



**Regional Board Meeting**  
**September 28, 2022**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Organization of the Board
  - a. Proposal to Maintain Organizational Structure through December 31, 2022
  - b. Election of Chair/Election of Vice Chair
  - c. Appointment of Regional Board Representative to the Foundation Board
- IV. Approve Minutes: May 25, 2022
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Closed Session
- VII. Reports
  - a. Financial Report.....Dr. Cihak
    - i. Revenue
    - ii. Expenditures
  - b. School Report.....Dr. Cihak
    - i. Opening Day 2021 and Celebrations
    - ii. 2022-2023 Enrollment Update
    - iii. Recruiting and Audition Plan
    - iv. Introduction of New Staff
  - c. Foundation Report.....Foundation Representative
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- IX. New Business
  - a. Facility Expansion
  - b. Approval of Foundation Board Member(s).....Foundation Representative
- X. Items by Board Members
- XI. Adjournment



## REGIONAL BOARD MEETING

### MINUTES

The Regional Board of The Governor's School for the Arts met virtually on May 25, 2022.  
Attending the meeting were:

#### Regional Board Members In Person

Mr. Robert Holt	Franklin
Mr. Carlos Clanton	Norfolk

#### Regional Board Members Virtual

Dr. Patricia King	Chesapeake
Ms. Lorita Mayo	Suffolk
Ms. Kim Melnyck	Virginia Beach
Rev. Cardell Patillo	Portsmouth

#### Superintendents In Person

In person:	
Dr. Jared Cotton	Chesapeake
Ms. Patricia Magner, Director of Special Education	Isle of Wight
Ms. Susan Goetz, Executive Director of Leadership	Isle of Wight
Dr. Elie Bracy	Portsmouth
Dr. Nicole DeVries, Director of K-12 and Gifted Education	Virginia Beach

#### Superintendents Virtual

Dr. Sharon Byrdsong	Norfolk
Dr. Tonia Taylor, Director of Special Education	Southampton
Dr. John Gordon	Suffolk
Dr. Aaron Spence	Virginia Beach

#### GSA Staff

Dr. Shelly Cihak	Executive Director
Ms. Deborah Thorpe	Assistant Director
Ms. Amanda Gates	IM Department Chair
Dr. Stephen Coxe	IM Associate Chair
Mr. Chip Gallagher	Music Theatre Chair

#### Public Comment on Proposed FY23 Budget

None

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Carlos Clanton at 11:07 a.m.

## Roll Call

Attendance was taken by Mr. Clanton.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes were accepted, as presented.

## Public Comment

None

## Closed Session

None.

## Reports

### **Financial Report**

- a. **Revenue:** Referring to the May 18, 2022 revenue report, Dr. Cihak noted the revenue received for the state entitlement for the 21-22 academic year is an additional \$338,000 since the last meeting, on track to receive the full state entitlement of \$1,352,882.00 by the close of FY22.
- b. **Operational Budget Expenditures:** Dr. Cihak shared that the May 18, 2022 expenditure report reflects a transfer of additional funds to cover the cost of reimbursing parking for part-time staff, as FY22 is the first full fiscal year using the new parking model due to the pandemic. This issue has been addressed in the proposed FY23 budget. All other expenditures are in pace with what is expected for the end of the year.

Mr. Holt made a motion to approve the financial report, seconded by Ms. Mayo. The motion passed 6-0.

### **School Report**

- a. **Performance Venue Challenges:** Dr. Cihak reiterated the challenges shared by Dr. Warren in May 2021 regarding the TCC renovations and the inability to fully access the Roper Theater. The facility is not expected to reopen until fall 2023. GSA anticipates increased facility and transportation costs associated with finding alternate venues.
- b. **Third Quarter Review and Celebrations:** Dr. Cihak shared the tremendous success of GSA students and staff including the GSA Advanced Jazz Ensemble winning the Chantilly Jazz Festival. Dr. Cihak reviewed summer programming, including partnership with GSA alumni for musical theatre camps, including one to serve underrepresented populations. Students in all departments produced phenomenal live performances/exhibits throughout the fourth quarter and more information will be shared in the June 1<sup>st</sup> edition of GSA Happenings.

