



**Arizona School for the Arts**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
 Monday, February 26, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.  
On Campus: Building A, Room 129

**Attendance** (Voting Members in **Bold**)

<b>Dr. David Garcia, President</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Alexander (Alex) Laing, Vice President</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Dr. Heidi Jannenga, Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Leola Abraham</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Michelle Buckley</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Andrei Cherny</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Michelle Davidson</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Betty Hum</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Carrie Larson</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>John O'Neal</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Allison Otu</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Dr. Lorisa Pombo</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Nonnie Shivers</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>John Snider</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Annette Zinky</b>	<b>P</b>
Elizabeth (Liz) Guzman, Honorary Arts Faculty	P	Jeffrey (Jeff) Steinert, Honorary Academic Faculty	P	Ian Elder, Honorary Student	P
Ingrid Martinez, Honorary Student	P	Leah Fregulia, Head of School/CEO	P	Leslie Tan Religioso, Development Director	P
Elizabeth (Liz) Shaw, Business Director	P	Carolyn Smith, Executive Assistant	P		

**Agenda Items**

**| Call to the Public**

**| Mission Moment**  
 FY24 Annual Report Reveal

**| Guest Presentation**  
 First Church UCC Strategic Plan

**| Board Recognition**

**| Discussion Items**

Resource Development Committee

- Development Dashboard

Finance Committee

- January 2024 Financial Reports
- Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Revised Budget

Governance Committee

- Present New Member for Nomination
- July 1, 2024-June 30, 2026 Officer Slate

**| Consent Agenda**

Head of School Report

**| Action Items**

Approval of the January 22, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Revised Budget

Approval of Percussion Ensemble Trip to Field of Steel in Tucson, AZ

Approval of the Spanish Language Student Trip to Mexico, Spring 2025

Approval of New ASA Director, Scott Stone to a 4-Year Term Beginning April 1, 2024

**|** The Board of Directors may vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters pursuant to: ARS §38-431.03 (A)(1) Personnel

**|** The Board of Directors may vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Board’s attorney on any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to: ARS §38-431.03 (A)(3) Legal Advice

**Minutes**

Board President Dr. David Garcia called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**Call to the Public**

David welcomed any members of the public attending the meeting. There were no members of the public present, but as there were invited guests, David asked the members of the Board as well as the ASA employees present to introduce themselves.

**Mission Moment**

Leah Fregulia showed the current draft of the 2022-2023 Annual Report in electronic format. The report will be completed with a few finishing touches this week and will be available to post and share next week. There will be a limited supply of printed copies that Board members may request for their sponsorship asks. Leah then congratulated ASA's Mock Trial team for placing first in Region III; they will move on to the state tournament in late March.

**Guest Presentation**

Pastor Susan Valiquette and church member John Waldron walked the Board through the current sustainability of the First Church UCC campus next door to the ASA campus. They explained that in order to be able to maintain their mission as a faith community, they will need to sell their present campus which has been home to First Church UCC for over 100 years and where ASA originated. The current repairs needed for the sanctuary alone will require extensive funding and after exploring several options, it was determined that selling the property -- likely to developers -- and finding a new premises will allow them to continue their work with unhoused as well as undocumented persons. Any land sale of this complexity will take as much as two years, and will not affect the

school's rental use of the property through next year. David thanked Susan and John for sharing this information with the Board and said that the Executive Committee will discuss the future impact for the school; Leah will provide a list of how and when ASA uses elements of the UCC campus. John and Susan said that they will keep ASA informed all along the sale process.

### **Board Recognition**

David asked potential Board Member Scott Stone to introduce himself and share the background and expertise he would like to bring to the Board. Scott explained his education and accounting experience as well as his long interest in volunteer work and the arts. After his introduction, John Snider noted that Scott has been a guest at the last few Finance Committee meetings and has made excellent insights and contributions, saying that he would be a fine addition to the Committee and the Board as a whole.

