

**Annual General Meeting – 2015/2016 Season**

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto  
252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M5S 1V6

***Meeting Minutes***

Katherine Semcesen, Canadian Opera Company, PAONE Board  
Lois Adamson, Young People's Theatre, PAONE Board  
Amber Ebert, Young People's Theatre, PAONE Board  
Faeron Pileggi, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, PAONE Board  
Lindsay Zier-Vogel, PAONE  
Scott Dermody, TAPA  
Aimee Bouchard, Theatre Direct  
Gretel Meyer Odell, Roseneath Theatre  
Autumn Smith, CanStage  
Annis Karpenko, Visual Arts Mississauga  
Alyssa Delbaere-Sawchuk, Independent artist  
Conlin Delbaere-Sawchuk, Metis Fiddler Quartet  
Hanna Wolf, Young People's Theatre  
Rachel Robbins, Sony Centre  
Carey Nicholson, Theatre 3x60  
Carrie Hage, various  
Michael Wallace, Theatre Museum  
Anne Wessels, Tarragon Theatre  
Kendal Lander, Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

**1. Call to order – Katherine Semcesen**

The annual general meeting was chaired by the board, in the absence of Chair of the Board, Patty Jarvis. Confirmation was made that the quorum of at least 8 members were present.

As in 2014/15, the PAONE Board had decided to waive the Membership fee for the 2016/17 season, and all individuals present were entitled to vote.

**2. Approval of Agenda – Katherine Semcesen**

No edits or adjustment from the assembly.

Moved to approve: Scott Dermody

Seconded by: Aimee Bouchard

Katherine Semcesen put forward the motion to approve the agenda. All were in favour.

### **3. Approval of 2014/2015 AGM Minutes – Katherine Semcesen**

No edits or adjustment from the assembly.

Moved to approve: Lois Adamson

Seconded by: Amber Ebert

Katherine Semcesen put forward the motion to approve the 2014/15 minutes. All were in favour.

### **4. President's Report – Lois Adamson**

- Chair Patty Jarvis' report read by Lois Adamson.
- Patty thanks all members for their energy and commitment to arts education and apologized for not being able to attend the AGM.
- Recap of year's activities including conferences, Research Club initiated by Anne Wessells from Tarragon Theatre, the receipt of an OAC Arts Education Projects Grant and subsequent hiring of Lindsay Zier-Vogel, PAONE's Project Coordinator, and allowed us to video tape two of our conferences that have since been made available online.
- It was a year of challenges for the PAONE Board as we continue to struggle as a volunteer-run organization with what was, this year, a group of over-extended volunteers. We have looked honestly at our processes over the past several years and realized that we have not really created opportunities that easily invite participation beyond attending our conferences. In order to build on our strengths we need to work more meaningfully with our members. This means being more inclusive and open and also representing disciplines and types of arts education work equitably. We will be looking to our members to help us do that in the coming year.
- The climate for arts education is changing. As the Ontario Arts Council merges its Arts Education and Community Engagement offices, as the Toronto Arts Council explores its role in supporting arts education, as the Canada Council and Ontario Trillium Foundation's strategic plans emphasize "impact" and community support – we are all involved in a period of great change within the arts community. Artist educators and the practice of arts education from the professional arts community has a huge role to play in where arts organizations are going.

### **5. Committee Reports**

#### **a) Program – Lois Adamson**

##### *Conferences*

The goal of our one-day conferences is to provide support for individuals responsible for the development and implementation of arts education programs for their respective organizations. We aim to: provide meaningful networking and PD opportunities, address

specific challenges and successes in the field, broaden PAONE's reach to arts educators and administrators beyond the GTA, build support for increased resource sharing/best practices within the field, support new and emerging arts education administrators.

Conference – October 14, 2015 (COC): *Mixer and AGM*

Building on last season's great turn out and fun gathering, PAONE continued the tradition of hosting an annual Mixer at the start of each season where we can reconnect with colleagues, get to know new people in our sector, and learn about what organizations are doing, and where and how they are doing it. The Mixer was also kick-off a year-long exercise focused on management in the context of arts education. We also guided our members through the process of responding to what was most of interest to them in the themes we chose for the conferences for 2015/16. Their responses guided our approach and points of focus for the year.

Conference - February 10, 2016 (Roseneath): *Community Arts and Arts Education*

How do we define "community arts" and "arts education"? What are the differences? Where and how do they intersect? While the terms are often interchanged, each practice is characterized by unique approaches, methodologies, and goals. We addressed these intersections in conversation together.

