

## Visual & Performing Arts District Advisory Committee (VAPA DAC)

Wednesday, October 25, 2023 – 7 PM – **in-person**

Board Room, SMMUSD District Office, 1717 - 4th Street, Santa Monica 90401

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**Parking Instructions:** Park in the multi-level parking structure located at 333 Civic Center Dr. This is across from the new district office. From 4th Street, turn west on Civic Center Drive (between Pico Blvd. and the freeway), then turn right again. The entrance to the parking structure is close to Olympic Drive.

*If you use valet parking at 1717 - 4<sup>th</sup> St., you will have to pay the Hilton Hotel parking fee -- \$10 the first hour, \$6 per hour thereafter. In May, some of us told the parking staff we were attending a meeting in the District Office and, when we left, they charged us only \$10.*

If any DAC member cannot attend a DAC “in person” meeting, Sarah Wahrenbrock informs us that he/she can agree to having his/her address posted on the top of the agenda and can attend via Zoom. Staff would have to arrange for a spider phone system so everyone could be heard and we could view those joining via Zoom on a white screen in the conference room. (*Note: When City Council members cannot attend meetings due to illness, their addresses are not posted on the agendas, and they seem to participate by phone.*)

### **AGENDA**

#### **DAC roster for 2023-24 and when their 3-year terms expire:**

Zina Josephs – June 2024  
Lydia Muraro – June 2024  
Annie Azzariti – June 2025  
Aimee Koeplin – June 2025  
Elizabeth Manco – June 2025  
Deborah Berek – June 2026  
Janis Gabbert – June 2026  
Domenic Piturro – June 2026

#### **New DAC application form:**

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/Domain/304/DACappEngSP.pdf>

As per BP 1313 (adopted 11/18/21), the Board of Education and SMMUSD shall place this information at the top of their meeting agendas.

**STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR THAT PROMOTE CIVILITY AT ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS:**

Treat everyone with respect and courtesy.	Keep an open mind and, if merited, allow yourself to be persuaded to change your opinion.
Listen to others respectfully.	Acknowledge dissension as a civic right and as a tool to use to reach the9 best decisions.
Agree to disagree, and don't make it personal; discuss the issue, not the person.	Accept responsibility and maintain self-control.

**NORMAS DE CONDUCTA QUE PROMUEVEN LA CIVILIDAD EN TODAS LAS REUNIONES PÚBLICAS:**

Tratar a todas las personas con respeto y cortesía.	Mantener la mente abierta, y si la ocasión lo amerita, permitir ser persuadido a cambiar de opinión.
Escuchar a los demás de manera respetuosa.	Reconocer el disenso como un derecho cívico y como una herramienta para tomar las mejores decisiones.
Aceptar las diferencias y no tomarlas de forma personal; debatir el asunto, no la persona.	Aceptar la responsabilidad y mantener el autocontrol.

**7:00 PM – Call to order and welcome**

**7:05 PM – Remembering Dr. Mora** -- Superintendent's Message: Passing of Dr. Jacqueline Mora, SMMUSD Assistant Superintendent

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/domain/1792/shelton/JacquelineMoraPassing091823.pdf>

**7:15 – Carey Upton, Chief Operating Officer** -- SMMUSD proposal for the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, plus changes in the Samohi Campus Plan and other projects that might affect VAPA programs that are being planned for the 2024 bond measure -- “SMMUSD Results of Civic Auditorium Feasibility Study Regarding Potential Purchase of the Historic Santa Monica Civic Auditorium” -- <https://www.smmusd.org/CivicAuditorium> -- For more details and discussion, attend the Samohi Campus Plan community meeting on October 24 from 6 PM to 7:30 PM in the Samohi Cafeteria.

**7:45 -- Election of Voting Co-Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary**

**7:50 -- Approve minutes** from May 2023 meeting

**7:55 PM -- Calendar review**

- Upcoming Board of Ed meetings – November 2 and 16  
<https://www.smmusd.org/domain/2977>
- Upcoming VAPA DAC meetings -- 7-9 PM, SMMUSD Board Room  
November 29, 2023  
January 24, 2024  
February 21, 2024  
**March is Arts Education Month!**

April 24, 2024  
May 22, 2024

## **REPORTS**

8:00 PM -- **Administrator Co-Chairperson**

8:05 PM -- **Staff Liaison and VAPA Coordinator** -- Tom Whaley

8:20 PM -- **Board of Education Liaisons** – Maria Leon-Vazquez (unable to attend) and Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (per the DAC Charge)**

