Houston Ballet Foundation

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

MINUTES

Monday, September 19, 2022

**Call to order:** The Houston Ballet Board of Trustees Meeting was held in-person alongside a Zoom web-conference on Monday, September 19, 2022 in Houston, Texas. The meeting convened at 4:35pm.

**Quorum:** Achieved (per by-law requirements)

**Trustees Present:**

Dr. Julia D. Andrieni, Mrs. Diane Bazelides, Ms. Ann Bean, Mrs. Susan Binney, Mrs. Kristy J. Bradshaw,

Ms. Kim Cagle, Mr. Erich Canseco, Mr. James Cowan, Sharon F. Erskine, Mrs. Martha Finger, Mrs. Kate Fowler, Mrs. Jo Furr, Mr. Mitchell George, Mrs. Mignon Gill, Mrs. Ann Graham, Mr. Jeremy Griggs, Mr. Jesse H. Jones II,

Mr. James M. Jordan, Chad Libertus, Mr. Mark Loveland, Mrs. Kelley S. Lubanko, Mr. Jerry Martin,

Mrs. Jean E. May, Mr. Daniel M. McClure, Mrs. Kris McGee, Ms. Nancy Powell Moore, Ms. Desrye Morgan,

Mrs. Patti Murphy, Dr. Duyen Huynh Nguyen, Tammy Tran Nguyen, Mrs. Cabrina Owsley,

Ms. Samira A. Salman, Ms. Sunday Shepherd, Dannika E. Simpson, Mrs. Leigh M. Smith, Ms. S. Shawn Stephens, Mrs. Erika Toussaint, Mrs. Ileana Treviño, Stephanie Tsuru, Mrs. Phoebe Tudor, Ms. Hallie Vanderhider,

Mr. Marcus A. Watts, and Mrs. Amber Westman.

**Staff Present:**

MJ Bavaret, Rachel Koenig, Angela Lane, Angela Lee, James Nelson, Kristi Roberts, Laurel Rowe, Jennifer Sommers, and Stanton Welch AM.

**Guests Present:**

Orchestra representative David Connor

Mrs. Kristy J. Bradshaw welcomed everyone and called to order the Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Bradshaw welcomed new trustees – Ms. Desrye Morgan, Mrs. Erika Toussaint, Mrs. Patti Murphy,

Mrs. Martha Finger, Ms. Kim Cagle, Ms. Sunday Shepherd, Mr. Erich Canseco, Mrs. Ann Graham,

Tammy Tran Nguyen, and Mrs. Amber Westman.

With a quorum present, the minutes from the Annual Meeting held on May 16, 2022 were approved.

Mrs. Bradshaw proceeded to give a special events report.

Mrs. Bradshaw began the report by thanking Onstage Dinner Chairmen Christine and David Underwood, and Honorees Jean and Henry May on an incredibly successful event that exceeded its fundraising goal.

Then, Mrs. Bradshaw announced the dates of the season’s upcoming events:

* **The Ballet Ball, Chaired by Allison & Troy Thacker, will be held on Saturday, February 4, 2023.**

The Ball returns to the tent in the adjacent lot of the Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance, and will honor Executive Committee member Hallie Vanderhider for her production underwriting and special events support of the ballet.

* **Raising the Barre is on April 23, 2023 at Bludorn.** Co-Chairing this event are Liliana Soltero and Michael Hawkins, along with Mitchell George and Stanley Curtis.
* **The 42nd Nutcracker Market, chaired by Casey Rowe, is set for November 10-13, 2022 at the NRG Center.** The Market will kick off on November 9th with a preview party from 6:30 – 10pm.

Following these announcements, Mrs. Bradshaw invited Mr. Jim Nelson to give the Executive Director’s report.

**Executive Director’s Report**

Mr. Nelson began his report by thanking this season’s production underwriters: Melza and Ted Barr, Leticia Loya, Ann Trammell, Stephanie and Frank Tsuru, Phoebe and Bobby Tudor, Hallie Vanderhider, Jerry Ann Woodfin-Costa and Victor Costa, and Margaret Alkek Williams.

Mr. Nelson then shared the success of the subscription campaign which met and exceeded its budget for the season. He also provided an overview of Academy Enrollment, which is now back to pre-pandemic levels.

Following this, Mr. Nelson shared a video message from the United States Ambassador of Japan to Houston Ballet about the Japan Tour in the fall.

Mr. Nelson concluded his report by announcing Houston Ballet’s collaborative work with Stages Theatre. This work titled *Plumshuga* showcases vignettes from Lauren Anderson’s life. The entire theater at Stages is reserved for Houston Ballet Trustees and VIPs on October 19th, 2022.

Mrs. Bradshaw thanked Mr. Nelson for his report and invited Mr. Stanton Welch AM to provide the Artistic Director’s report.

**Artistic Director’s Report**

Mr. Welch began his report with updates on the upcoming reps-*Good Vibrations* and *The Letter V*, and shared a video of Chandler Dalton & Karina Gonzalez surfing in *Good Vibrations*.

Following this, Mr. Welch gave insight on *Summer & Smoke*’s scenic design and shared prototype images.

Mr. Welch then announced guest artist Sarah Lane who will be performing *Swan Lake* in Japan, as well as other pieces this season.

Mr. Welch concluded his report with updates on this season’s *Jubilee of Dance,* which will include Silas Farley’s new piece, and introduced *Plumshuga*, which will include casting of dancers from Houston Ballet, Houston Ballet II, and Houston Ballet Academy.

Mrs. Bradshaw thanked Mr. Welch for his report.

**Adjournment:** With no further new or old business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:17pm.