### **Foundation Report**

Ms. Thorpe reported that the GSA Foundation has \$1.8 million in combined funds.

Ms. Thorpe reported on several items the Foundation was able to purchase for the school including, a new soundboard for the blackbox theatre, specialized curtains for musical theatre, a

high-end camera lens for film, a sound booth for instrumental music and most recently, a new set of timpani also for instrumental music. The foundation hosted a pre-show party before one of the shows for Legally Blonde which was very successful.

Mr. Clanton encouraged school divisions to explore ways to promote the efforts of the Foundation.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

#### **FY23 Operational Budget**

Dr. Cihak presented the proposed FY23 budget, explaining that it was built on an enrollment figure of 355 students (as historically done for GSA). If all accepted and current students attend in the fall, enrollment will be at 390, representing an increase in state entitlement funds. As there is no current approved budget from the state, the proposed GSA budget was built on the lesser amount, proposed by the House. Should the amount proposed by the Senate be approved, it would mean an additional \$3186 for GSA.

Dr. Cihak presented the proposed revenue stream, including the 5% tuition increase approved by the Regional Board in fall of 2021. The anticipated expenses were presented with step increase for staff, in line with the proposed budget of Norfolk Public Schools. The proposed revenue and expenses balance at \$3,022,823.00, with no money required from reserve funds.

Rev. Patillo made a motion to approve the FY23 Operational Budget, seconded by Ms. Mayo. The motion passed 6-0.

#### **2022-2023 Academic Calendar**

Dr. Cihak presented a draft academic calendar for the 2022-2023 school year, explaining that it was constructed based upon the approved academic calendar for Norfolk Public Schools with two deviations. The calendar makes the three asynchronous days in the NPS calendar into full in person days for GSA. Additionally, January 2, 2023 is proposed as a teacher workday for GSA, as only two of the eight participating divisions will have students on this day. The caveat was made that NPS students will be excused in the event they are unable to attend GSA on any of these days, just as GSA does for students of any division when there are calendar conflicts.

Ms. Mayo made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Academic Calendar, seconded by Mr. Holt. The motion passed 6-0.

#### **GSA Nondiscrimination Policy**

In response to a request made by the Regional Board at the March 30, 2022 meeting, Dr. Cihak presented a proposed GSA Nondiscrimination policy. The policy models that of Norfolk Public Schools, with the addition of language required by HB127, which includes

nondiscrimination in the admission procedures of GSA. Dr. Cihak shared the feedback received from Dr. Byrdsong that the NPS policy is fully vetted by the legal team and the NPS Board.

Rev. Patillo made a motion to approve the GSA Nondiscrimination Policy, seconded by Ms. Mayo. The motion passed 6-0.

### **Overnight Field Trips 2022-2023**

Dr. Cihak presented four overnight field trips for the 2022-2023 school year. The trips include the National High School Dance Festival, Tribeca Film Festival, an Instrumental Music tour of the East Coast, and a joint Visual Arts and Dance trip to New York. Dr. Cihak explained that trips will only occur if health metrics support travel at that time and this caveat will be included in materials shared with students and families.

Ms. Mayo made a motion to approve the Overnight Field Trips for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Rev. Patillo. The motion passed 6-0.

### **Regional Board Meeting Dates for 2022-2023**

Dr. Cihak shared the proposed meeting dates for the joint GSA and SECEP meetings for the 2022-2023 academic year. The proposed dates were September 28, 2022; February 1, 2023; March 29, 2023; and May 24, 2023.

Mr. Holt made a motion to approve the meeting dates for the 2022-2023 school year, seconded by Rev. Patillo. The motion passed 6-0.

### **Approval of Foundation Board Members:**

None.

