

Arts Council Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2025

I. Call to Order: Mr. Wohl called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM

Present: Bill Blizard, Kimberly Adele, Dylan Keith, Jodi Rush, Kristin Thompson, Becky Hilstad, Rob Cushman David Wohl, Chairman, Caroline Wall, Arts and Cultural Events Program Manager

II. Approval of Minutes

- Arts and Cultural Events Council meeting minutes of December 5, 2024 APPROVED

III. Old Business

A. The council discussed the following past events:

- Mrs. Rush recapped the Caleb Borick piano concert from the Young Artist Series saying it was well-received. There were a few last-minute obstacles that included new keys to the door (because of on-going construction) and a new sound system that causes church bells to chime every half-hour. (Caroline now knows how to disable them.) Caroline reported that 162 people attended out of 200 tickets sold with a 20% no-show rate as is typical at our free events.
- Bill Blizard said the Judy Carmichael performance was as and everyone enjoyed the show and that she was given a standing ovation. Mr. Blizard noted we asked the venue to provide additional rows of seating because folks from the restaurant upstairs at Seabrook Island House were coming down to buy tickets at the door, We sold 200 tickets and 177 showed up which is an 11.5% no-show rate, and the box office brought in \$5,850. Kimberly Adele along with Mr. Blizard said that Matt Varner from Primetime Productions is great to work with and has recently updated his equipment.
- Mr. Wohl reminded the council of our upcoming events: Liquid Pleasure on Friday, *Opera! By Shakespeare*, and one Piano Bar before our next meeting.
- Kristin Thompson confirmed she is taking over as event coordinator for Liquid Pleasure and discussed set up details with Caroline. Mr. Wohl brought up that we added an additional 30 tickets to be sold a few days ago which were sold immediately. Caroline told the council that she had noticed this year's capacity was lower than last year's, which was 450, so since we had the space and were experiencing high demand, we offered 30 additional tickets to our email subscribers. The event has (thus far) taken in \$8,340 at the box office.
- Becky Hilstad noted that Liquid Pleasure on January 10th is on a Charleston Symphony's Masterworks night and said she would like to avoid date conflicts like that in the future and that we should always try to avoid those dates. Ms. Thompson indicated that since this is a "once a year" event she doesn't foresee that being an issue. Caroline alerted the council that West Beach has informed her that the main elevator is out of service, and Mr. Keith recommended including that information and drop off instructions in the event reminder email sent out to ticket buyers.
- Ms. Rush discussed the upcoming *Opera! By Shakespeare* and noted the setup at W. Beach will be more intimate. 155 tickets have been sold to date. Ms. Rush said for this event she invited students from CofC to come free of charge and anticipates creating a policy regarding this in the future.