(Delivered jointly by Beth Helmers, Marjorie Chan, Angie Aranda, and Parul Pandya, partners from Jumblies, Cahoots and the Neighbourhood Arts Network)

Conference - April 28, 2016 (The Shaw Festival, Niagara-on-the-Lake): *Outreach Beyond Your Organization*

Arts education administrators are often tasked with providing outreach to communities that are not necessarily reflected within their current audience, staff or Board. This raises questions about organizational leadership and appropriate and respectful communication with new communities. Participants explored practical approaches to respectful outreach to target groups outside of their usual demographic.

(Delivered jointly by Brian Solomon, Jessica Carmichael and Suzanne Merriam, partners from Carousel and The Shaw Festival)

Community Meeting – July 12, 2016: *Imagining Our "Big Thought"*

We invited our members to join us as part of a PAONE committee to determine Toronto's "big thought". How are we/can we create meaningful, cross-sectoral partnerships? We wanted to move this discussion forward and bring it into action in our own context. We had a great meeting, but a diversity of ideas, impulses and needs were expressed. Approaching this forced PAONE to reflect on its organizational structure and capacity to lead system change.

*Research Club*

We started a research club, because we think this is the next step in terms of professionalization in our industry. Our hope was that participation in the Research Club would not only bolster the work our members do every day, but will have an impact on our field as a whole, allowing us to advocate collectively by engaging in research.

We looked at the following questions: What makes good research? How can research inform our practices? What are the gaps in the field? How might these be addressed? What are the questions that are emerging for you? What are you curious about?

We introduced participants to the process of reading, using, sharing and participating in research in their day-to-day work as arts education administrators. We had hoped it might operate simultaneously as a pilot research project that would identify gaps in the research to inform projects going forward, but it ended up functioning more as reading group than a place to determine and work toward new research in the field. This was, in part, because of the drop-in nature of participants – not everyone was able to attend all sessions.

#### Meeting Dates (Tarragon)

- November 25, 2015
- January 20, 2016
- March 23, 2016
- May 4, 2016

#### *Social*

Holiday Drinks - December 10, 2015 (Distillery District)

#### *Administration*

We hired Lindsay Zier-Vogel to support PAONE in the administration of our programming and resources. Her work has allowed us to build a much stronger website, solidify our communication and build our membership, particularly with those outside of the GTA.

#### *Videos*

We also hired Nicholas Bradford-Ewart, a filmmaker, to document our conferences in February and April to help us engage our members who were unable to attend in person and provide all of us with a reference point to which we can return.

#### **(b) Membership – Lindsay Zier-Vogel**

As the Board continues to review membership benefits, we will continue the practice of a more “fluid” membership again in 2016/17, requesting fees per event/conference.

We updated our website and have been using it as a tool to connect with members outside of conferences/in-person meeting, and have made the videos created at our conferences available to the public.

With goals of increasing our reach to artists and organizations beyond Toronto, independent artists and a variety of artistic disciplines, we have increased our newsletter subscribers by 40% with 48% of artists and organizations outside of the GTA. Our subscribers have engaged an additional 17 organizations and 32 individual artists, including 10 self-identify as Indigenous.

**6. Treasurer's Report – Lois Adamson (report by Jim Graham)**

During the fifth fiscal year, which ended June 30, 2016, PAONE had \$6,656 in the bank chequing account, plus \$15 in the share account. Total assets are \$6,671.

Noted that grant funding will have to be paid out before the end of the next fiscal year.

Moved to approve: Annis Karpenko

Seconded by: Carey Nicholson

Lois Adamson put forward the motion to approve the report. All were in favour.

**7. Proposed Slate of Directors for 2016/2017 – Amber Ebert**

Amber announced that the proposed slate of Board of Directors for 2015/16:

Patty Jarvis, Prologue to the Performing Arts, Chair

Katherine Semcesen, Canadian Opera Company

Lois Adamson, Young People's Theatre

Amber Ebert, Young People's Theatre

Faeron Pileggi, Toronto Symphony Orchestra

Kate Cornell, CADA is stepping down from her duties on the Board.

Moved to approve: Aimee Bouchard

Seconded by: Annis Karpenko

Amber Ebert put forward the motion to approve the slate of directors. All were in favour.

**8. Call for nominations from members – Amber Ebert**

There were no nominations put forward.

**9. Approval of Board of Directors for 2015/2016 – Amber Ebert**

Moved to approve by: Lois Adamson

Seconded by: Amber Ebert

Amber Ebert put forward the motion to approve the board. All were in favour.

**10. Schedule 2016/2017 AGM – Faeron Pileggi**

The 2016/17 AGM will take place on Wednesday. October 18, 2017.

Moved to approve by: Michael Wallace

Seconded by: Anne Wessels

Faeron Pileggi put forward the motion to approve the schedule. All were in favour.

**11. Other Business – Faeron Pileggi**

There were other business put forward.

**12. Adjournment**

Moved to approve by: Katherine Semcesen

Seconded by: Amber Ebert

Lois Adamson put forward the motion to adjourn. All were in favour.