### **Presentations**

#### **Instrumental Music**

Dr. Cihak introduced Ms. Amanda Gates, Instrumental Music Department Chair, and Dr. Stephen Coxe, Associate Chair. Ms. Gates shared that the IM students are thriving and have a new focus on small ensemble performances. Ms. Gates shared a presentation featuring student interviews, along with videos of performances throughout the year. She highlighted that there have been 18 senior recitals and over 60 performances by the department this school year.

#### **Musical Theatre**

Dr. Cihak introduced Mr. Chip Gallagher, Music Theatre Department Chair. He reported that the students are embracing being back to live performances and produced two successful musicals this year to sold-out audiences. Mr. Gallagher shared a student-produced video featuring performance clips and students' perspectives on their experiences.

#### **Discussion**

Ms. Melnyk emphasized the importance of in-kind donations, sharing that her donation of use of her flatbed truck saved over \$1,200 for the Musical Theatre Department.

Mr. Clanton mentioned the importance of parental involvement and the many donations given by families.

**Items by Committee Members for Next Meeting**

None.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m. by Mr. Clanton.

THE GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

FY23 Operational Budget  
Summary of Revenue

September 21, 2022

Revenues	FY23	YTD
Anticipated State Entitlement for 355 students*	\$1,377,099.00	\$0.00
State Technology	\$26,000.00	\$0.00
Fund Transfer	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tuition	\$1,615,960.00	\$0.00
Education Stabilization Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,019,059.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**The Governor's School for the Arts  
Operational Budget Expenses for FY22  
Financial Report As Of September 21, 2022**

OBJECT CODE	DESCRIPTION	FY23 BUDGET ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	REVISED EST REV	ACTUAL YTD	ENCUMBERED TO DATE	AVAILABLE BALANCE	% EXPENDED ENCUMBERED AS OF 9/21/2022
1110	Administrative Salary	\$ 229,373.00	\$ 229,373.00	\$44,878.53	\$0.00	\$184,494.47	19.60%
1120	Teachers: Contracted	\$ 623,682.00	\$ 623,682.00	\$86,978.84	\$0.00	\$536,703.16	13.90%
1121	Teachers: Hourly Salary	\$ 526,000.00	\$ 524,000.00	\$7,226.61	\$0.00	\$516,773.39	1.40%
1150	Clerical Salary	\$ 77,594.00	\$ 77,594.00	\$15,908.71	\$0.00	\$61,685.29	20.50%
1621	Stipends	\$ 14,800.00	\$ 14,800.00	\$1,875.74	\$0.00	\$12,924.26	12.70%
2100	Social Security	\$ 115,305.00	\$ 115,305.00	\$11,834.96	\$0.00	\$103,470.04	10.30%
2210	VRS Retirement	\$ 100,642.00	\$ 100,642.00	\$16,824.82	\$0.00	\$83,817.18	16.70%
2220	VRS Retirement - Hybrid	\$ 63,522.00	\$ 63,522.00	\$8,158.90	\$0.00	\$55,363.10	12.80%
2300	Health Insurance	\$ 140,745.00	\$ 140,745.00	\$13,565.26	\$0.00	\$127,179.74	9.60%
2400	VRS Group Life	\$ 12,692.00	\$ 12,692.00	\$2,005.24	\$0.00	\$10,686.76	15.80%
2510	VLDP Disability-Hybrid	\$ 4,461.00	\$ 4,461.00	\$227.54	\$0.00	\$4,233.46	5.10%
2750	VRS Retiree Healthcare	\$ 11,475.00	\$ 11,475.00	\$1,810.66	\$0.00	\$9,664.34	15.80%
2800	Terminal Leave Payment	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
3000	Contracts	\$ 280,927.00	\$ 285,927.00	\$32,640.52	\$97,952.03	\$155,334.45	45.70%
3117	Equip Maint Contract	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.00%
5110	Electricity	\$ 28,900.00	\$ 33,600.00	\$6,858.54	\$23,561.01	\$3,180.45	90.50%
5120	Natural Gas	\$ 2,610.00	\$ 2,610.00	\$43.66	\$16.49	\$2,549.85	2.30%
5130	Water	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,800.00	\$574.67	\$110.18	\$3,115.15	18.00%
5250	Postage/Courier	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	0.00%
5260	Telephone	\$ 21,600.00	\$ 21,600.00	\$5,363.84	\$16,176.16	\$60.00	99.70%
5300	Insurance	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 10,300.00	\$7,472.00	\$2,500.00	\$328.00	96.80%
5400	Leases/Rentals	\$ 606,831.00	\$ 607,131.00	\$261,693.06	\$321,781.06	\$23,656.88	96.10%
5501	Local Travel	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00	\$736.00	\$0.00	\$22,264.00	3.20%
5550	Staff Development	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
6000	Supplies	\$ 82,000.00	\$ 121,735.86	\$1,913.79	\$42,263.84	\$77,558.23	36.30%
6040	Tech Software	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	0.00%
8200	Equipment Additions	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 26,120.22	\$0.00	\$5,316.22	\$20,804.00	20.40%
		\$3,019,059.00	\$3,069,415.08	\$528,591.89	\$509,676.99	\$2,031,146.20	33.80%



