



DRAFT

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 10, 2022 | 5:30 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89381396394?pwd=QnZQK09GT25KbnJ3azNmZlpZU29Hdz09>
Meeting ID: 893 8139 6394
Passcode: 745708

Attendees (virtual): Chair E. Marie Sissle, Haiqiong Deng, Dan Taylor, Kati Schardl
COCA Staff: Kathleen Spehar

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sissle at 5:34 pm. Chair Sissle welcomed new committee members Dan Taylor and Kati Schardl. Minutes from the August 27th meeting were reviewed. Kati moved to approve and Dan seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting moved to discussion of the Creating Spaces initiative the committee is creating. E Marie provided background. These in-person meetings are designed for organizations not familiar with COCA. The goal is to increase access for organizations currently not using COCA services, along with learning more about sector needs. Outreach would focus on BIPOC and access organizations. This campaign can be titled CREATING SPACES. The committee will think of individual artists and organizations to contact. They'll work with staff to help with any follow-up for individuals and organizations they contact. Other ideas included contacting local galleries who have relationships with artists and arts educators through schools, to help them refer COCA services to their colleagues.

Target organizations and events COCA needs to connect with. into what we do. E Marie shared how we do this through the grant program. Answer *Why would I invest in COCA? Why would we invest in COCA?*

What is DEI? What should it do? E Marie asked for actionable steps to get things done.

Kati asked about an identifiable list of organizations. E Marie asked the board to come up with a list. Kathleen suggested the board brainstorm names of organizations to reach out.

Organizations suggested: Essential Theatre Association (ETA); Black on Black Rhyme; Queer Tallahassee Artists Collective; Hispanic Theatre Company; Pyramid Group. E Marie expanded to asking about individuals, too. Haiqiong brought up individual musicians who present work. She asked if the organizations need to be arts & culture only, or if this could expand to others.

Announcements were made. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm. *Respectfully submitted,*
Kathleen Spehar