



## WHRO Emerging Leaders Board

Minutes - January 11, 2023

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### Attendance

**Members Present:** Black, Carter, Chen, Darrow, Gopal, Hardy, Hicks, Jones, Keene, Maggard, O'Brien, Serrano, Sobol, Tuck, White, Wiley

**WHRO Employees Present:** Rogan

**Members Absent:** Pereira, Hall

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### Summary of Meeting

#### 1. Welcome New Members!

- a. We are very happy to have you with us! It's going to be a great year.

#### 2. ELBow History

- a. Mission
- b. Google Info Sheet is available [here](#)
- c. Google Drive is available [here](#)
- d. Meetings are all in person
- e. Salons
  - i. Small, more intimate events
  - ii. Very discussion-based about topics that interest us, but also have a connection back to WHRO/Public Media
    1. Example: Women Veteran, Millennial Moms, Sealevel Rise (this one was in partnership with Wait Wait Don't Tell Me — so it was Wait Wait Don't Tell Me There's Sealevel Rise)
- f. NEON Festival
  - i. Consistently been participating in this event
  - ii. Third Thursday & Friday of October
- g. Indie Lens Pop Ups
  - i. More in item 3 below :)
- h. Signature Event
  - i. Last happened in 2018, a PBS Murder Mystery at Push Comedy Theater in NEON District in Norfolk
  - ii. This doesn't HAVE to happen again, but we can do a Signature Event

- iii. A more casually fun event
- i. Pledge volunteers
  - i. Volunteering during the pledge drive is super fun
  - ii. The next one is in February — you'll get an email from Nancy to sign up.
  - iii. Not required, but appreciated

### **3. Indie Lens — SIGN UP!**

- a. Season info [here](#) — you can also SIGN UP here.
  - i. Why don't you go in and sign up before you read any more of these minutes. We'll wait.
- b. A pop-up event to screen the Independent Lens series
  - i. Put together a panel to speak after the screening — contextualize the subject matter, relate it to our region, expand upon the ideas presented in the film, etc.
- c. This event is all about bringing the community together — so we like to take them out to various venues
- d. Upcoming:
  - i. Love in the Time of Fentanyl — 2/2/23 — location TBD
  - ii. Storming Caesar's Palace — 3/16/23 — at ForKids
  - iii. Free Chol Soo Lee — 4/20/23 — location TBD

### **4. "Play Your Heart Out" Event**

- a. Inaugural event was on Cinco de Mayo 2022 in Cova Brewing
- b. Showcase of emerging talent
- c. Not an open mic — people submitted demos and we curated
- d. Barry was our host during the event, but the emerging artists were also interviewed on his show on air

### **5. Secretary Position Election**

- a. A heartfelt thank you to Sam Black for her dedication and commitment to the position for the last year and a half. I think I speak for all of us when I say she was truly a bright spot during meetings. She will be missed (from the position; she's still on the board).
- b. Wilson Tuck gave an impassioned speech to be the next WHRO ELBO secretary. Unanimously voted into office.

### **6. Ad Hoc Committee**

- a. If anyone has a passion for photography or some ideas to get some updated pictures — and wants to coordinate — let us know!

### **7. WHRO Happenings/Station Initiatives - Nancy Rogan**

- a. The Music Library Giveaway — already sold out! 1,000 people signed up.
- b. Building out the Nonprofit journalism department/news room.
  - i. Raising funding!
  - ii. As of July, hired 2 investigative journalists
  - iii. Partnered with WTKR and iHeart radio as well
  - iv. February 8 event at Hampton Roads Community Foundation — many in the community are concerned about the state of journalism in the region
- c. Out of the Box starts at Sandler Center THIS WEEK! From now through March.

### **8. PLEASE FILL OUT THE PARKING PASSES AND PUT THEM IN YOUR CAR!**

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## **\_ ELBO Events**

### **Tam Serrano**

Cookies are PUSHED BACK!! Save your money though, because they are coming! You can get cookies during the Cookie Classic in January 14!

### **John Wiley**

Moderating Black History Month panel on the effects of racism on the mental health of students — on February 8. Downtown Norfolk Restaurant Week starts THIS Sunday! Visit [DowntownNorfolk.org](http://DowntownNorfolk.org) to see participating menus and restaurants.

### **Rachel Jones**

Currently doing some sidework in Cape Charles (a town Rachel says is worth visiting!). There are events constantly going on at their theater, such as: the Harbor String Quartet in February, Elvis impersonator at the end of February, community theatre production of Mary Poppins in May, auditions this Sunday for a one-act play coming up.

### **Sona Gopal**

Communication Board in Newport News is working on ways to get the community and younger generations excited about shipbuilding.

### **Lauren Carter**

State of the City Series (5 cities on the southside) — March 15 VB, April 6 Ches, April 14 Norfolk, April 23 Portsmouth, May 15 Suffolk. Chamber educational series happening next week focusing on LinkedIn. Runs digital marketing and internal communications for the tHRive board — there is opportunity for partnership and cross promotion here.

### **Hannah Sobol**

Working on an audio tour of historically Black neighborhoods in four cities across Virginia — accepting stories now.

### **Will White**

Free, no-cost workshops being offered all year — and Will is leading one! So you can hang out with him at The Hive for the next 40 weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays. At the end, you'll have everything that you need to get the Microsoft certification. Five 8-week sessions.

### **Rachel Keene**

Virginia Arts Festival runs their season from April-June — and they are getting ready for that season right now! Attucks Jazz series is happening now, once a month at Attucks Theatre on the second floor (which they turn into a jazz club). The next one is January 21.

**Patrick O'Brien**

MLK Concert upcoming at Calvary Revival Church, conducted by Thomas Wilkins. Electric Bass is coming up soon as well. VSO does performances all around Hampton Roads, so wherever you are, you can find a performance pretty close to you.

**Keith Darrow**

Playing Friday at Murphys starting at ~9pm or 9:30pm. Naro Video is not over! It's at ODU. Trying to get a whole section of the library dedicated to their 42k or 44k items. Events are still happening — check them out!

**Yu Chen**

If you haven't gotten your flu or COVID vaccine, please get it. Come to Yu with any questions!

**Sam Black**

Downtown Norfolk Restaurant Week starts THIS Sunday! Visit [DowntownNorfolk.org](http://DowntownNorfolk.org) to see participating menus and restaurants.

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**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be February 8. See you soon – SAME BAT-TIME, SAME BAT-CHANNEL in February.

**Upcoming meetings**

March 8, 2023

April 12, 2023

May 10, 2023

June 14, 2023

July 12, 2023 TBD

August 9, 2023 TBD

September 13, 2023

October 11, 2023

November 8, 2023

December 13, 2023 TBD New member Meet-n-Greet.