

**HOUSTON BALLET FOUNDATION**  
**Board of Trustees Annual Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**Margaret Alkek Williams Dance Lab**  
**Monday, May 21, 2018 at 4:30 pm**

**Call to order:**

The Houston Ballet Board of Trustees meeting was held in the Margaret Alkek Williams Dance Lab of the Center for Dance in Houston, Texas on Monday, May 21, 2018. The meeting convened at 4:31 pm.

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

**Trustees Present:**

Mr. Cecil H. Arnim III, Mrs. Melza Barr, Mrs. Diane Bazelides, Mr. Gary V. Beauchamp, Mr. Kevin Black, Mr. Tony Bradfield, Mrs. Kristy J. Bradshaw, Ms. Lindsey Brown, Mr. Richard L. Burleson, Mrs. Keiko Chevray, Mrs. Amy LeBlanc Cloud, Ms. Sasha Davis, Mrs. Pamela D. Earthman, Mrs. Sharon Erskine, Mr. Mitchell George, Mignon Gill, Mrs. Anne Graubart, Mr. Joseph A. Hafner, Jr., Mrs. Nancy F. Haywood, Mr. James M. Jordan, Mrs. Elise Joseph, Mrs. Melissa Holman Juneau, Ms. Emily Kernan, Dr. Dale G. Konicek, Dr. Bridgitte Shen Lee, Mr. Chad Libertus, Mr. Mark Loveland, Mrs. Kelley S. Lubanko, Mr. Jerry Martin, Mrs. Jean May, Mr. Daniel McClure, Ms. Beth Muecke, Dr. Duyen Huynh Nguyen, Mr. James M. Nicklos, Mrs. Cabrina Owsley, Mr. James J. Parr, Mrs. Amy Pincu, Mrs. Martha Rocks McMurrey, Mrs. Leigh M. Smith, Ms. S. Shawn Stephens, Mr. Nicholas L. Swyka, Mrs. Allison Thacker, Ms. Ann Trammell, Mrs. Phoebe Tudor, Ms. Hallie Vanderhider, Mr. Marcus Watts, and Mrs. Elizabeth Zdeblick

**Members Present:**

Jessie Gill

**Guests Present:**

Nancy Nelson, Orchestra Representative and Casey Rowe, Guild President-Elect

**Staff Present:**

Jim Nelson, Stanton Welch, Melissa Bowman, Patsy Chapman, C.C. Connor, Ermanno Florio, Kelli Gilson, Angela Lane, Chenay Newton, Andrew Nielsen, Lane Roebuck, Jennifer Sommers, Christine Stone-Martin, Ashley Tagle, Ty Woodfolk, Alexandra Yates, and Cheryl Zane

The sole item of business for the Meeting of the Members was the election of the Trustee class of 2018-2021. Mrs. Phoebe Tudor, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the proposed class of 2018-2021. A motion was made to approve the proposed class. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The 2018-2021 class of trustees includes the following new members: Mrs. Holly Alvis, Mr. Cameron Alguire, Mr. Kevin Black, Ms. Myrna Fisch, Mr. Richard Flowers, Mrs. Eleanor Gilbane, Mr. Chad Libertus, Mrs. Kris McGee, Mrs. Lisa Morgan, Mrs. Laura Robertson, Mrs. Casey Rowe, Mrs. Heidi Smith, Dr. Liliana Soltero, and Mrs. Stephanie Tsuru.

Mrs. Allison Thacker adjourned the Annual Meeting of Members of Houston Ballet Foundation and invited the members to stay for the continuation of the Annual Meeting of Trustees.

The first order of business was the election of the 2018-2019 Executive Committee officers and members-at-large. A motion was made to approve the proposed slate of officers and members-at-large. This motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Mrs. Tudor thanked Jean May and Melissa Mithoff for their eight years of service on the Executive Committee. She also thanked Mignon Gill for her one year of service on the committee as Guild President.

The next order of business was approval of the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting on February 12, 2018. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Mrs. Thacker introduced Mr. Jim Nicklos, Vice President of Finance, to present for approval Houston Ballet's budget for the fiscal year 2018-2019. This budget had previously been recommended by the Finance and Executive Committees for approval. The motion was unanimously approved by the Trustees.

Mrs. Thacker introduced Mignon Gill, Guild President, to present on the Guild's activities over the past year. Mignon Gill gave an overview of Guild membership, member events, and volunteer opportunities. She also shared details on Guild events that occurred over the past year.

Mrs. Thacker thanked Mignon for her report, then invited Ms. Shawn Stephens, Vice President - Development to give the Special Events report. Ms. Stephens gave an update on the success of the special events this year and thanked the chairmen of each event. She also announced special event dates for next season. Ms. Stephens ended her report by thanking the Development team for their efforts.

Mrs. Thacker then invited Mr. Jim Nelson to give his Executive Director's report.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Nelson began his report by giving an update on fundraising to date for Harvey relief and announced the million-dollar goal for the Cullen Trust matching grant has been exceeded. He also announced Melza and Ted Barr have agreed to underwrite the tour to Jacob's Pillow and that Phoebe and Bobby Tudor have agreed to underwrite the upcoming *Sylvia* production. Mr. Nelson thanked Trustees, Melza Barr and Phoebe Tudor for their generosity.

Mr. Nelson continued his report by giving a detailed year in review. He shared impact numbers, Academy enrollment, and volunteer numbers and hours. Mr. Nelson also highlighted the organization's continued commitment to access, Education & Community Engagement's impact this year, as well as the total amount of scholarships awarded.

Mr. Nelson noted the passing of long-time Trustee Pat Osborne this year. He ended his report by thanking Phoebe Tudor and Allison Thacker for their leadership on the Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Thacker thanked Mr. Nelson for his report and invited Mr. Stanton Welch to give the Artistic Director's report.

**Artistic Director's Report**

Mr. Welch began his report by discussing the remainder of the 2017-18 season, including upcoming repertory and guest artists. He also discussed upcoming touring engagements to Jacob's Pillow and Dubai, as well as the collaboration with TUTS on *Oklahoma!* during the 2018-19 season. Mr. Welch introduced incoming Academy Director, Melissa Bowman to the group. His report ended with a performance by Houston Ballet Academy.

Mrs. Thacker thanked Mr. Welch for his report.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 pm.