



MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 9, 2026 – 9:00 am
Rath Building 10th floor Conference Room
95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202

The Erie Arts and Cultural Advisory Board Meeting was held on Friday, January 9, 2026 at the Rath Building 10th floor Conference Room, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202, and by video conference, in accordance with NYS Open Meetings Law.

Voting Members Present:

Lila Balali
Jennifer Colwell
Michael De Freitas
Patricia Johnson
Susan Kirkpatrick
Carolyn Morris-Hunt
Gina O’Neill

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Colette Balisteri
Mariely Ortiz
Zachary Evans

No quorum present

A. Welcome & Introductions

- The Erie Arts & Cultural Advisory Board (EACAB) meeting was called to order by Acting Chair Johnson at 9:15 AM.
- The Board welcomed a new member, Gina O’Neill.

B. Chair position

- Due to a lack of quorum, this item is moved to the next meeting agenda.

C. Vice-Chair nominations

- Members will submit Vice Chair nominations via email prior to the next meeting on January 30, 2026.

D. Logo

- Due to a lack of quorum, this item is moved to the next meeting agenda.

E. 2026 Review

- Awards & Legislative Add-Ons
- Cohort data

F. 2027 Kick off

- Application changes/edits
 - i. Ms. Ortiz discussed anticipated edits to the 2027 application to include questions regarding the Erie County Comptroller Cultural Grant Monitoring Reports.

- Review/scoring changes/edits
- G. 2026 Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms
- H. Public Participation - None
- I. Next Meetings –
 - 1/30/26
 - 5/8/26
 - 7/10/26
- J. Adjournment
 - The meeting was brought to a close at 10:01 AM.