

Gerri Hobby, Chair  
Baton Rouge

Rex Alexander  
Lake Charles

Marguerite Anderson  
West Monroe

Linda Begue  
Mandeville

Patricia Brister  
Mandeville

Pamela Bryan  
New Orleans

Dwayne Carruth  
Baton Rouge

Stephen Carter  
Baton Rouge

Karen Courtman  
Shreveport

Michael Echols  
Monroe

Robert Fisher  
La Place

Derek Gordon  
Baton Rouge

Lagena Gore  
Dry Prong

JoAnn Katz  
Metairie

Angela King  
New Orleans

George Marks  
Arnaudville

Barbara Motley  
New Orleans

Michael D. Robinson  
Baton Rouge

Karen Dean Sharp  
Sterlington

Larry Eugene  
Thompson  
Winnsboro

Kim Howes Zabbia  
Ponchatoula

# LOUISIANA STATE ARTS COUNCIL

POST OFFICE BOX 44247 BATON ROUGE, LA 70804 (225) 342-8180 PHONE (225) 342-8173 FAX

## QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

Capitol Park Welcome Center - 702 River Road North

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Friday, July 30, 2010

10:00 a.m.

**LSAC members present:** Rex Alexander, Marguerite Anderson, Linda Begue, Pam Bryan, Dwayne Carruth, Michael Echols, Derek Gordon, Gena Gore, Gerri Hobby, Angela King, George Marks, Michael Robinson and Kim Zabbia

**LSAC members absent:** Patricia Brister, Steve Carter, Karen Courtman, Robert Fisher, JoAnn Katz, Barbara Motley, Karen Sharp, Gene Thompson, and Pam Breaux

**Office of Cultural Development/Division of the Arts staff present:** Dána La Fonta, Danny Belanger, Pearlie Johnson, Vanessa Ledbetter, Ann Russo, Kelly Pepper, and Sparkle Hurst

**Guests:** Big Buddy/Wordplay Staff, Chancelier Skidmore and Donnie Rose; Wordplay youth artists, Brixton Marshall, Taylor James and Nick Vadair

### I. Call to Order and Welcome – Ms. Gerri Hobby, Chairman LSAC

### II. Special Guest Presentation – Wordplay

Mr. Chancelier Skidmore shared information with the Council about the Wordplay program, and three student artists presented spoken word presentations.

### III. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Gordon motioned to accept the minutes as presented; Ms. Zabbia seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Minutes accepted.

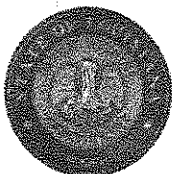
### IV. Update on Town Market in Arnaudville

Mr. Marks and Ms. Pepper updated the Council on the current status of the Town Market in Arnaudville, LA that was destroyed by a fire in July.

### V. Report from the Director – Ms. Dána La Fonta

**Arts-in-Education:** The LDOA completed the ICI Institute training, the model school training for the pilot program for arts integration. Administrators, principals and teachers from 15 schools participated. The Arts Division did not receive a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to continue the ICI program. The Division is looking at other options to continue this work.

**Budget:** The Arts Division sustained a \$2 million cut to the grants program by the Executive Budget. Due to advocacy by the Council, LPA and other constituents in the Arts, approximately \$1,065,000 was reinstated. A handout with the FY11 Division budget was distributed.



State of Louisiana  
Office of the Lieutenant  
Governor  
Department of Culture,  
Recreation, Tourism  
Office of Culture  
Development

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The Division received notification that the NEA may receive an increase of 2.5 million dollars in current appropriation. That Act has passed the House and is pending approval from the Senate. If these funds are approved, there may be an increase to the appropriation for State Arts Agencies.

## VI. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

### a. Advocacy – George Marks

Mr. Marks gave a report on the recent Arts Advocacy Day at the State Capitol. Ms. La Fonta reported to the Council that the Louisiana Partnership for the Arts (LPA) has scheduled an Annual Retreat in August for their board. Ms. La Fonta and Mr. Marks have been invited to attend.

### b. Policy – Michael Echols

Mr. Echols proposed a Saturday strategy session to discuss the Division of the Arts' Strategic Plan. In the next few weeks the Council will set a date and time to meet. If more funds are cut from the budget, we will be a leaner organization and will have to determine what services are critical and what benefits and services can be provided with the resources we currently have to meet our mission. There has been restructuring in the Office of Cultural Development, and our plan must also sync with the Office of Cultural Development and the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

### c. Special Events – Gena Gore, Kelly Pepper, Ann Russo

**Performing Arts Exchange:** Ms. Pepper gave an overview of the Performing Arts Exchange (PAE) which will be hosted in Baton Rouge on September 21 – 24, 2011. The Division of the Arts is coordinating the work of the Local Host Committee, which includes Ms. Hobdy, Ms. Gore and Mr. Gordon from the Council. There is an opportunity for us to promote Louisiana's Culture with an independent showcase of Louisiana artists during the conference.

**Creative Capital:** Ms. Russo gave an overview of the Creative Capital Professional Development workshop *Internet for Artists*, September 24 – 26, 2010 in Baton Rouge. Twenty-four artists will be selected by competitive panel process to participate. Ms. Hobdy inquired about Creative Capital partnering with the regional arts councils and other partners to see if there might be opportunities all over the state for artists within their region to do some kind of public sharing of the benefits of participating in the workshop. Members asked that outcomes of the workshop be tracked to demonstrate the impact of the program.

### d. NASAA Webinars - No report.

## VII. LPA/LPAA Report

In Mr. Usrey's absence Ms. La Fonta reported that the LPA continues to work with the LDOA in support of funding for the Arts. Mr. Usrey has been elected as the Chair of the State Arts Action Network, the national advocacy group for Americans for the Arts. The LPA's application to the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education to become the Louisiana affiliate was accepted. The LPA will now be able to provide more statewide leadership and professional development for Arts Education activities in Louisiana.

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## VIII. New Business

### ***Budget Allocation:***

The Council also received a summary of the DOA overall budget for FY11.

The total income for the DOA this year (including state and federal sources, and legislative line items, totaled \$5,398,063). Staff went over the detailed budget with the Council. Mr. Gordon motioned to approved the revised budget and Mr. Robinson seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

The Revised Budget was approved as presented.

### ***Grant Funding Recommendations:***

The 2010- 2011 grant funding recommendations and an overview of the panel process were presented to the Council by Ms. La Fonta.

Ms. La Fonta reviewed the recommendation and staff participation in the process.. The majority of grant funding recommendations this year provided stabilization (general operating) support to organizations that support jobs and the arts infrastructure. The following programs were temporarily suspended for the FY2011 grant year due to funding shortfalls: Arts-in-Education, Career Advancement, Capacity Building, Fellowships and Stabilization-Entry. The Division is researching options, both locally and nationally, that might be able to assist with supporting the individual artist programs or any of our other suspended programs. Ms. La Fonta will keep the Council informed.

Mr. Robinson motioned to accept grant recommendations as presented; Ms. Anderson seconded. Vote: 12 in favor, 1 abstention by Mr. Gordon. Motion carried.

Grant recommendations accepted as presented.

**The Council has a standing meeting with the date to be determined in October for the next regular LSAC Meeting.** It was to be in conjunction with the Cultural Economy which the Mayor's Office in New Orleans is taking over. Ms. La Fonta will notify the Council of the date, time and location for the next meeting.

**IX Public Comment:** None.

**X. Adjournment:** Ms. Zabbia motioned to adjourn and Mr. Alexander seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.