

## ARTS AND CULTURE MINUTES FOR JAN 8, 2024

### Committee Members:

Member	Present	Absent	Excused	Recorded Minutes
Co-Chair Hon. Daria Hardeman	x			
Co-Chair Hon. Tina Lumley	x			
Hon. Walter T. Alexander	x			
Hon. Juan Colmenares	X			
Hon. Sharon De La Cruz	x			
Hon. Carlton Davis	x			
Hon. Tiago Kiel	x			
Hon. Ilana Mercado	x			x
Hon. Carolina Ramirez		x		

#### I. **Call to Order @6:43**

#### II. **Adopted Agenda**

#### III. **Minutes adopted with changes**

#### IV. **Meeting Attendee Introductions**

#### V. **Announcements**

- What we do and who we are:
- We are a quasi-city agency
- Manhattan Community Board 9: We are comprised of 50 residents, interviewed and appointed by the Borough President and the City Council. We advocate for artists. We advocate for art and artists in our community and also connect artists and art organizations.
- Contact Information:
- Tina Lumley -[tlumley@hotmail.com](mailto:tlumley@hotmail.com)
- Daria Hardeman -[dariadaria@yahoo.com](mailto:dariadaria@yahoo.com)
- [cb9arts@yahoo.com](mailto:cb9arts@yahoo.com)

#### VI. **Committee Reports:**

- Hamilton Theater - Tabled
- Artist Information- Liaisons: Hon. Tina Lumley, and Hon. Walter Alexander are working to bring together artists in the community via a distribution list for flyers for events. Eblast list of collected information between arts organizations, artists and community members.
- Strategic Planning Committee/Community Benefits Agreement (CBA)- Liaisons: Hon. Carlton Davis, Hon. Juan Colmenares, Hon. Carolina Ramirez, Hon. Sharon De La Cruz-Meeting was canceled.

- Harlem Arts Alliance-Liaisons: Hon. Daria Hardeman- HAA will have a Town Hall at Robert Smith Theater at Riverbank, Sat Jan 27th 4pm. Theme is Better Together.
- West Harlem Arts Alliance- Liaisons: Hon. Daria Hardeman, Hon. Tina Lumley- Michael Palma, Columbia is offering Floridita as a possible space to WHAA for community arts space under the resolution for Columbia to grant 5k sq ft space to the community. Right now it is still a full restaurant. Will see if they can make the space work with Columbia.

## VII. Community Updates

- **Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance (NOMAA)**, [nomaanyc.org](http://nomaanyc.org)-Martin Collins-Uptown Arts Stroll Coordinator. [artstroll@nomaanyc.org](mailto:artstroll@nomaanyc.org) 212 567 4394. Uptown Arts Stroll 22nd Annual Poster Contest is now taking submissions until April 1st. Open to artists from West 125th st to 220th streets. Grand prize is \$1,500 and front cover of guides printed and postcards. Second prize \$750, 3rd \$500. The Arts Stroll will take place through June in West Harlem, Washington Heights and Inwood. Submission forms are located on the website. Also, 15th annual Women in The Heights exhibition opens Thursday Feb 29th from 6 to 8pm at the NOMAA Gallery, Broadway and 176st. Open to self identifying women artists working or residing in El Barrio, Inwood, Washington Heights or Harlem above 110th street on the west side (west of 5th ave) and above 96th street on the east side. east of 5th ave. Deadline is Feb 5th.

## VIII. Presentations:

- **New York African Chorus Ensemble** ([nyafricanensemble.org](http://nyafricanensemble.org)) [info@multiculturalfestival.nyc](mailto:info@multiculturalfestival.nyc) Joyce Adewumi, Founder and President. 347 938 9335. New York Multicultural Festival. Purpose is to reduce hate crimes and violence through working with the Police and the community to showcase diversity in the arts and break down negative stereotypes. This will be the 15th year of the festival. There are two locations for the festival on two Saturdays in June: Jackie Robinson Park and 141st -145th Convent Ave. All local performers.
- **SoHarlem** ([soharlem.org](http://soharlem.org))-Janet Rodriguez- Cultural industry incubator for fashion and design worlds. Provide space and resources for marketing, business planning and branding. Create entrepreneurs through training programs as well as teach basic sewing to unskilled people who are not working via a 12 week program with honorarium and placement with employers after. Public events that have to do with fashion. Based in the Mink Building, [1361 Amsterdam Ave, Suite 340, NYC 10027](http://1361AmsterdamAve.com). 212 222 2792.
- **Harlem Swing Dance Society** ([harlemswingdance.org](http://harlemswingdance.org))-Barbara Jones- Did not present.
- **Notes in Motion** ([notesinmotion.org](http://notesinmotion.org)) Amanda Selwyn Artistic/Executive Director [amanda@notesinmotion.org](mailto:amanda@notesinmotion.org) 212 995 9446 Janet Cesarotti, Program/Development Associate-Had performance at Urban Assembly School. They are a dance education provider for NYC city schools . Founded in 2000 and serves pre K to 12th grade in all 5 boroughs (75 schools) with 50 teaching artists. Jazz, Latin, and African are taught, as well as original student choreography, empowering young people to find a voice through dance.
- **Stage Aurora**, [stageaurora.org](http://stageaurora.org), [Contact@stageaurora.org](mailto:Contact@stageaurora.org) Darryl Rueben Hall Founder/Executive Director -Roumel Reaux Artistic Associate. Founded in 1999 in FL and New York. Black faith based experience non-profit theater that creates original works, 2 productions with WHDC at St. James Presbyterian Church. The 1st

