

# Durham Cultural Advisory Board

## AGENDA

**Wednesday, January 21, 2026**

**3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

**Location: Zoom**

For meeting link or information, please email [dcab@durhamnc.gov](mailto:dcab@durhamnc.gov)  
at least one day prior to the meeting date. To learn more about how to join the meeting,  
visit: <https://durhamnc.gov/452/Durham-Cultural-Advisory-Board>.

### Durham Cultural Advisory Board Members

Javiera Caballero, At-Large City Council Member	Barbara Lau
Karim Baer	David Long
Curtis Berzofsky, Student Member	Joey G. Medrano
Pamela Bond	Margaret McNab, Vice-Chair
Emily Ensminger	Andrew Nurkin
Robert S. Frawley	Laura Ritchie
Santos Flores	Aya Shabu
Joseph Jordan, Chair	Vanessa Smart

- I. **Call to Order & Guest Introductions** (3:00 p.m. - 3:05 p.m.; 5 minutes)
- II. **Adjustments to the Agenda**
- III. **Public Questions** (3:05 – 3:10 p.m.; 5 minutes)
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** (3:10 – 3:15 p.m.; 5 minutes)
  - a. December 2025 Meeting Minutes
    - i. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice-Chair)*
- V. **Old Business** (3:15 – 3:25 p.m.; 10 minutes)
  - a. Durham Cultural Roadmap
  - b. City Updates
    - i. ARPA ILA with City and County (St. Joseph’s Historic Foundation & Cultural Roadmap)
    - ii. FY27 Festival RFP Next Steps Review in February Meeting
  - c. County Updates
- VI. **New Business** (3:25 – 4:25 p.m.; 60 minutes)
  - a. Festival Research Presentation Durham Next (3:25 – 3:50 p.m.; 25 minutes)
    - i. *Presenters: City Staff*

- b. By-Laws Vote & County Membership (3:50 – 4:00 p.m.; 10 minutes)
    - i. Consideration of amendment reference DCAB elections in the DCAB By-Laws
    - ii. County Member Application Process Updates
    - iii. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
  - c. City Council Presentation, 2025 Year in Review, Annual Report Review (4:00 – 4:05 p.m.; 5 minutes)
    - i. *Presenters: City Staff*
  - d. Retreat Planning: Joint DCAB & PAC Retreat (4:05 – 4:20 p.m.; 15 minutes)
    - i. Potential meeting dates doodle poll
    - ii. Recruitment of members
    - iii. Discussion of Retreat Topics
      1. One/two organizations Presenter (Grantees, Non-profits, Quasi-Gov't)
      2. How Staff Support DCAB
      3. City Council, County Commissioners presenters
      4. Goal Adoption for 2026
      5. Conflict of Interest
    - iv. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
  - e. DCAB's Community Connections (4:20 – 4:25 p.m.; 5 minutes)
    - i. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
- VII. **Adjournment** (4:30 p.m.)
- I. Next Steps, Final Thoughts and Closeout (4:25 – 4:30 p.m.; 5 minutes)
    - I. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
  - II. Next meeting:
    - I. Date: February 18, 2026
    - II. Location: TBD
    - III. Time: 3:00 – 4:30 PM
      - I. FY27 Festival RFP Next Steps Review in February Meeting (30+ minutes)
      - II. 2026 Goal Development (30+ minutes)
      - III. Poet Laureate Check-In (5 minutes)
      - IV. City & County Budget Timelines (5 minutes)
      - V. ARPA Training Topics (CRM)
      - VI. County Member Application Vote

For updates on City of Durham's Cultural & Public Art Program, visit:  
<https://www.durhamnc.gov/450/Cultural-Public-Art-Development>

For updates on Durham County's Public Art Program, visit:  
<https://www.dconc.gov/county-departments/departments-a-e/engineering-and-environmental-services/dco-public-art>

#### Documents

- DCAB's 2026 Calendar
- DCAB Acting Tasks Forces, Committees, and Groups
- DCAB's 2025 Goals

- FY25 Festival & Special Event Contracting Status Report

### **2026 Calendar - Upcoming DCAB's Monthly Meetings in 2026**

Annual 2026 Winter Retreat  
In-person, Location & Time TBD

March 18, 2026  
Durham County Building, 201 East Main St, Durham, NC 27704

April 15, 2026  
City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC 27701

