

JLOSC Report Response

Delaware State Arts Council (DSAC) - J. Mack Wathen, Chair

March 1, 2023



Who are we?

- Delaware State Arts Council
 - Created in 1969
 - 15-member advisory body to Division and Governor
 - Represents state's demographic/geographic diversity

Our Mission

Dedicated to cultivating and supporting the arts to enhance the quality of life for all Delawareans

DSAC in Delaware Code

- The Delaware State Arts Council is established to:
 - Promote and encourage the arts
 - Provide guidance to the Director on matters of arts policy
 - Consider such other matters as may be referred to it by the Governor, Secretary of State, or Director
 - Study, research, plan and advise the Director, the Secretary, and the Governor

Council Roles/Responsibilities

- **Advise the Division on policy and programs**
 - ❑ Participate in planning and decision-making (e.g., marketing, education, fundraising)
- **Participate in grant review process**
 - ❑ Serve as chairs or panelists in early May
- **Advise the Division on grant awards using both State and National Endowment for the Arts funds”**
 - ❑ Review panel comments, funding proposals, and staff recommendations
 - ❑ Make funding recommendations to the Division Director at the June Council meeting
- **Recognize and avoid conflicts of interest**
 - ❑ Grant review, funding decisions, Council discussions
- **Attend Arts Events and conduct on-site evaluations**
- **Attend and participate in Quarterly Council Meetings**

Council Roles/Responsibilities continued...

- **Participate in strategic planning process**
 - ❑ Individual interviews
 - ❑ Staff/Council meetings
- **Represent Division/Council on ArtCo Board**
- **Keep abreast of trends in arts (local & statewide)**
 - ❑ Be the “eyes and ears” of the Division in the community
 - ❑ Serve as arts advocates in Delaware communities
- **Special Governor’s Events (Governor’s Awards)**
 - ❑ Plan the event (logistics, invitations, etc.)
 - ❑ Facilitate selection process (of recipients and awards)
 - ❑ Fundraise for the event

Response to JLOSC Staff Report and Recommendations

The Delaware State Arts Council appreciates the work of the JLOSC Staff and concurs with their findings and recommendations, specifically:

- Continuation of the Delaware State Arts Council
- Legislation to apply technical correction to the governing statute by defining a quorum and to update and define subcommittee and grant panel processes
- Release from review upon enactment of legislation applying technical corrections and changing board composition, as recommended

Response to JLOSC Staff Report and Recommendations continued...

- The DSAC recognizes that they typically post meeting minutes for quarterly meetings after they have been voted on and approved by Council in the subsequent quarterly meeting. The DSAC will consider moving meeting minute approval to a digital format so that meeting minutes can be publicly posted within 20 days of a quarterly DSAC meeting.
- The DSAC also appreciates the JLOSC Staff recognition that the DSAC is actively working to increase diversity in their membership. The DSAC concurs with the JLOSC Staff suggestion to increase awareness of the Council and its membership through marketing channels and advertisement of Council meetings through the Division's social media, mailing lists, and calendars and through personal contacts with the goal of increasing diversity in their membership.