

Durham Cultural Advisory Board

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

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

Location: Zoom

For meeting link or information, please email 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 Wynn Ensminger	Andrew Nurkin
Santos Flores	Laura Ritchie
R. Scott Frawley	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. January 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - i. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice-Chair)*
- V. **Old Business** (3:15 – 3:35 p.m.; 20 minutes)
 - a. City Updates
 - i. ARPA ILA with City and County
 1. St. Joseph’s Historic Foundation
 2. Cultural Roadmap’s ARPA Funding & Topics (written report)
 - ii. City & County Budget Timelines (written report)
 - b. County Updates
 - c. Durham Cultural Roadmap (written report)
 - d. Poet Laureate (5 minutes)
 - i. *Presenter: Chris Vitiello, Durham Poet Laureate*

- VI. **New Business** (3:30 – 4:25 p.m.; 55 minutes)
- a. FY27 Festival RFP Changes Presentation (3:25 – 3:50 p.m.; 25 minutes)
 - i. *Presenters: City Staff, Annette Smith*
 - b. Governance: By-Laws Vote (3:50 – 3:55 p.m.; 5 minutes)
 - i. ACTION: To vote to adopt the amendment reference DCAB elections in the DCAB By-Laws.
 - ii. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
 - c. Governance: County Membership Vote (3:55 – 4:10 p.m.; 15 minutes)
 - i. Goal Review & Current Members' skill sets
 - ii. County Member Applications Review
 - iii. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
 - d. Governance: DCAB Advocacy Subcommittee (4:10-4:25; 15 minutes)
 - i. County Member Applications Review
 - ii. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
 - e. Reminders on Joint DCAB & PAC Retreat
 - i. Lunch served will be served from 12:45 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.
 - ii. Call to Order: meeting starts at 1:20 pm with informal lunch and discussion until 1:45 p.m.
 - iii. Topics include Listening Sessions from Grantees, Non-profits, and Public Art Committee. Goal: To hear directly from Arts and Cultural organizations to be more informed advocates, especially in light of sustainability and future planning.
 - f. 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.)
- a. Next Steps, Final Thoughts and Closeout (4:25 – 4:30 p.m.; 5 minutes)
 - i. *Presenters: Jordan (Chair), McNab (Vice Chair)*
 - b. Next meeting:
 - i. Date: March 18, 2026
 - ii. Location: Durham County Building II, 201 East Main Street, Room 461, Durham, NC 27701
 - iii. Time: 3:00 – 4:30 PM
 - 1. Conflict of Interest
 - 2. Recruitment of members
 - 3. Goal Discussion & Adoption for 2026

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 Joint Retreat with Durham Cultural Advisory Board & Public Art Committee
Friday, February 27, 2026 (1:00 – 5:00 pm)
Southlabs at the Museum of Life & Science, 433 West Murray Avenue, Durham, NC 27704

March 18, 2026 (3:00 – 4:30 pm)
Durham County Building, 201 East Main St, Durham, NC 27704

April 15, 2026 (3:00 – 4:30 pm)
City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC 27701

May 20, 2026 (3:00 – 4:30 pm)
City Hall, 101 City Hall Plaza, Durham, NC 27701

June 17, 2026 (3:00 – 4:30 pm)
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

Advocacy Group (Pending)

1. Barbara Lau
2. Karim Baer
3. Laura Ritchie
4. Margaret McNab
5. Joseph Jordan

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

FY25 RFP for Festival & Special Event Contracting Status Updates

19 contracts are under review by the City Attorney's office.

4 Contracts are submitted for execution by the Director/City Manager.

10 Contracts are included in an agenda item scheduled to be considered by the City Council on 3/16/26. These contracts are for events that occurred before February 1, 2026. State law requires that the contracts be ratified by the City Council before execution.