. Mr. Zhang Sonera called for questions, none were spoken. Mr. Zhang Sonera highlighted points three, seven, and nine showed a large reduction due to the non-receipt of the grant. Mr. Zhang Sonera called for questions. None were spoken. Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to approve this agenda item. Commission Vice Chair Dave Haist

motioned, and Commissioner Chad Bolser seconded. By roll call vote, the motion passed.

- ii. **FY25 Year-To-Date Financials.** Mr. Zhang Sonera updated the Commission on the budget changes since July. He noted that carry over from FY24 is present in the budget, and that the NEA grant will be spent on Poetry Out Loud. Mr. Zhang Sonera noted that expenses are on track, though point one is a little high because July had three pay periods, rather than two, as well as the payment of the Governor's Summer Interns—a program which has since completed. Points two, three, and four are on track, according to Mr. Zhang Sonera. Mr. Zhang Sonera added that point seven is on track, and the agency is trying to have all the purchase orders created by the end of quarter three. Mr. Zhang Sonera called for questions. None were spoken. Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to approve. Commission Secretary Réna Bradley moved, and Mr. Oakman seconded. By roll call vote the motion passed.
- iii. **Low Digit Plate Policy.** Indiana Arts Commission Marketing and Communications Director Connie Brahm presented this agenda item. She gave a brief recap of what the plate's usage and noted that this policy is new for the plate. Ms. Brahm highlighted that the policy is a formalization of how staff and commissioners can request a plate as well as how the public can request one. Ms. Brahm noted that all public requests will be heard and decided on by the Committee on the Future. She noted that the policy is intended to be an equalizer. Ms. Brahm called for questions. None were spoken. Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to approve the policy. Mr. Wylie moved, and Commissioner Laurie Burns McRobbie seconded. By roll call vote the motion passed.
- iv. **Key Performance Indicator Report.** Mr. Ashby presented the agency's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). He noted that baselines are from May 2024, and this presentation is updated for August, which also includes Arts Organization Support (AOS) and Arts Project Support (APS) final reports.
 - **Impact 1:** All Counties had an average of 7 arts activities connected to the IAC in FY24. The Target for FY25 is at least 8 arts activities connected to the IAC.
 - **Impact 2:** Currently, 109 grantees in FY25 are first time grantees, which is 25% of the total grantee population. The target is 35%. These numbers are self-reported and will be tracked and reported internally rather than having self-reporting by grantees.
 - **Impact 2.1:** In FY24 the number of projects not serving a distinct group vs. serving a distinct group was about 60%/40%. The goal for FY25 is a 50%/50% split. The group breakdowns are set federally, and the IAC is attempting to match that goal. Mr. Ashby noted that all programs are asked this question. The serviced demographics are also self-reported by grantees. Please see the recorded meeting for exact percentages.
 - **Impact 3:** The amount of money invested in individual artists in FY24 was \$186,000. The target for FY25 is \$250,000. The exact update for FY25 for this goal will be presented at the September QBM.
 - **Impact 4:** The amount of money leveraged beyond the grant award in FY24 was \$3.3 million. The target is \$3.5 million, which has been already achieved, through APS alone. Mr. Ashby noted this is due to project budgets being slightly higher on average due to the current economic inflation. He also noted that there is rising community support for the arts in some locations.
 - **Impact 5:** The number of non-arts organizations and artist grantees in FY24 was 119. The target is 175, and currently 140 organizations meeting this criterion are being funded, just from Arts Project Support. He noted that organizations that meet

this criterion is determined by if the organization can qualify for Arts Organization Support.

Mr. Ashby noted that some other IAC programs will continue to fund more of these organizations.

Mr. Ashby noted that this data will soon be in an interface that will be more easily navigated and presented with some more visual versions of the datapoints. Mr. Ashby called for questions. None were spoken. Mr. Ashby noted that this will have another updated presentation at the December QBM.