8:30 PM – **VAPA DAC charge for 2023-24 – Approved on September 21, 2023:**

- *Support a comprehensive preK-12 arts education program as an integral part of the core curriculum offered to all SMMUSD students, with dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts taught as discrete disciplines and integrated into other subject areas; as we align with and promote the Excellence through Equity Plan, which includes teaching cross-cultural and socio-emotional skills.*
- *Serve as a conduit for parents, teachers, students and community members to inform and make recommendations to the Board of Education on matters related to equitable access and successful participation in comprehensive, sequential, standards-based preK-12 arts education, while comparing the district's curriculum, scheduling, staffing, instructional materials, equipment, and facilities with National and State standards and frameworks; as we align with and promote the Excellence through Equity Plan.*
- *Maintain the Board and District commitment to the adoption of a new 6-year SMMUSD Arts Education Strategic Plan. Review and advise this Plan to align with and promote the Excellence through Equity Plan.*

### **1. Prop 28: "Arts and Music in Schools Funding Guarantee Accountability Act" and the 6-Year Strategic Arts Education Plan (2023-2029)**

<https://createca.org/prop-28-what-we-know-so-far/>

**August 2023 Update:** The California Department of Education (CDE) expects to include the funds in the Local Education Agencies (L EAs) **February 2024** Principal Apportionment.

--Allocated funds are available for use for up to 3 years.

--Preliminary estimates show that LEAs will receive approximately \$112 per student, plus \$85 per economically disadvantaged student.

--At least 80% of the funds are restricted for certificated or classified employees to provide arts education. Up to 20% are for arts education support,

including training, supplies, materials, and arts educational partnership programs. Up to 1% of total funds are allowable for LEA administrative costs to implement the proposition.

--Proposition 28 allocations are required to “supplement” funding for arts education programs. Funds need to increase current arts education spending and not replace existing expenditures.

--**Allocation for SMMUSD: \$1,212,779**

-- **Allocation per SMMUSD school site:**

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/dave.heckler7741/viz/Prop28ArtsEducationFunding/Sheet1>

## **2. VAPA DAC vacancies**

a. **DAC application form:**

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/Domain/304/DACappEngSP.pdf>

b. Board Policy re DACs: <https://www.smmusd.org/domain/118>

*"Membership recruitment will be ongoing throughout the year. Minimally, information about the District Advisory Committees will be shared with the public in August, November, and January. Applications for appointment to advisory committees may be submitted at any time during the year. Once per quarter, an item shall be placed on the Board of Education agenda listing committee vacancies."*

**3. Folklorico and Mariachi classes -- SMMUSD press releases posted on 8/28 and 9/5. *Santa Monica Daily Press* article on 9/11.** 2023-24 Ballet Folklorico classes are being taught at Edison on Monday and Wednesday, at McKinley on Wednesday and Friday, at Will Rogers on Tuesday and Thursday, and at Roosevelt on Monday and Wednesday. Mariachi classes are being offered for all district 5th grade students at Edison, for all middle school students at Virginia Avenue Park, and for high school students at Samohi (as a dual enrollment course with SMC).

## **4. SMC dual enrollment VAPA classes**

- a. 2023-24: Jazz Band, Mariachi, and Theater Arts 20 at Samohi; Jazz Vocal Ensemble at Malibu High.
- b. Proposed for 2024-25: Technical Theatre Class. Fall: Intro to Theatrical Sound. Spring: Painting Technique. 2x week, 3:40 to 5 PM. Maral Hyeler is the SMC dual enrollment advisor.

