



**MINUTES**  
**Special Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**  
**Oakland School For The Arts**

**September 13, 2023**  
**5:00 pm**

**Meeting Location**  
**530 18th St.**  
**Student Center**  
**Oakland, CA. 94612**




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**Board of Directors**

Safia Fasah, Chair  
 Isaac Abid  
 Amy Omand  
 Karol Suarez Student of Color Rep.

Brightstar Ohlson  
 Sorell Raino-Tsui

**School Staff**

Mike Oz, Executive Director  
 Juju Williams, Ops, and Compliance Mgr

Beth Brenner-Josef, Finance Director

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**Oakland School for the Arts  
 Special Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**

TOPIC	WHO
<p align="center">Call to Order 5:01 pm            Roll Call: Brightstar, Isaac, Amy</p>	<p>Safia Fasah(Absent, Amy Omand covered)</p>
<p align="center">Public Comment on Non Agenda Items (not to exceed 5 minutes)            NA  <i>Members of the public may request to speak on items related to school business. The board is not able to respond to public comment on non-agenda items.</i></p>	
<p align="center">Unaudited Actuals Presentation (Vote to approve)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Public Comment NA</li> <li>● Board Discussion <i>Beth: Looking to rent our spaces to the public and add accessibility to the website. Consulting fees are very expensive. Conversion fees as well ie. Hiring our Senior Accountant</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Isaac -give a comparison of the balanced budget last year to this year.</i>  <i>Mike -We have enough reserves to sustain current spending for roughly another 2 years. Much of our deficit in 21-22 and 22-23 is directly related to increased spending due to COVID and safety.</i>  <i>Mike: Key decisions to make: Do we need to cut programming to cover the deficit?</i></p>	<p>Beth Brenner-Josef</p>

OSA is fully ADA accessible. Anyone requesting accommodation should contact Juju Williams, [jwilliams@oakarts.org](mailto:jwilliams@oakarts.org) or 510-873-8815 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Members of the public may address the Board of Directors on any topic relevant to OSA. In order to hear from as many voices as possible, the Board Chair may institute a reasonable time limit for all speakers prior to the beginning of public comment. OSA reserves the right to limit the number of speakers. All listed times are approximate. Agendas and materials may be viewed at [www.oakarts.org](http://www.oakarts.org) or in Room 232, 530 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Oakland, CA 94612 during normal school hours.



<p><i>Brightstar: What is the timeline and process [needed to make decisions around cuts to program].? Mike: Up to a year.</i></p> <p><i>Amy: We approved a strategic budget to help raise funds. That was the hiring and expansion in the advancement department.</i></p> <p><i>Mike: Brand awareness supports community awareness, and community support opportunities</i></p> <p><i>Brightstar: timeline on a balanced budget? Mike: Possibly a year</i></p> <p><i>Promising- ETC (employee tax credit)</i></p> <p><i>Motion: Isaac</i></p> <p><i>2nd</i></p> <p><i>Vote: Unanimous Yes</i></p>	
<p>Dismissal 5:20 pm</p>	<p>Safia Fasah(Absent, Amy Omand covered)</p>

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## Meeting Norms

- The Board recognizes the importance of all stakeholder voices at OSA. Collaboration and community are essential to the viability of our school.
- The purpose of this meeting is for our board of directors to meet with each other and conduct school business, as well as to receive input from the school staff and the community via public comment.
- Public comment may be made on topics that relate to the school. After hearing a report, members of the public have the opportunity to offer comments in a designated time prior to the board discussion of that agenda item. Outside of public comment, members of the public are also welcome to observe the meeting.
- To protect student and employee privacy, please refrain from using the name or any information that could imply the identity of any student or employee.
- The board Chair may institute a reasonable time limit for all speakers prior to the beginning of public comment. To be sure of hearing from a variety of people, minutes may not be transferred to other speakers.
- The board cannot respond to public comment on non-agenda items. This does not mean the board is not listening.
- We strive to be a learning community that learns from each other. We are also a community comprised of people who care very deeply about the school. We recognize that all voices are not treated equally in our society but aim to value and respect all voices equally in this forum. We may have different ideas of how to achieve goals, and we may feel passionately about our points of view. This needs to be a safe space for a variety of opinions. Finally, we address each other in a respectful manner to foster collaboration, build community, and to model good citizenship to our students.

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## **OSA Land Acknowledgement**

OSA is situated on Huichin, the unceded territories of the Chochenyo-speaking Lisjan Ohlone peoples, who have lived upon this land since the beginning of time. Indigenous peoples-- in California, the Americas, and around the world--are still here.

OSA recognizes the historic genocide and ethnic cleansing inflicted upon Indigenous peoples in California and the Americas, including their forced removal from ancestral lands, and the deliberate and systematic destruction of their communities and culture. These conditions are ongoing and Indigenous people have been fighting against cultural erasure and for their sovereignty since the beginning of colonization.

To this end, we as a community strive to honor the Indigenous members of our community, uplift their voices and contributions to arts and culture, center Indigenous peoples' worldviews in our classrooms, and support Indigenous sovereignty everywhere.

This land acknowledgment is a small act in supporting Indigenous communities and centering the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion work within the Oakland School for the Arts. Solidarity with Indigenous nations can include:

- 1) Donating time and money to Indigenous-led organizations;
- 2) Amplifying the voices of Indigenous people leading grassroots change movements; and
- 3) Returning land.

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