b. Programs, Grants, and Services

- i. **FY24 All Grant Year Closeout Report.** Mr. Ashby presented this agenda item. He gave a brief overview of some important broad datapoints. He noted that there were 198 APS grantees, and 208 AOS grantees. Across the programs there were \$3.5 million invested, 2.4 million adults, 900,000 youth, and 50,000 artists involved. He noted that the trend of rural investments from the IAC shows a steady increase in the number of grantees and the dollar amount going to rural organizations and communities. Mr. Ashby noted that for APS, there has been a steady increase in the number of artists involved in the projects, with a little over 8,000 involved in FY24. He noted that APS shows that 52% of projects served youth under 18, and 72% of projects serve adults aged 25-64. Mr. Ashby noted that 36% of projects support individuals below the poverty line, but also noted that this point is perhaps higher due to an ease of data collection. Mr. Ashby then moved onto AOS. He noted changes to AOS were that the agency lowered the budget threshold to \$20,000 to apply. He noted that the grant is on a 2-year funding cycle, and this grant is intended to have more meaningful awards across organization size and geographic locations. Mr. Ashby noted that a primary impact of the AOS award is increased access to arts experiences, with 52% of organizations responding with that answer in their Final Grant Report. Mr. Ashby noted that 75% of AOS organizations spent their dollars on administrative support, and 60% spent their dollars on facility costs. He noted that organizations responded that some of their areas to improve were fundraising, community engagement, board engagement and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives. Mr. Ashby highlighted that community partners that AOS grantees worked with were primarily other arts nonprofits, followed by K-12 schools. He noted that economic development organizations were the lowest specific community partner at a little over 30%. Mr. Ashby then shared direct quotes from some AOS grantees. The notable highlight areas of impact in these quotes were meaningful staff support, future planning, and supporting arts education, growing audiences and tourism, supporting artists, and building sustainability. Mr. Ashby noted that this speaks to how the AOS dollars are used, and the award's impact. He noted that there were also the following general observations:

- **High levels of staff and board turnover**
- **Many organizations running a deficit**
- **Project budgets are rising, due to supplies, talent, etc.**
- **Arts Project Support has heavy emphasis on arts education.**
- **People are finding a way to make it happen.**

Mr. Ashby ended by sharing quotes from grantees from both programs in order to highlight the human impact these grants have. Mr. Ashby then called for questions. None were spoken.

At this point we took our break, and we reconvened at 10:25.

- ii. **FY26-27 AOS Framework.** Indiana Arts Commission Executive Director Miah Michaelsen presented this agenda item. Ms. Michaelsen gave a brief overview of the history of the Framework Action Items the meeting was about to move into and how they are now frameworks rather than a detailed breakdown of what the program will be exactly. She gave an overview of what the Arts Organization Support (AOS) program is, with notable highlights of it being a two-year program and its goal of funding a wide range of arts organizations. She noted the program outcomes are in line with the agency's strategic framework, and that grant awards are a range of \$4,000 to \$25,000. She noted that the following changes:

- Organizations will no longer have to offer public programming throughout the calendar year.
- In cases where eligibility is unclear, IAC staff may make the final decision or get council from the Commission to adjudicate as needed.
- Organizations not funded through this program may apply for Arts Project Support (APS).
- Live grant review panels will continue but will no longer be recorded.

Please see the attached memo for a detailed breakdown of the framework of this program. Ms. Michaelsen noted that this is the largest budget program the IAC offers. Ms. Michaelsen called for questions. None were spoken. Ms. Valentine called for a motion to approve this framework. Ms. Arrington-Slocum moved, and Ms. Bradley seconded. By roll call vote the motion passed.

- iii. **FY26 APS Framework.** Ms. Michaelsen presented this agenda item. She gave a brief overview of the program, as well as the goal, and outcomes. She noted that the outcomes are the same as the AOS framework. MS Michaelsen highlighted the following changes:

- Nonprofit organizations in any arts discipline may apply.
- Colleges and universities must provide either community arts learning experiences for Pre-K through 12 or arts experiences in a high priority geographic service area.
- The review process will still be scored and reviewed by external panelists; however publicly viewable review panels will no longer occur.
- Updated to have shorter application and associated review criteria
- There are now two grant cycles: Spring from July 1-June 30 and Fall from January 1 to December 31.

Ms. Michaelsen noted this final change was recommended by an outside consulting group. She highlighted that grant award amount will stay the same. Ms. Bradley asked when the deadline of the second cycle will be. Ms. Michaelsen responded that it will be early September. She also noted that organizations not funded through one cycle of APS can apply again to a subsequent cycle. She noted that this change is similar to what other states are doing for their programs. Please see the attached memo for a detailed breakdown of this framework. Ms. Michaelsen called for questions. Ms. Valentine thanked Ms. Michaelsen for hearing the feedback from grantees and the consulting firm and aligning the program with the recommendations. Mr. Maxwell also echoed Ms. Valentine's sentiment. Ms. Valentine called for a motion to approve the framework. Mr. Haist moved Mr. Bolser seconded. By roll call vote the motion passed.