May 20, 2026  
City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC 27701

June 17, 2026  
Virtual

### **Durham Cultural Advisory Boards Standing Committees, Task Forces, and Groups**

#### **Festivals & Special Events Standing Committee**

1. Joseph Jordan
2. Margaret McNab
3. Andrew Nurkin
4. Laura Ritchie

#### **Student Recruitment Task Force**

1. Pamela Bond
2. David Long
3. Aya Shabu

## **2025 DCAB Goals**

### **DCAB's Goals**

As of 2023, DCAB adopted priorities to shape and inform the year ahead, with specific focus on the Durham Cultural Roadmap. Based on inputs from board members, staff, and elected officials, DCAB established the following priorities:

- Advocate for more city and county funding and support for arts and culture in Durham
- Support the implementation of a new Cultural Roadmap
- Strengthen and improve relationships with artists, arts and cultural organizations, communities, neighborhoods, and people of Durham.
- Support and strengthen the work of the Public Art Committee

DCAB also adopted the following as core values to guide their work:

- DCAB will act as stewards of the Durham Poet Laureate program.
- DCAB defines historically excluded communities as any group of people (by gender, ability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other identity) who have been or are currently underrepresented either numerically, systemically, in ways of power, in positions of authority, or in adequacy of resources in Durham's arts and cultural social structures.

### **DCAB's Identified Future Needs**

- Continued engagement by City and County leadership, residents, and community leaders throughout the planning process to robustly inform the Durham Cultural Roadmap.
- Budgeted investment in FY25 to support the Durham Cultural Roadmap's identified goals, initiatives and strategies, throughout plan's initial implementation.
- Partnerships and alignment with all City and County departments working in the arts & cultural sector.
- Poet Laureate honorarium increases to align with a living wage and to match similar peer cities' poet laureate programs.
- Increasing staff to implement adopted Durham Cultural Roadmap's goals.
- With assistance from the Public Art Committee, define best practices for public art & private development in the updated Unified Development Ordinance

**FY25 RFP for Festival & Special Event Contracting Status Updates.**

Total Economic Impact: \$8,559,527

Total Tax Revenue: \$683,892

Total Audience: 136,657

Local Tax: \$238,101

# of Artists/Performers: 1,633

State Tax: \$444,791

Estimated amount organizations spent on services, goods, and full-time employees, in addition to audience members' spending while attending the events. Estimated with the assistance of Discover Durham, or through the Arts & Economic Prosperity calculator available through the Americans for the Arts. Data reported reflects 20 of the 22 events funded.

**Outstanding Deliverable Reports**

Organization	Festival	FY25 Final	Due
St Joseph's Historic Foundation, Inc.	Hayti Heritage Film Festival	\$17,596.40	2/3/2026
St Joseph's Historic Foundation, Inc.	CELEBRATE HAYTI!	\$18,568.40	2/3/2026

**Contracts Closed**

American Dance Festival Inc., FY25 American Dance Festival

Association for the Preservation of the Eno River Valley, Inc., FY2025 Festival for the Eno

Be Connected Durham & Beyond, Inc., Hayti Legacy Kwanzaa

Be Connected Durham & Beyond, Inc., Annual Durham Juneteenth Week: Unified by Our Pride

Book Harvest, 2025 Dream Big Book Drive and Community Celebration / 2025 Summer Block Party

Boston Urban Music Project, Inc, Slingshot

Duke University, Full Frame Documentary Film Festival

Durham Arts Council, Inc., Centerfest

Durham Central Park, Inc., PLAYlist Concert Series

Durham Public Schools Foundation, 13th Annual Durham School of Arts Fall Art Festival: Dia de los Muertos

Durham Symphony, Inc., Voices of the Unarmed: Justice, Love, Resilience

Get Happy, Beats n Bars Festival

Liberty Arts Inc., Iron Pour

North Carolina Folklife Institute, Fandango de Durham

Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice, Grand Opening

The Carolina Theatre of Durham, Inc., OUTSOUTH Queer Film Festival

The LGBTQ Center of Durham, Inc., Pride: Durham, NC

Triangle Cultural Awareness Foundation, 20th Annual NC Juneteenth Celebration

Unmanageable, Biscuits & Banjos Festival

Unmanageable, Missy Lane's Block Party