

**Board Meeting Agenda**  
**Monday, October 28, 6:00 pm, DCM Offices**

Board Business:

Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. Attending: Gigi Devanney, Evelyn Spratt, Jennifer Palinkas, Mary Bekker, Gary Ballinger, Heather Jennings, Kait Weber, Sarah Brown, Hans Nelson, Meighan Winner

- Next meeting: Jan. 6 6 p.m.
- Review prior meeting minutes

Public Session

- Ballet Chesapeake is seeking sponsorships for the season and for program ads for the Nutcracker and Sleeping Beauty. The cut-off for program ads for Nutcracker is Nov. 15.
- Solicitations were sent out for annual giving. The database includes alumni, previous donors, local organizations, and those with a relationship with Ballet Chesapeake. There is also a QR code this year for donations.
- Previous year grant amounts were FY23 \$20,487, FY 24 \$11,000. The paperwork was submitted for the Maryland Arts Council grants, which included three years of financial statements.
- Nutcracker school shows are much lower this year -- 180 kids for the first of two shows, 130 for the second show. We are seeking more attendees through advertising with paper mailing and email. The date falls on an early dismissal date for Harford County which is probably the cause of lower attendance. There are two new schools attending and two homeschool cohorts. Thursday evening there were 50 tickets sold, and we can sell at the door on that evening. We were unable to get the cookies from Harford Tech for the tea party as planned because of the early dismissal. Nutcracker tickets are on sale in mid-November. An administrative change at Towson University was causing delays in responses to inquiries about the ticket sales, but it is in the signed contract that we must have ticket sales start 30 days before the show.
- Board members are reminded to pay their dues for this season.
- Children's cast auditions for Sleeping Beauty will be Jan. 4. The audition has been announced to other studios and on social media.
- Ballet Chesapeake will once again have a Broom's Bloom Nutcracker flavor as a fundraiser and to increase awareness about the performance.

Executive Session

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.