- iv. **Creative Convergence Framework.** Indiana Arts Commission Communities Services Manager Lydia Campbell-Maher presented this agenda item. She highlighted this is the third iteration of this program, and she gave a review of what the program is. She noted that it is a team-based model for community and artistic development and added that if this item is approved the next workshop would be from November 21-22, 2024, with a \$1000 stipend for 3-4 people to meet. There would also be a \$10,000 action grant to

implement the attendees' learning in the community. Ms. Campbell-Maher emphasized that is a cohort modeled program so there is still ongoing mentorship from Indiana Communities Institute and IAC. The total program cost would be \$100,000 as it is intended for use by ten communities and will run from March 1, 2025, to February 28, 2026. Ms. Campbell-Maher noted the following changes:

- The application is now a competitive process
- Public advertisement of the program
- Various community sizes with a priority on underserved communities
- Artist led activities within the workshop
- Moving to a single payment model

Please see the attached memo for a detailed program breakdown. Ms. Campbell-Maher called for questions. None were spoken Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to approve this framework. Mr. Bolser moved, and Mr. Oakman seconded. By roll call vote, the motion passed.

v. **Cultural District Program and Creative**

Community Pathways Program Redesign Presentation. Ms. Campbell-Maher presented this agenda item. She noted that this program has been on hiatus and will be restarting soon. She gave a brief overview of what the program has been previously, as well as noting a review of the program in 2023. She shared that the results of the review found that the program needed to be redesigned. Ms. Campbell-Maher noted that this program is now a multistep program for communities to develop from Spotlight Communities to Cultural Districts. She also noted that there is a new sixth step: "Creative Community" intended for communities where arts are fully integrated into all walks of community life. She noted that the goal is that any community can identify where they are on the pathway and identify what resources are available to them. She noted that the expressed needs are as follows:

- Structure (which includes refined application and orientation as well as recertification and renewal processes)
- Resources (which include resource toolkits, and IAC site visits and office hours)
- Sustainability (which include peer mentorship model, arts integration in economic, community and tourism development, and fundraising toolkits)

Ms. Campbell-Maher highlighted that the redesign priorities include

- Alignment with IAC strategic framework
- User friendly pathway structure
- Aligning the program with existing IAC programs and community partnerships.

She emphasized another goal is emphasizing capacity building rather than only offering grant funding. Ms. Campbell-Maher highlighted that the program will also offer recertification for current cultural districts. She then concluded that the development phase of this program is currently in phase one. Phase two begins later in CY25, and phase three begins in CY26. Please see the attached memo for additional information about this program redesign. Ms. Campbell-Maher welcomed feedback on this redesign. Mr. Wylie commented that this program is a great way to remind communities to incorporate arts in their community development and is a fan of the program. Mr. Haist commented that he is thrilled with the pathway idea and the program. He noted that the recertification element is needed, he also thinks that adding the Creative Community designation is a good idea, as it gives the Cultural Districts something to build to. He applauds that recertification will encourage the Districts to not become stagnant in their work. Ms. Bradley noted that planning over funding aligns with what she expects out of the program. She noted that in Creative Convergence there was a lot of emphasis on the non-arts outcomes, and how that program is more focused on the outcomes not just

making an arts space. She also noted there is an opportunity to extend the timeline of the program if it is an outcome-based program rather than a funding-based program.

- vi. **FY25 Network and Community Framework.** Indiana Arts Commission Artist Services Program Manager Jordan Adams presented this agenda item. She reminded the Commission that this next year On-Ramp will be on pause for evaluation. She shared that the name of this program is the Work In Progress Exchange Labs (WIP). She noted that the program is primarily a micro-support group of artists to network across five areas of the state: a hybrid of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the IAC districts. She noted that some of the program outcomes are building artist communities and creating career opportunities. Ms. Adams highlighted that is also a micro grant for this program and the criteria will be determined with the group leaders for each of the five groups. Ms. Adams noted that all the group leaders will be recruited by the end of September. And the meetings will be held monthly until the end of 2025. She noted that this program will have two cycles, Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter. She continued that the grant awards will range from \$250-\$1000 with a budget of \$10,000 for each district, making the entire budget \$100,000 throughout the year. Ms. Adams also highlighted that the group leaders would be paid \$2,500. Please see the attached memo for more information on this framework. Ms. Adams called for questions. None were spoken. Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to approve the framework. Mr. Hull moved, and Ms. McRobbie seconded. By roll call vote the motion passed.