### **Discussion Items**

#### *Resource Development Committee*

Leslie Religioso showed the current dashboard highlights including the current reconciled donation amount is \$425K as of January 31st, trending \$32K behind this time last year predominantly in the Annual Fund giving. Parent participation is now at 52% and as we are entering the height of Tax Credit season both donation and participation numbers will increase, with an ultimate goal of \$50-60K in funds generated. We are also looking to gain about \$50K in Showcase sponsorships. David recommended that a more effective way to increase parent participation is to seek creative suggestions from the Parent Committee. Leslie noted the current Board participation is at 87% for the Board Give or Get goal of \$150K and she expressed her sincere gratitude to the Board because the school has always been able to count on them to meet their commitment.

David and Leslie then showed the Board the current Development priorities for the Board including what has already been done by way of appeal letters from Leah and then David and Annual Parent Meetings for returning families, as well as upcoming priorities: gratitude notes, temperature check emails, Parent Committee engagement, Showcase sponsorships, and speaking engagements at spring Signature Series events and APMs.

#### *Finance Committee*

John Snider directed the Board to the January 2024 financial reports available for their review on the Board Portal noting that we are still in the black, despite having approximately fifty fewer students than originally budgeted, due to strong expense management. In that vein, he also directed them to the revised budget, also on the portal for review, as it will be voted on during the Action Items. An initial draft of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget was presented by staff to the Finance Committee; it will continue to be refined and a final draft will be presented to the Board in May. Enrollment in all schools has been erratic since the pandemic, so the FY25 budget will be conservative to allow for enrollment fluctuation.

John honored Laura Apperson who will be retiring at the end of the month after twenty-six years of excellent service to the school, first as the Arts Director and then as the Senior Accountant in the Business Office. She has been an integral part of making the financial reporting for the school so clean and exact.

#### *Governance Committee*

Betty Hum reminded the Board that they will vote to add Scott Stone as a member during the Action Items at the end of the meeting. She and Leah presented the slate of officers for the July 1, 2024-June 30, 2026 term: Heidi Jannenga, President; Allison Otu, Vice President; Betty Hum, Secretary/Treasurer. The slate will be voted on at the March meeting.

### **Consent Agenda**

#### *Head of School Report*

Leah asked the Board to take special note of the enrollment dashboard, faculty and staff retention based on the Letters of Intent, and the response to the revised Middle School Cell Phone Policy as

written in her report. David congratulated Student Honorary Board Member Ian Elder for being named a National Merit Scholar finalist.

**Action Items**

*Approval of the January 22, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes*

Michelle Buckley moved to approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from January 22, 2024. The motion was seconded by Heidi Jannenga and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Jannenga, Abraham, Buckley, Davidson, Hum, Larson, Otu, Pombo, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

*Approval of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Revised Budget*

Heidi Jannenga moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Revised Budget. The motion was seconded by Annette Zinky and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Jannenga, Abraham, Buckley, Davidson, Hum, Larson, Otu, Pombo, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

*Approval of Percussion Ensemble Trip to Field of Steel in Tucson, AZ*

Michelle Davidson moved to approve Percussion Ensemble Trip to Field of Steel in Tucson, AZ. The motion was seconded by Betty Hum and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Jannenga, Abraham, Buckley, Davidson, Hum, Larson, Otu, Pombo, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

*Approval of the Spanish Language Student Trip to Mexico, Spring 2025*

Allison Otu moved to approve Spanish Language Student Trip to Mexico, Spring 2025. The motion was seconded by Annette Zinky and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Jannenga, Abraham, Buckley, Davidson, Hum, Larson, Otu, Pombo, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

*Approval of New ASA Director, Scott Stone to a 4-Year Term Beginning April 1, 2024*

John Snider moved to approve new ASA Board Director, Scott Stone, to a 4-Year Term beginning April 1, 2024. The motion was seconded by Betty Hum and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Jannenga, Abraham, Buckley, Davidson, Hum, Larson, Otu, Pombo, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

**Adjournment**

Michelle Buckley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Annette Zinky and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Garcia, Jannenga, Abraham, Buckley, Davidson, Hum, Larson, Otu, Pombo, Shivers, Snider, and Zinky voting in favor.]

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

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Minutes reviewed and accepted on: March 6, 2024

Signed by:  \_\_\_\_\_, Board Member