B. 2024-2025 Arts and Cultural Events Season Calendar and Financial Review

Arts Council Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2025

2024/2025 Arts and Cultural Events														
Member	Event	Date Time Location	Artist	Piano / Tuning	Sound	Backline	Lighting	Venue	Accom.	Food/ Supplies	Misc.	Notes	AC Budget	CEF Budget
Kristin	The Bluestone Ramblers	Sunday, September 15, 2024 4:00 - 6:00 PM The Kiawah Island Municipal Center	\$1,500								\$2,555	Misc. = Bar service	\$4,055	
Joan	Piano Bar with Hunter Feick	Wednesday, September 18, 2024 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$350										\$350	
Joan	Piano Bar with The Joy Project	Wednesday, October 9, 2024 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$600										\$600	
Bill + Dylan	The Gatsby Orchestra	Tuesday, October 29, 2024 7:30 PM Seabrook	\$6,400		\$2,200		\$1,700			\$10		7:00 dance lesson prior to show	\$10,310	
Becky	Charleston Symphony Orchestra	Saturday, November 2, 2024 5:00 PM West Beach	\$38,400				\$1,700	\$3,542			\$10,160			\$53,802
David	Tuba Skinny	Monday, November 11, 2024 7:30 PM West Beach	\$13,000		\$2,200		\$1,700	\$3,542	\$2,000	\$450		Hotel buyout		\$22,892
Becky + Jodi	Andy & Friends: Chamber Trio featuring Stefan Jackiw and Yoonah Kim	Sunday, November 17, 2024 4:00 PM Holy Spirit	\$10,000	\$200									\$10,200	
Joan	Piano Bar with Glenn Brown	Wednesday, November 20, 2024 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$350										\$350	
Dylan	ZORA ft. Kimberly Adele	Sunday, November 24, 2024 7:30 PM West Beach	\$15,050	\$1,800				\$3,542		\$250	\$17,760	Misc. = PDA + Projected Encore Supervision Fee		\$38,402
Joan	Piano Bar with Misha Pekar	Wednesday, December 4, 2024 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$350										\$350	
Jodi	Young Artist Series: Caleb Borick, Pianist	Sunday, January 5, 2025 4:00 PM COOS	\$2,000	\$200						\$25			\$2,225	
Bill	Judy Carmichael	Tuesday, January 7, 2025 7:30 PM Seabrook	\$8,200	\$1,800	\$2,200	\$800	\$1,700		\$2,400	\$100				\$17,200
Kristin	Liquid Pleasure	Friday, January 10, 2025 7:30 PM West Beach	\$6,250					\$3,542		\$200			\$9,992	
Jodi	OPERA! by Shakespeare	Friday, January 17, 2025 7:30 PM West Beach	\$12,000	\$1,800			\$1,950	\$3,542		\$150	\$500	Misc. = Tech	\$19,942	
Joan	Piano Bar with Gary Pecorella	Wednesday, February 5, 2025 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$350										\$350	

Member	Event	Date Time Location	Artist	Piano / Tuning	Sound	Backline	Lighting	Venue	Accom.	Food/ Supplies	Misc.	Notes	AC Budget	CEF Budget
Kristin	Atlanta Rhythm Section	Friday, February 7, 2025 7:30 PM West Beach	\$12,500		\$2,200	\$1,200	\$1,700	\$3,542	\$2,000	\$325		Hotel buyout	\$23,467	
Becky + Jodi	Andy & Friends: Chamber Trio featuring Mak Grgic and Orion Weiss	Wednesday, February 12, 2025 7:30 PM West Beach	\$10,000	\$1,800			\$1,700	\$3,542					\$17,042	
Joan	South Carolina Ballet: Romeo and Juliet	Friday, February 14, 2025 7:30 PM West Beach	\$25,000					\$3,542	\$800	\$200				\$29,542
Joan	Art Film: The Great Caruso	Tuesday, February 18, 2025 3:00 PM The Sandcastle									\$800	Misc. = Umbrella License	\$800	
Joan	Piano Bar with The Joy Project	Wednesday, February 26, 2025 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$600										\$600	
Bill	Sinatra: The Man and His Music by Moranz Entertainment	Friday, February 28, 2025 7:30 PM West Beach	\$16,500					\$3,542		\$150			\$20,192	
Joan	Piano Bar with Glenn Brown	Wednesday, March 5, 2025 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$350										\$350	
Joan	Art Film: Woodstock 2	Wednesday, March 12, 2025 3:00 PM The Sandcastle												
David	TUSK: The Classic Tribute to Fleetwood Mac	Tuesday, March 18, 2025 7:30 PM West Beach	\$15,000		\$2,200		\$1,700	\$3,542	\$1,500	\$450		Hotel buyout	\$24,392	
Joan	Art Film: The DaVinci Code	Wednesday, March 26, 2025 3:00 PM The Sandcastle												
Joan	Piano Bar with Bob Williams	Wednesday, April 9, 2025 5:00 - 7:00 PM The Sandcastle	\$350										\$350	
Bill	19th Annual Blues by the Sea	Sunday, April 13, 2025 3:00 - 7:00 PM Freshfields	\$22,000											\$22,000
Joan	Art Film: Casablanca	Wednesday, April 23, 2025 3:00 PM The Sandcastle												
Jodi	Piccolo Spoleto Preview	Sunday, May 4, 2025 4:00 PM Holy Spirit	\$7,000	\$200									\$7,200	
Total													\$153,117	\$183,838
Arts Council Budget Breakdown			Trackable				Cultural Events Budget Breakdown				Trackable			
spendable	\$144,000		Spendable	\$144,000	spendable	\$179,000		Spendable	\$179,000				Spendable	\$179,000
contingency	\$5,000		Events Total	\$153,117	contingency	\$3,000		Events Total	\$183,838				Events Total	\$183,838
admin	\$7,000		Balance	\$9,117	total	\$182,000		Balance	\$4,838				Balance	\$4,838