- vii. **Creative Business Strategy Program Framework.** Ms. Adams presented this agenda item. She highlighted that this program is a 6-week virtual workshop geared toward established arts businesses, intended to develop businesses so they don't stagnate in their development. Ms. Adams noted this program will be cohort-based and will include 15 businesses, with a full curriculum to be developed by Dr. Grogan-Luttrell. Ms. Adams noted to be eligible for the program, businesses or artists must have been in their creative career for 2-7 years, they must be operating for at least 5-10 years and must have proof of consistent profitability. This program is looking to have a variety of arts disciplines serviced. Ms. Adams emphasized that this program is not a grant, but rather a non-prescriptive honorarium of \$1000 that will require a short narrative report at the conclusion of the program. Ms. Adams noted the most important goal of the program is to create careers for artists in the state of Indiana. Ms. Adams concluded with the following information:

- The application will not open until February 2025
- The conclusion of the reflection is due in October 2025
- The main fees of the program go to Dr. Grogan Luttrell with a maximum payment of \$20,000
- The total budget is \$36,050

Please see the attached memo for a detailed breakdown of this program framework. Ms. Adams called for questions. None were spoken. Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to approve the framework. Ms. Bradley moved, and Commissioner Renee Thomas seconded. By roll call vote, the motion passed. At this point, Ms. Adams added that these two programs will be sending emails to interested artists. She also noted that the Artist Services Hub will be updated with the resources pertaining to these programs.

- viii. **Art Serving Youth Framework (ARTSY).** This agenda item was a prerecorded presentation by Ms. Haines. Notable highlights from the presentation include:

- The program is focused on "out of school time" (after school hours, "seasonal" breaks, and summer break)
- This program is a partnership with the Department of Education (DOE) to increase access to arts learning to underserved youth across the state.

- The partnership would have this hosted at pre-vetted 21st century learning centers.

Ms. Haines noted that there is a breadth of research that supports out of school time as a highly impactful time in students learning. She noted that the grant awards for this program range from \$5,000-\$10,000 with 5-10 grants awarded as part of the pilot program. She noted that the evaluation process is highly important in the development of the program. She noted that the DOE is not providing funding this year, but they may match the IAC's funding in the future. She also noted that the DOE will be partnered with the IAC to develop the program during its pilot phase. At the conclusion of the prerecorded presentation, Ms. Michaelsen re-emphasized Ms. Haines' points. Ms. Michaelsen called for questions. Mr. Haist asked how many 21st century locations are in rural locations. The IAC staff in the room did not have an accurate answer, but noted there are some in areas that aren't in AOS and APS. A more detailed answer will be forthcoming, likely from Ms. Haines. Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to approve the framework. Ms. Thomas motioned, and Mr. Maxwell seconded. By roll call vote, the motion passed.

7. **Regional Arts Partnership Consortium Report.** Regional Arts Partnership Partner Sherri Wright presented this agenda item. She thanked the Commission again for having this Quarterly Business Meeting in Terre Haute. She also thanked former commissioner Laney Meis, who attended the meeting. As part of her report, Ms. Wright noted that the RAPs are on hiatus for the month of September but will resume meeting in October. She noted that the hiatus will be used to prepare for the APS and AOS changes that were just approved. She noted that the RAPs are excited about the APS change to be a two-cycle program, as well as the change in the review process within the same program. She believes that these changes will streamline the RAPs' processes especially for APS. Ms. Wright noted that the Partners' retreat in December is coming up along with training at the "boot camp" in Indianapolis. She also highlighted that the RAPs have been provided with the draft of the Professional Services Agreement at the August meeting. She noted that the RAPs were currently satisfied with the expectations presented in the draft. She appreciated the transparency of the Commission, the financial support of the agency, and the professional development opportunities. She noted that the RAPs final grant reports are due at the end of September. Ms. Wright called for questions. Mr. Maxwell noted that he appreciates Ms. Wright and her work with the RAP program.
8. **Consent Agenda Items Moved to Full Agenda (if any).** None at this time.
9. **Old Business and New Business.** Ms. Michaelsen thanked Swope Art Museum, Sherri Wright, Arts Illiana, Commissioner Arrington-Slocum, and Indiana State University for the successful Quarterly Business Meeting and Terre Haute's hosting. Ms. Michaelsen also announced that Paige Sharp left the agency in August and applauded her work to advance the Arts Commission's goals. Mr. Zhang Sonera added a final update to this point. He mentioned that the Commissioner Handbook updates will be presented at the December QBM.
10. **Adjournment of Quarterly Meeting.** Ms. Valentine entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Oakman motioned, and Ms. Arrington-Slocum seconded. All were in favor to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:41 AM.