## **5. P.S. ARTS update**

**6. Performances and art exhibits:**

October 6 – Samohi Orchestra Concert: “Movie Music Magic”  
October 13 -- MHS Choir “Cabaret” Concert  
October 21 – Samohi Marching Band at Simi Valley HS field tournament  
October 21 – Samohi Choir “Sweet Serenade” Concert & Fundraiser  
October 28 – Samohi art exhibit “Day of the Dead – Dia de los Muertos” opening  
October 28 -- Samohi Marching Band at Cleveland HS field tournament  
November 3–5 – Samohi Fall Play: “The Foreigner” (comedy)  
November 4 – Samohi Marching Band at Hart HS field tournament  
November 7 – Samohi Band Concert  
November 11 – Samohi Marching Band at Savannah HS field tournament  
November 14 – JAMS Orchestra Concert  
November 15 – JAMS Band Concert  
November 17-19 – MHS Fall Play  
November 18 – SCSBOA Field Show Championships  
November 30 – LMS Orchestra Concert  
November 30 – MHS Orchestra Concert  
December 2 – Birthday party fundraiser in honor of Dick Van Dyke, involving all  
MMS and MHS VAPA students  
December 7 – LMS Choir Concert  
December 7 – MHS Band Concert  
December 12 – Samohi Orchestra Concert  
December 13 – JAMS Choir Concert  
December 14 – LMS Band Concert  
December 14 – MHS Choir Concert  
December 15 – Samohi Choir Concert -- “Motus Perpetuus”  
December 19 – SMASH Winter Concert  
January 23 – Samohi Band Winter Concert  
January 26-27 – Samohi Choir “Café Samo”  
January 26-28 – LMS “Matilda the Musical”  
March 16 – Stairway of the Stars Concert  
April 23 -- District-wide Art Show  
May 9 – Samohi Senior Art Show

**7. Highlights from Spring 2023:**

- a. In January, 20 SMMUSD students were featured in “Encanto” at the Hollywood Bowl

- b. 41 Santa Monica students were named to the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association (SCSBOA) Honor Choir, Orchestra, and Band, and to the 2023 California All State Music Education Conference (CASMEC) All State honor ensembles.
- c. Malibu High student Thomas Drummond received 5 awards from the national Scholastic Art and Writing Awards. The contest is judged on originality, skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.
- d. The Samohi Wind Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra toured in Ireland over spring break.
- e. The Samohi choirs toured in the Pacific Northwest and, with more than 20 schools competing, brought home the Gold from the WorldStrides Performing Arts Heritage Festival in Seattle.
- f. The MHS orchestra performed at Carnegie Hall.
- g. In April, the Malibu orchestra earned the highest scores of any ensemble at the “Music in the Parks” Festival at Disneyland.
- h. 100% of Malibu High AP 2D Art & Design students who submitted portfolios passed (compared to 84% nationally).
- i. The Samohi Musical Theatre Pit Orchestra, directed by Terry Sakow, won the 2023 Jerry Herman Award for Best High School Musical Theater Orchestra.
- j. Samohi Band Director Kevin McKeown received the 2023 SCSBOA outstanding veteran teacher award.
- k. Angela Woo, Director of Instrumental Music and Chair of the VAPA Department at JAMS, was this year’s guest conductor of the SCSBOA High School Orchestra.
- l. John Beasley, Samohi ‘77, was the guest conductor of the SCSBOA High School Jazz Band.
- m. Carla Bowman-Smith’s advanced photography students’ images were included in the Malibu City Recreation Guides for both Winter and Spring this year. <https://malibucity.org/DocumentCenter/View/30857/2023-Winter-Rec-Guide?bidId=>
- n. Samohi alum Andrés Pichardo-Rosenthal is a percussionist with the Detroit Symphony.
- o. Samohi alum Maki Kubota is a cellist with the Houston Symphony.
- p. Samohi alum Cyrus Allyar plays trumpet in the orchestra of the National Opera House in Paris.
- q. Samohi alum Ryan Roberts plays English horn in the New York Philharmonic.
- r. Samohi alum Eli Brown has been named a Salonen Fellow for 2023-24. He will be mentored by Esa-Pekka Salonen and serve as assistant conductor

of the San Francisco Symphony, while also working as assistant conductor with the Colburn Conservatory Orchestra in Los Angeles. He recently led a concert with LA Philharmonic musicians at the Broad Stage. In 2022-23, he was assistant conductor of the Korean National Symphony Orchestra in Seoul.

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**8. Media coverage since May 2023:**

- a. **World-Traveled Conductor Comes Home for U.S. Debut” – Samohi alum Eli Brown** -- 10/13/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/10/13/world-traveled-conductor-comes-home-for-us-debut/>

“A homecoming a decade in the making will be heard at Santa Monica’s BroadStage this weekend. Elias Peter Brown, a 2013 graduate of Santa Monica High School, will be making his U. S. conducting debut on Sunday alongside musicians of the LA Philharmonic, performing Stravinsky’s “The Soldier’s Tale.” First performing at BroadStage as a Samohi trumpet player, the time has come for the rising star to take his place at the front of the stage....”

- b. **“Award Salutes Sound of the Samohi Musical Theatre Orchestra”** (2 photos) -- 9/30/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/09/30/award-salutes-sound-of-the-stage-orchestra/>

“The Santa Monica High School Pit Orchestra, under the direction of Terry Sakow, was honored with the Jerry Herman Award for its work on “The Drowsy Chaperone.”

