



WESTCHESTER COUNTY (NY) CHAPTER
OF
THE LINKS, INCORPORATED
COMMITTEE REPORT FORM

COMMITTEE/FACET NAME: Arts Facet

MEETING DATE AND TIME/ATTENDEES:

Meeting was held via teleconference on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 9:00pm

Attendees: Link Lisa Stenson Desamours, Link Ginger McKnight-Chavers, Link Michelle Weston, Link Anika, Link MaryFrances, Link Priscilla, Link Marilyn Price, Link Louise Quick-Spann

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

1. Continuation of In an Arts State of Mind in collaboration with the Wartburg & the Clay Arts Center
 1. Program is funded through this program year.
 2. The Wartburg is interested in our expanding the program to twice a month instead of once a month, because the participants are interested and would likely benefit from more frequent sessions. It was discussed whether we could obtain enough volunteers among the chapter membership to make an expansion of the program feasible.
 3. It was decided to raise the matter at the chapter meeting and gauge interest among the members regarding volunteering. If enough members express interest, we will determine whether we need to expand our contract with the Clay Arts Center and consider budget implications for 2018-19.
2. Romare Bearden exhibition tour @ Neuberger - ITS L.I.F.E. students from Woodlands.
 1. Link Marilyn reached out to the Neuberger Museum prior to our meeting and confirmed that they are interested and flexible regarding setting up a student tour of the current Romare Bearden exhibition, which is ongoing through December 20.
 2. Link Ginger corresponded with Link Barbara Gundy regarding ITS Facet's interest in having the L.I.F.E. students tour the exhibit. She confirmed that there was interest and that it would be a topic of discussion at the ITS Facet meeting, the same evening as Arts Facet's meeting.
 3. Link MaryFrances participated in both meetings and confirmed ITS Facet's approval to proceed. She is confirming with the school potential dates that work for the students so that we can discuss and finalize details with the museum. Woodlands can provide their own transportation. Link Marilyn is confirming whether the exhibition tour is free for student groups and whether there are any hands-on activities associated with the exhibit.
3. Romare Bearden exhibition tour as chapter friendship activity
 1. If the chapter would like to organize a tour of the exhibition as a friendship activity, we will need to provide the museum with dates as soon as possible. The arrangement of a tour is contingent on the availability of docents. The museum is not open in the evening during the week, so the event would need to be on a weekend or Friday evening [will confirm from minutes]. There is precedent for our doing a Sunday event, if Saturday or Friday evening is not possible. Will confirm with Link Marilyn regarding whether Friday evening is truly available.
4. Other ideas for Interactive Art Workshop for students
 1. We discussed current & upcoming exhibitions @ Studio Museum, Schomburg, MoMA and other museums and galleries in the metropolitan area.
 2. We are particularly interested in organizing an interactive art activity in connection with the Schomburg Museum's Black Power exhibitions – the general exhibit is open through the end of the year, but an exhibition of posters from the Black Power movement will continue through late March. Depending on the parameters and theme/requirements of the national Poster Arts Competition, we may link an interactive art activity with that contest. Even if we cannot link the two events, we are exploring setting up a tour and interactive art activity for students in conjunction with this exhibition.

5. CTA: Classics Through the Ages (national)

1. We discussed the materials provided by national regarding highlighting and expanding programming for the arts in general, and the “Classics Through the Ages” initiative in particular. We are following up online and with the Eastern Area Chair for The Arts regarding the specifics of the initiative so that we can better understand their objectives and formulate programs that align with these objectives.

6. Poster Arts Competition (national)

1. We are awaiting further details regarding the parameters and requirements of the poster arts competition for this program year. If possible & feasible, we will consider linking our engagement of local students in the competition with an interactive art workshop @ Schomburg's exhibition of posters from Black Power movement.

7. Young Master Writers Competition (national)

1. We are awaiting further details from National regarding the parameters of this year's competition, but we intend to participate again. Link MaryFrances will again assist in identifying potential student participants.

8. DC or other trip coordinated by STY

1. Last year Arts Facet helped underwrite the student trip to Washington, DC - visitation of Georgetown U and Howard U and tour of the Museum of African American Life and Culture at the Smithsonian. We inquired prior to the meeting as to whether STY plans to repeat this trip, so that we can discuss and plan accordingly within our budget.
2. Link Quay indicated that STY desires to travel to Philadelphia instead this year and visit Lincoln U & Delaware State instead. They will add on a visit to Philadelphia's African-American art museum.
3. Next steps are to reach out and discuss with STY whether New Rochelle High School has signed off on this new itinerary, given their enthusiasm regarding last year's trip, and our own concerns about continuing to underwrite the trip given the changes in the location and itinerary. The Philadelphia African-American art museum is a worthwhile excursion, it is very small and is not the same unique, immersive arts experience as the Smithsonian museum. As a result, Arts Facet is hesitant to underwrite the event this year without further information and discussion, as we could use these resources to expand our own programming initiatives and coordinate additional activities that we discussed during our meeting.

9. Broadway play or musical

1. As Hamilton tickets were not feasible last year, we are looking into whether a student trip could be organized this year.
2. An alternative Broadway show suggested by Link MaryFrances was The Lion King, with which we could organize a mask-making activity for the students we take to see the show.
3. Following our meeting, Link Donna confirmed that there are not many current shows other than the ones we have already discussed on Broadway right now. She indicated that “Once on this Island” is currently playing – Link Ginger is following up to determine whether its run will extend into the spring, when we would plan to organize a Broadway outing.
4. Link Donna also mentioned that Denzel Washington will be starring in “The Iceman Cometh” in the spring, but there are currently no group tickets being sold for that show.

10. Budget

ITEMS REQUIRING DISCUSSION AT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

1. Volunteer interest in expanding In an Arts State of Mind to twice a month
2. Proposed dates for Romare Bearden exhibition friendship activity to present to the Neuberger
3. Details of STY student trip to Philadelphia or DC so Arts Facet can determine if it is feasible for us to contribute this year.

ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION AT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

None

MOTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER: (Please fill out the Motion form and provide a copy to the Recording Secretary)

None

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm; Next meeting will be November 14, 2017, 9:00pm.

Submitted by: Ginger McKnight-Chavers

Date: October 16, 2017