presentation was Harlem of the South and Dinner with Booker, which is based on the dinner Booker T had with Roosevelt. This started as an ensemble piece. Black Theatre Fest in Atlanta, showed a play called Frat House regarding Black Fraternity Life. They have 3.4 Million in grant funding. They want to expand their company in NYC. No production scheduled at the moment.

- **MODArts Dance Collection**

(MADC) [modartsdance.com](http://modartsdance.com) [info@modartsdance.com](mailto:info@modartsdance.com) 929 352 5253-Shawn Tubbs- Executive Director. MOD stands for Modern Dance Cultural Org. Leah Tubbs and Sean Tubbs are co-founders. Cultural legacy and equity of Black and Brown Women, 50 of largest ballet companies only 30% in artists leadership roles. Address lack of diversity. 9th Annual dance festival, Collective Thread, March 22-23, 2024 7:30pm at the Riverside Theater, [91 Claremont ave](#). Also have a livestream & On Demand option. Goal is to instill artists with the necessary tools to take on leadership roles to increase diversity. inclusion, and gender equality in the dance field. Includes Trans women. Details are on the website under Collective Thread. Also, 6 Saturday workshops, Feb 3rd 2pm to 5 pm at St Mary's Church on 126th and Riverside. Also promotes youth inclusion with arts and dance performance. Recruit people from all over the world to participate.

- **African Diaspora Film Festival ([nyadiff.org](http://nyadiff.org)) [info@nyadiff.org](mailto:info@nyadiff.org)**-Diarah N'Daw-Spech Co-Founder/Co-Director Art, Mattan Films- 31st Year. 110 st based, college and larger community. November 24th to December 10th. Black women of excellence. A variety of films such as a Doc on Zora Neal Hurston, international films. Also present in middle school and high school, including African Animation. Also there is a Best of Festival. Jan 12th to 14th at Columbia Teachers College. Will present a film about buying freedom in North America and African American history.

- **Mama Foundation, [mamafoundation.org](http://mamafoundation.org)**- Vy Higginsen- Young voices in school, working with Ralph Bunch school as young as kindergarten. Very rewarding and makes a big difference in school over all. Also work with Urban Academy and Hamilton Grange School. Also 500 senior citizens from CB9 were taken to see Mama I Want to Sing. Mama Foundation is always looking for arts space. There are also 40 spaces for 7 to 19 year olds.

- **Children's Art Carnival, [childrensartscarnival.org](http://childrensartscarnival.org)**-Micheal Unthank, Interim Chair, Board of Trustees- Children's Art Carnival was started by Betty Blayton in 1969 at [62 Hamilton Terrace, a](#) brownstone it owned since 1972. There is a black and white dark room available for community use and spaces for artists to display works as well as small meeting rooms. They have an emerging artist program as well as an exhibition program. Robert Blackburn printmaking workshop for emerging artists, 4 works shops with 4 master printmakers from September to December. Goal to establish a permanent printmaking workshop. Also, there are art workshops for kids.

- **Tova Petersan (Instagram [the Pocketist@ig.com](https://www.instagram.com/thePocketist@ig.com))** Tova is a tailor who works for a company that makes costumes for Broadway shows and wants to teach tailoring in Harlem. Looking for a space with machines. Talked with SoHarlem and was asked to assist with teaching.
- **Gate Keepers Collective, [thegatekeeperscollective.com](http://thegatekeeperscollective.com)**-John Martin Green, Founder and Executive Director-Most recent production is Learning to Love, queer playwrights craft 1 act plays re elders in Aaron Davis Hall. Search for young playwrights via Link NYC and in pride march networks for a 500 dollar stipend.

## **IX. Old Business:**

- Getting art installations in public spaces, The Forum and City College to see if they can donate space. Send art flyers in the community for art submissions. Rotate art quarterly? Get more locations in public spaces/restaurants and schools. CB9 News Letter showcase art? Have art available for purchase? Children's Art Carnival is a possibility. Sharon will create flyers.

## **X. New Business**

- No new business.

## **XI. Adjourn**

Motion to Close by Walter Alexander at 8:29pm.