

**DGN Friends of Fine Arts Meeting**  
**November 14th, 2023**  
**7:00 pm**  
**Downers Grove North Alumni Room**

**Members in Attendance:** S. Farrero, J. Gwozdz, J. Kinnavy, M. Heinz, A. Heer, J. O'Reilly, J. McNamara, G. Wych, M. Heinz, K. Donat, J. VanHoutan, B. Cook, A. Heer, C. Waden, H. Pleune, J. Smith, A. Mozes

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - Z. Irvin called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. All members introduced themselves. Everyone shared a word that the fine arts means to them: health, escapism, balance, inclusion, expression, therapy for the soul, community, essential, happiness, comfort, fun, caffeine, heart, opportunity, empowerment, calm
2. **President's Report** - Z. Irvin reported that fundraising efforts of FOFA and our mission of "connections" are all of the words we shared. New and old fundraisers are underway and we are in the process of streamlining the Casten grants and exploring new platforms for payments.
3. **Approval of Minutes** - November meeting minutes approved by all members present J. Gwozdz 1st and J. Kinnavy 2nd the motion.
4. **Teacher's Reports**
  - i. **Jamie O'Reilly** - Our new theater teacher introduced herself and her love of theater. She previously taught in Colorado and is thrilled to be here at DGN.
  - ii. **Gina Wych** - Mosaic is tomorrow. The art show has been installed in the lobby and is impressive. Online ticketing is going well thus far. Donation link also on ticket form to help fund a "Mosaic fund". 11 students achieved an all state ranking for ILMEA.
  - iii. **Jessen Smith** - Thanked FOFA for clinician support. Reported a positive response from students. He is looking to bring more clinicians into the classroom. Jazz ensemble concert at Venue went well. NIU Jazz is coming up, Purdue jazz festival will be coming up in January as well. Mosaic will have all three concert bands represented. Pep band will be starting up and Alumni night will be next week. Jr. High pep band night will be January 9th and FOFA will provide pizza.
  - iv. **Ariel Mozes** - Licensing for Six has been obtained with a target production date of this spring. We would be the 2nd school in the state to produce the show. Fundraising is being developed including a "Shellabration" the week before the Little Mermaid show. Students will be involved. DGN does not receive ticket sales from musicals and plays, this money goes directly to the district. As a result, fundraising needs to be separate from ticket sales. Six will not have a live band. Likely 13

students will be cast and there will be ensemble roles. Licensing fees are \$4800 and the license is for a specific time. A. Mozes would like for the show to be held in the auditorium. Mark Mirandola is the activities director and can be contacted if we have questions or comments about adding a Saturday 2:00pm matinee to the Little Mermaid at 2:00 on the 16th. We are also creating a theater showcase in February where ticket prices will be able to offset costs of Six. The showcase fundraiser dates would be the 9th and 10th with 3 shows.

- v. **Z. Irvin** introduced the need for a motion. Motion was made to discuss budgeting of \$4500 for support of Six. Motion approved 1st by S. Farreo and 2nd by J. Van Houtan. Discussion ensued among all members present. Motion made to approve funds of \$4500 to support production of Six were made 1st H. Pleune, 2nd J. Van Houtan. All present approved. Z. Irvin will notify A. Mozes of approval.

#### 5. Updates

- a. **Hospitality/Volunteers** - Tri-M students are signing up to help at FOFA events and they are getting hours. Help is needed to feed students between Mosaic. Clean up as well. January needs include pep band and scholastic art show.
- b. **Fundraising - J. Van Houtan** - \$1,300 raised at Bingo Night. Sales information from Bubble House is incoming and will be added to this total.
- c. **Dessert Showcase - J Van Houtan** - First sponsorship has come in for \$750. Help is needed to distribute letters requesting donations.

#### 6. New Business

- a. **Nominating Committee - Z. Irvin** reported that FOFA needs to fill positions of a treasurer, secretary and other open board positions. We will discuss this at a meeting in January.

- 7. **Adjournment** - C. Waden 1st to motion, M. Heinz 2nd motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Our next meeting date is to be determined in January 2024 in the Alumni Room

Respectfully submitted by Heather Pleune