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## Arts & Culture Committee

Committee Meeting - Virtual

Monday, December 13th 2021 – 6:30 PM

Hon. George Harrell, Chair

Hon. Jerika Richardson, Vice Chair

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/95177744111> Dial In: [Meeting Folder](#)

### MINUTES

Committee Members in Attendance: George Harrell, Dr. Maurice Franklin, Kamaria Milford, Shadawn Smith, Shanelle Washington and Wilma Brown

Other Board Members Present: Deneane Brown, Derek Perkinson, Dominick Boyce and CB10 Chair Kimberly McLaurin CB10

Staff: District Manager Shatic Mitchell and Community Assistant Jasmin Heatley

Community Members: See full attendance list.

### DISCUSSION

#### **1. Harlem for profit and nonprofit cultural arts institutions**

1. The Classical Theatre of Harlem. Presenter Ty Jones. This Company has been around since 1999 is known for the Production of Uptown Shakespeare in the Park held every July. This upcoming summer's budget will be approximately 1.5 million dollars. Despite some of the challenges and demands of Marcus Garvey Park, production of a new play (the 12 Night) is in the makes. Ty Jones Contact information [ty@cthnyc.org](mailto:ty@cthnyc.org) and 347-688-6304 The Skirball Center for the Performing Arts will be down by NYU transferring production. March 3- 13 of next year. Please contact us if you want to check out the show.
2. The National Black Theatre (125 Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Ave) - Presenter Sade Lythcott (CEO) and Michael Lythcott (NBT Board Chair) Founded in 1968 is the oldest black theatre ran in the all of New York with the yearly operating

budget of about 3 million. The building has been torn down however they are currently rebuilding the theatre which will also include affordable housing for artists. Their 54<sup>th</sup> season will start off at the Schomburg in January then the Apollo on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

3. Harlem Network News- Presenter Terri Wisdom. Founded during the pandemic HNN was created to give African Americans an outlet to get information regarding Covid and other concerning factors within the community.
4. WBLS-FM, VP National & Community Partnerships-Presenter Skip Dillard. In 2008-2018 Skip programmed WBLS and gospel, WLIB then transferred to the sales marketing side. A few weeks ago he began working with Odyssey that flipped a station to urban music which was formerly New York's country station 94.7. Over the years Skip has given up and coming artist opportunities they would have not been able to get otherwise.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Harlem Talent Initiative is getting ready to start up and will be partnering with Clean Money Music. There's 12 artists working with the organization that really understand lyrics. They're up and coming artists that understand lyrical content and how powerful they can be. These artists are interested in boosting the company and bringing positivity to our community.

## **III. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. Aleathia Brown, Founder, Aleathia's Original Arts- is a visual artist that is starting a residency from her home. Turning the camera on herself will give others the chance to see the process instead of just the outcome. The purpose is to inform other artists and give people the opportunity to engage. She's producing a virtual online class with Girls Night Live on January 13 called Inner Circle. Aleathia also has a three wall mural on 146 Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. called I Am Harlem.
2. Michael Green, the Producer and Director for the Shades of Truth Theatre does a lot of nontraditional theatre in nontraditional spaces across the tristate. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year providing the entertainment for the Greater Allen Cathedral in Queens for their King Holiday celebration. This year's production is called A Different Kind of King, which is being held on January 17<sup>th</sup>. On January 26 there will be a screening at the Queens Library. He's also having a virtual screening of a production at the Good Shepard Church in Vermont which will also be on January 26 called I Dare to Be Me about Barbara Jordan.
3. Please go see the film A Journal for Jordan and Westside Stories.

## **IV. ADJOURNMENT**