

Visual & Performing Arts District Advisory Committee (VAPA DAC)

Wednesday, January 24, 2024 – 7 PM – in-person

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

Visitor parking for 1717 4th Street is available underground in spaces marked “SMMUSD.” Take the elevator to the lobby, turn left, and go to the board room.

The code to exit the parking lot will be provided at the meeting.

AGENDA

VAPA DAC roster for 2023-24 and when the 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

7:00 PM – Call to order and welcome

7:05 -- Approve minutes from the October 2023 meeting. (on page 7)

7:10 PM -- Calendar review

- Board of Ed meetings: February 1 and 15
<https://www.smmusd.org/domain/2977>
- VAPA DAC meetings:
February 21, 2024
April 24, 2024
May 22, 2024

REPORTS

7:15 PM -- Administrator Co-Chairperson

7:20 PM – Staff Liaison and VAPA Coordinator -- Tom Whaley

7:40 PM -- Board of Education Liaisons – Maria Leon-Vazquez and

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (per the DAC Charge)

8:00 PM – VAPA DAC draft charge for 2023-24:

- *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. DAC Mid-Year Report – Review and approve.

*From Sarah Wahrenbrock on December 12: The DAC mid-year written reports, which appear under “Information” in a board meeting agenda, typically appear on a February agenda. Agenda items for 2/1/24 are due 1/18/24. If that’s not a realistic timeline for your DAC, then **items for the 2/15/24 agenda are due 2/1/24.***

2. 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/>

November overview: The California Department of Education (CDE) has published preliminary entitlement estimates for the Proposition 28: Arts & Music in Schools (AMS) program for Fiscal Year 2023–24.

-Estimates for school sites and local education agencies:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/pa/prop28ams.asp>

*-AMS payments to local educational agencies will begin to flow monthly through the **Principal Apportionment** starting in February 2024.*

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/pa/>

3. 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."*

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

4. SMMUSD proposal for the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium -- follow-up

a. "Santa Monica Conservancy Nominates Civic Auditorium to National Register of Historic Places: Opens Door for Additional Preservation Incentives" -- <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Conservancy-Nominates-Civic-Auditorium-to-National-Register-of-Historic-Places.html?soid=1130784619347&aid=03-QZbHnZ7k>

b. The California Housing and Community Development Department has officially certified the City's compliance with the Surplus Land Act for the Civic Auditorium site. The city can now consider proposals for the site from any interested party.

c. On January 5, the City formalized a process seeking qualified suitors to lease, restore, and operate the Civic with an announcement calling for experienced entertainment and operating entities to submit letters of intent by January 31. As a part of that process, community engagement plans must also be submitted.

5. SMMUSD facility bond measures – <https://www.smmusd.org/domain/4170>

1998 – Measure X (\$42 million – improvements at all school sites) and statewide Prop 1a (\$40 million – for high schools only – Restore Barnum Hall, redo the Samohi Music Building, build an auditorium at Malibu High, etc.)

2006 – Measure BB -- \$268 million

2012 -- Measure ES -- \$385 million

2018 – Measure M (Malibu only) -- \$195 million

2018 – Measure SMS (Santa Monica only) -- \$485 million

6. Upcoming performances and art exhibits:

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. Media coverage:

Opinion: “The Musical Gift L.A. Offers Public School Kids” – Kris Bowers

1/12/24 – *Los Angeles Times*

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2024-01-12/music-education-los-angeles-school-district-instruments-schools>

“It came as a surprise to me that Los Angeles is one of the last big cities in the U.S. to provide public school students with free musical instruments....Despite all the studies that show students engaged in the arts are not only more likely to excel academically but also to develop creativity, confidence, and collaboration, getting funding for the arts has been an uphill battle....Amid a global pandemic and a mental health crisis, there is the legitimate worry that we are raising a ‘lost generation.’ Is music the answer?