IV. New Business

A. Hiring update

- Mr. Wohl welcomed Caroline Wall, the new Arts and Cultural Events program Manger as this is her first meeting with the Arts Council. He announced that Erin Pomrenke, Communications Supervisor, has resigned, which has left Caroline with very little training or onboarding. He advised the council to be helpful while she navigates this position. Ms. Wall requested members to be forthcoming with their typical protocols regarding events and the Council in general. Mr. Wohl advised members that they might want to set up individual meetings with Caroline to discuss their upcoming events.

Arts Council Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2025

- Kristin Thompson asked for an update on Atlanta Rhythm Section and their need for a backline. Erin had gotten an estimate from Charleston Backline for \$2,400. Caroline received an estimate from Jody White, the stage manager of ARS for \$1,200 and was finally able to get his W9 and invoice in just in time.

B. 2025-2026 Season Updates

- Mr. Wohl reminded members of the upcoming planning process, including dates and deadlines. He asked the council to remember to consider the diversity of genres for next season and emphasized that diversity of events was an important consideration. He noted that it best to get flexible availabilities for artists that the default lodging is always one night (not two) and given the expense at Andell Inn (\$400/night) urged members to consider hotel buyouts.

Mr. Wohl invited everyone to briefly summarize what they think they'll be proposing:

Wohl: Will Thompson Band (outdoors at Freshfields), Deana Carter (Country), and Ranky Tanky.
Rush: Young Artist Series, Andy and Friends Chamber Series (with Hilstad), Clay Ross, Shelley Berg (Jazz pianist).
Keith: World Music group, a band that will perform Great American Songbook tunes, and a brass band.
Adele: Tableau Flaminco.
Blizard: Blues by the Sea, Moranz Christmas Special, Charleston Jazz (Arts Council will handle ticket income and receive box office revenue).
Collar: Quentin Baxter Series (Jazz), The Sound of Charleston, SC Ballet (A Midsummer Night's Dream), a comedian
Thompson: The Bacon Brothers, another tribute show,
Hilstad: Liquid Pleasure, CSO, Old Crow Medicine Show
Cushman: Sean of the South (Story Teller/Musician), a local rock band.

C. Other

- Mr. Cushman and Mr. Wohl brought up the potential of increasing our budget this year by 8% after discussing it with the Arts Council Board and getting positive reactions. The budget approval process is in the Spring, so we should move forward using our current budget as it would not go into place until July 1st. Mr. Wohl proposed a motion that the Council request an 8% budget (\$24,000). MOTION WAS APPROVED. Mr. Wohl will submit an official request to Mayor Belt and Stephanie Tillerson.
- Dylan Keith asked the council about backline recommendations, and Ms. Rush offered to share her contact's information with him. Caroline said Ruthie has used Charleston Backline, LLC.
- Mr. Blizard asked for clarification about the communication protocol between the Arts Council and the venues. Caroline said that she should be the main point of contact when it comes to reaching out to the venues as they have requested me to deal with one person as it is simpler.

V. Correspondence

Arts Council Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2025

- None

VI. Chairman's comment

- Mr. Wohl reminded the council to get as much financial information as possible for their proposals and try to suit the artist and genre to the venue you choose.
- Mr. Wohl would like to arrange a venue tour at Kiawah River to consider it as a potential space for our events.

VII. Public Comments

- None

VIII. Adjournment

- Mr. Wohl motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dyland Keith and unanimously carried.

Submitted by:

Caroline Wall

Caroline Wall, Arts and Cultural Events Program Manager

Approved by:

David Wohl, Chairman