- c. **“Samohi Orchestra Program to Host Annual Fall Benefit Concert”**

9/26/23 -- *Santa Monica Mirror*

<https://smmirror.com/2023/09/samohi-orchestra-program-to-host-annual-fall-benefit-concert/>

The nationally recognized and award-winning Santa Monica High School Orchestra Program is set to present its annual fall benefit concert, “Movie Music Magic,” on October in historic Barnum Hall....SMMUSD prioritizes music education, providing instruments and music instruction to all interested students starting in the fourth grade, continuing through their academic journey. The top orchestras at Santa Monica High School have graced world-class venues across the United States and around the globe. This program, celebrating its 120th year this season, is recognized as one of the premier programs in the nation....”

- d. **“Jazz Icon Plays New Tune as Student Mentor” – Stanley Clarke**

9/26/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/09/26/jazz-icon-plays-new-tune-as-student-mentor/>

“Raw musical talent is in abundance across Santa Monica’s student bodies. To mold the young talent into true musical masters, two local campuses have called upon a true icon of the business....This past week, jazz band students at Santa Monica High School and Santa Monica College began collaboration with Stanley Clarke, a standard-bearer for jazz bass during his 50-year career. Clarke’s impeccable skill with both acoustic and electric bass has sold out shows across the globe, and has earned the veteran countless accolades. The 4-time Grammy Award winner recently reached an agreement with BroadStage for a 3-year residency, which includes mentorship opportunities with SMC and Samohi students....”

e. **“Samohi Pit Orchestra Wins Jerry Herman Award”**

9/20/23 – SMMUSD News Release

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/domain/2939/2023-24/PR-JHermanAwardSamohi092023.pdf>

“Congratulations to the Santa Monica High School (Samohi) Musical Theatre Pit Orchestra on winning the prestigious 2023 Jerry Herman Award for Best Orchestra in a high school musical, outshining their competition from 33 Los Angeles high schools....”

f. **“Diverse Dance Program Gets Students Grooving” (Ballet Folklorico)**

9/11/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/09/11/diverse-dance-program-gets-students-grooving/>

g. **“SMMUSD Mariachi Classes for Grade 5-12”**

9/5/23 – *SMMUSD news release*

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/domain/2939/2023-24/MariachiClasses23-24.pdf>

h. **“SMMUSD Folklorico Dance Classes -- Grades 3-5”**

8/28/23 -- *SMMUSD news release*

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/domain/2939/2023-24/FolkloricoDanceClassesGrades3-5.pdf>

i. **“Malibu Middle and High School Musicians Earn Top Honors and Awards at Music in the Parks Festival”**

6/29/23 – *Malibu Times*

<https://malibutimes.com/?s=Malibu+Middle+and+High+School+Musicians+Earn+Top+Honors+and+Awards+at+Music+in+the+Parks+Festival>

j. **“Samohi Seniors Advocate for Art”**

6/10/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/06/10/seniors-advocate-for-art/>



k. **“Maestro, Mahler, and a New York Philharmonic Moment”**

5/22/23 – *New York Times*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/20/arts/music/review-gustavo-dudamel-new-york-philharmonic-classical-music.html?searchResultPosition=1>

“Ryan Roberts (Samohi alum), on English horn, played with his usual flawless poetry...”

l. **“Teacher Spotlight: Carla Bowman-Smith, Inspiring Malibu High’s Future Generation of Artists and Photographers”**

5/18/23 -- SMMUSD press release

<https://www.smmusd.org/cms/lib/CA50000164/Centricity/Domain/2939/2022-23/PR-CarlaBowman-SmithTeacherSpotlight.pdf>

“Bowman-Smith is MHS’s visual and performing arts department chair and teaches Digital Design 1, 2 and 3, yearbook, advance placement (AP) studio art 2D, as well as Photography 1, 2 and 3...”

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

8:50 PM – **Public comments regarding items not on the agenda** -- Members of the audience may address the DAC on items not on the meeting’s agenda. The Brown Act states that Committee members may not engage in discussion of issues raised, except to ask clarifying questions or to refer the matter to staff.

8:55 PM – **Agenda planning for the November meeting** – Dr. Devon Smith to discuss how the existing VAPA programs will be integrated into the Academies and the CTE pathways involving Arts, Media, & Entertainment

9:00 PM – **Announcements and adjournment**