We know that schools with music programs have higher attendance rates than schools without, and a substantially higher graduation rate compared with nonmusical schools. Studies have shown that students who start music education before the age of 8 are more hopeful about the future. High school students taking music courses score significantly higher in math and science than their nonmusical peers. Students in lower-income communities with music education score higher on standardized tests.

And as the world becomes increasingly chaotic and fractured, young people need an outlet for their feelings now more than ever. Something to make sense of the tangled thoughts and tightly wound sensations that can’t be put into words. Grief and joy and confusion and hope that can only be expressed with a bow across strings or the vibration of a wet reed. Kids need healthy outlets. They need music....”

Samohi Choral Performance Pack in Barnum Hall (photos)

12/22/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/12/22/choral-performance-packs-in-barnum-hall/>

Bands Bring Lincoln Middle School Community Back for More (photos)

12/18/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/12/18/band-brings-lincoln-community-back-for-more/>

Samohi Orchestras Kick Off Week of Winter Music Shows (photos)

12/14/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/12/14/orchestra-kicks-off-week-of-winter-music-shows/>

Stanley Clarke Becomes BroadStage Artist-in-Residence

11/7/23 – *Bass Magazine*

<https://bassmagazine.com/stanley-clarke-becomes-broadstage-artist-in-residence/>

Four-time GRAMMY® Award-winning bassist, recording artist, and composer Stanley Clarke is partnering with BroadStage as its Artist in Residence. This multi-year partnership includes performances, curation, and mentorship for Santa Monica College Music Department and **Santa Monica High School Jazz students....**”

Exhibit Shines Spotlight on Samohi Artists (photos)

12/11/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/12/11/exhibit-shines-spotlight-on-samohi-artists/>

“The Art Department is undetected no longer, as locals flocked to the Samohi Roberts Art Gallery on Dec. 7 for the Samohi Spotlight Exhibit....”

SMMUSD to Host Series of Holiday Concerts

12/5/23 – *Santa Monica Mirror*

<https://smmirror.com/2023/12/smmusd-to-host-series-of-holiday-concerts-and-events/>

“Community Spotlight”

11/30/23 – *Malibu Times*

“Congratulations to the Malibu High School students for delivering a delightful midwinter night’s dream last month with their holiday play ‘Almost, Maine.’”

Photos of Stanley Clarke with the Samohi Jazz Band

11/2/23 – *What’s Happening at BroadStage*

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/9722859423? x zm rtaid=6thiP0m8TA6eCmMXj7fcMQ.1698963778406.34f755e00d37b7f967c20677c9c45a4c& x zm rhtaid=553#success>

A ‘Foreign’ Offering for Samohi Fall Play

10/26/23 – *Santa Monica Daily Press*

<https://smdp.com/2023/10/26/a-foreign-offering-for-samohi-fall-play/>

“The NY Philharmonic Welcomes Back an Old Friend” – (Samohi alum)

10/20/23 – *New York Times*

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/10/20/arts/music/new-york-philharmonic-david-robertson-review.html?searchResultPosition=1>

“David Robertson’s.... name has been raised from time to time over the years as a potential music director of the New York Philharmonic....Those big grins from players across the stage — not to mention their committed, warm performances — made the musicians’ feelings clear.”

“Malibu High Choir Members Sing ‘Hits from the Decades’”

10/23/23 – *Malibu Times*

<https://malibutimes.com/malibu-high-choir-members-sing-hits-from-the-decades>

Opinion: “We’ve Crowded Music out of Children’s Lives” –

Inna Faliks, UCLA School of Music -- 10/21/23 – *Los Angeles Times*

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2023-10-21/pianos-gone-no-time-music-children-schools>

“Classical music is losing audiences because of its perceived elitism. I believe this stems from the lack of early music education in schoolsHearing music in childhood can be a game-changer for them....”

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

8:45 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.

8:50 PM – **Agenda planning for the February 21 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

8:55 PM -- **Announcements**

9:00 PM – **Adjournment**

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.