**2022-2023 Enrollment Data (with Comparison)**

<b>Locality</b>	<b>2022-2023 Enrollment</b>	<b>Allotment</b>	<b>2021-2022 Enrollment</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Chesapeake	93	80	90	3.33%
Franklin	2	1	2	0.00%
Isle of Wight	24	22	23	4.35%
Norfolk	63	54	64	-1.56%
Portsmouth	21	24	17	23.53%
Southampton	6	7	6	0.00%
Suffolk	37	27	25	48.00%
Virginia Beach	137	140	115	19.13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>11.99%</b>

	American Indian	Asian	Black/African-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	White	two or more	TOTAL	TOTAL POC	% POC	Self Identifies Female	Self Identifies Male	Self Identifies Non-Binary
GSA Chesapeake	1	5	22	5	0	53	7	93	43.01%	56	29	8
Chesapeake	106	1,197	12,789	4,779	87	17,992	3,528	40,478	55.55%	60.22%	31.18%	8.60%
GSA Franklin	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	100.00%	1	0	1
Franklin	4	8	773	19	1	155	32	992	84.38%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%
GSA Isle of Wight	0	1	3	0	0	18	2	24	25.00%	14	7	3
Isle of Wight	16	61	1,408	321	8	3,385	420	5619	39.76%	58.33%	29.17%	12.50%
GSA Norfolk	0	1	13	2	0	41	6	63	34.92%	38	18	7
Norfolk	98	524	15,866	3,359	75	5,690	1,866	27478	79.29%	60.32%	28.57%	11.11%
GSA Portsmouth	0	0	15	0	0	5	1	21	76.19%	16	3	2
Portsmouth	46	81	9,665	721	42	2,285	677	13517	83.10%	76.19%	14.29%	9.52%
GSA Southampton	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	6	33.33%	2	3	1
Southampton	6	3	1,022	51	9	1,427	82	2600	45.12%	33.33%	50.00%	16.67%
GSA Suffolk	0	0	21	2	0	12	2	37	67.57%	24	9	4
Suffolk	39	212	7,758	975	23	4,133	23	13163	68.60%	64.86%	24.32%	10.81%
GSA Virginia Beach	1	5	18	5	1	78	29	137	43.07%	95	30	12
Virginia Beach	152	4,030	15,137	8,637	332	30,232	6,978	65498	53.84%	69.34%	21.90%	8.76%
<b>TOTAL GSA</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>44.91%</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>38</b>
										<b>64.23%</b>	<b>25.85%</b>	<b>9.92%</b>



