

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, LOUISIANA STATE MUSEUM (LSM)
NEW ORLEANS JAZZ MUSEUM AT THE OLD US MINT
400 ESPLANADE AVENUE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2025
11:00AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Ballay, Nick Mueller, Suzanne Perlis, Wendy Lodrig.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bunnie Canon

LSM STAFF PRESENT: Becky Mackie, Cody Scallions, Claire Mulhollem, Kathryn Trevino, Nicole Coleman.
A quorum was present.

1. **Call to Order** – Suzanne Perlis called the meeting to order at 11:02 am.
2. **Adoption of the Agenda** – Lisa Ballay motioned to adopt the agenda. Nick Mueller seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
3. **Adoption of the Minutes** – There was no adoption of minutes as this was the committee's first meeting.
4. **Welcome and Introduction** – Committee members and staffed introduced themselves, highlighting their backgrounds and roles within the museum community. Becky also informed the committee that Cody Scallions would be an excellent liaison for the programs taking place outside the New Orleans area.
5. **Discussion of Education Committee Charter** – Wendy Lodrig provided an overview of the proposal to add two additional committees. She also explained the purpose of the one-page charter document which outlines the role and responsibilities of each committee.

Suzanne Perlis- expressed that she feels the current draft of the charter is strong, though it may require some adjustments over time. She also supported including a fundraising component in the mission statement, noting that it could help staff and funding partners more effectively identify and secure resources. Becky Mackie will follow up with Julia George Moore to determine how the fundraising component can be appropriately defined, whether it fits within the charter, and how best to incorporate a statement into the mission that supports staff and fundraising partners in identifying resources to promote and sustain the museum's educational programs. Additionally, Suzanne stated that the first Wednesday of every other month at 11:00 AM works well as a regular meeting time.

Wendy Lodrig – asked if the wording under the Composition section could be revised to replace "Louisiana State Board" with "Louisiana State Museum Board," and to use the abbreviation LSM consistently throughout the document. She also recommended tailoring the mission statement to specifically reflect the purpose and goals of the Education Committee. Becky Mackie stated that these edits will be made in preparation for the next Education Committee meeting. Additionally, Wendy informed the board that Bunnie will be driving from Baton Rouge and that her ability to assist with other committee tasks may depend on her schedule.

Wendy Lodrig motioned that the agenda reflects discussion of the Education Committee Charter. Nick Mueller seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

6. **Roles and Responsibilities** – Suzanne Perlis stated she would like to see the committee roles as more of an overall support group for the staff—helping with coordination and communication between different museums and staying informed about what's happening across the wider museum network.

Becky Mackie – discussed the possibility of identifying a funding partner for K–12 educational initiatives to accompany each exhibit. She also provided an overview of the Jazz Museum's current programming, highlighting the broad range of public programs funded through the Louisiana Museum Foundation. Looking ahead, she requested that either Greg Lambousy or Lisa McClendon attend future meetings to ensure that a representative from the Jazz Museum's educational programming is present.

- a. **Student engagement-** partnerships with the local schools, and a lot of hands-on music and activities with students.
- b. **Public private partnerships-** these include collaborations with local musicians with a focus on community engagement. They serve as a way to involve musicians in the public programming offered at the New Orleans Jazz Museum. (Balcony Concert, Master Classes, Drum Clinics, etc.)
- c. **Jazz International Program** – This program facilitates the participation of local musicians in international festivals, enhancing cultural exchange and global exposure. Funding for these programs comes from grants and local foundations. The program aims to promote New Orleans' rich musical heritage while providing local artists with opportunities to perform on international stages. We will bring the Jazz International Report, which is prepared for the Lieutenant Governor, to the next meeting.

This year, for the first time, we are offering music enthusiasts the opportunity to join us in the festival in Orléans, France.

Kathryn Trevino discussed the role of Friends of the Cabildo (FOC) in engaging the public through the museum. She highlighted FOC's efforts in offering a variety of educational initiatives, including Spanish heritage programs and docent-led tours that provide visitors with in-depth knowledge of the museum's exhibits and historical context.

Sensory Friendly programs are specifically designed to create inclusive, accessible experiences for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Each event typically costs around \$5,000, which covers materials, staffing, and activities for over 100 participants across two sessions. However, due to recent funding limitations, the program has not been able to continue.

The Creative Aging program is an eight-week series designed for adults aged 55 and older, with weekly three-hour sessions. The class consistently reaches its 20-person capacity, primarily through word-of-mouth promotion, reflecting strong community interest and engagement.

Cody Scallions discussed current and upcoming programming at the Capitol Park Museum. He highlighted initiatives led by the new Education Curator, which are designed to engage both K–12 students and adult audiences, enhancing learning experiences at the museum. He emphasized the museum's collaborations with local schools and cruise lines to offer workshops and tours

that align with curriculum standards and visitor interests. Additionally, Cody noted the importance of utilizing visitor feedback to shape future program development. He also provided an update on the various Friends groups at the regional museums and their support efforts.

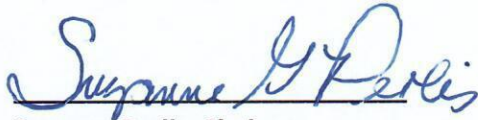
Suzanne Perlis suggests that the Education Committee should present a report on the excellent programs currently underway at the upcoming LSM Board Meeting.

7. **Open Discussion Q & A** – Wendy Lodrig expressed her encouragement for all committees to include advisory members, perhaps one or two individuals who are either known personally or who were not appointed to the full board this year due to limited openings. This approach would help keep those individuals involved while they wait for a formal appointment slot to become available.

Becky Mackie stated that, moving forward, Kristin Shannon of the Louisiana Museum Foundation will be invited to attend Education Committee meetings. Anise Fiello will also be invited to participate and provide updates on initiatives being pursued from a grant perspective with the next meeting being October 1, 2025 at 11AM.

8. **Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 12:22 PM.

Minutes Accepted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Suzanne Perlis", written over a horizontal line.

Suzanne Perlis, Chair