<h1 style="margin: 0;">Audition Timeline</h1> <h2 style="margin: 0;">2022-2023</h2>
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September 27, 2022	Virtual Meet GSA 7:00pm (Suffolk)
September 29, 2022	Virtual Meet GSA 7:00pm (Chesapeake)
October 3, 2022	Virtual Meet GSA 6:30pm (Virginia Beach)
October 5, 2022	Saint Patrick's Catholic School Fair 6p-8p
October 6, 2022	Counselor/GRT Open House 1p - 4p
October 11, 2022	Virtual Meet GSA 6:30pm (Norfolk)
October 12, 2022	The Williams School Fair 7:00pm
October 13, 2022	Virtual Meet GSA 6:30pm (Portsmouth)
October 18, 2022	Virtual Meet GSA 7:00pm (Isle of Wight)
October 20, 2022	Virtual Meet GSA Night 7:00pm (Franklin & Southampton)
October 26, 2022	GSA Open House 6:00pm to 8:00pm
December 6, 2022	Application Deadline
January 3, 2023	Send Intent Form to Current 9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> Students
January 9, 2023	First Round Decisions Completed
January 21, 2023	<b>Second Round Auditions:</b> Visual Arts 9am - 5pm (15min per applicant) Instrumental Music 9am - 5pm (15min per applicant) Dance 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm
January 28, 2023	<b>Second Round Auditions:</b> Visual Arts 9am - 5pm (15min per applicant) Instrumental Music 9am - 5pm (15min per applicant) Dance 8am-12pm and 1pm-5pm Musical Theatre 1pm - 5pm Film 1pm - 5pm Tech Theatre 9am - 12pm Vocal Music 9am -5pm Theatre Acting 9am - 12pm
February 4, 2023	<b>Second Round Auditions:</b> Visual Arts- 9am -5pm (15 minutes per applicant) Theatre Callbacks 10a - 12p Any outlying candidates- 9am-5pm
February 11, 2023	Dance Callbacks 1p-5p Alternate Audition Day (In Case of Weather)
February 15, 2023	Final Selections Due to Shelly & Deborah
February 24, 2023	Decision Letters Sent

## NEW GSA STAFF 2022-2023



For 20 years Joe Bussey has been an active part of the northeast jazz scene as a sought after bass player and teacher. He graduated with honors from Rutgers, Mason Gross School of the Arts in 2001 with a degree in Jazz Performance, studying with Mike Richmond. Joe began gigging immediately as his sound on the bass, compelling rhythmic feel and respect for the jazz tradition made him a sought after sideman. Before graduation from Rutgers, he was picked up by the Tommy Dorsey Band led by trombone legend Buddy Morrow. Soon after Joe became a familiar figure in the late night Manhattan jam session scene playing as a sideman in house bands under leaders Julius Tolentino, Jeb Patton, Wayne Escofory and Randy Napoleon. With 20 years of gigging experience in New York, Joe has been fortunate to have a long list of sideman credits with some of the finest jazz musicians anywhere, including Ralph Bowen, Bruce Williams, Ron Affif, Saul Rubin, Lezlie Harrison, Champlan Fulton, Lauren Henderson, Brian Newman, Sachal Vasandani, Tysean Sorrey and many others. Joe taught ensembles at the New School, working with Andrew Cyrille and Joanne Brackeen and taught at the Jazz House Kids jazz education program in Montclair NJ.

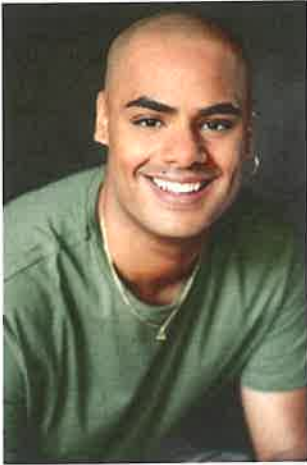


Patrice Covington is an Emmy award-winning actress, singer, author, and model. She is best known for her role as Squeak in the 2015 Broadway revival of *The Color Purple*, National Geographic's *Genius: Aretha* as Erma, and Amazon Prime's *A League of Their Own* as Gracie. She has traveled the world providing background vocals for legendary performers like Stevie Wonder and Christina Aguilera, among others. Since 2020, Patrice consistently lights up the holiday charts with her soulful rendition of "My Favorite Things". Off stage, she serves as a celebrity ambassador for Kids in the Spotlight and provides performance education and coaching through her program, The Galaxy Method. She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Patrice's motto is "Don't be a star...be a galaxy." @patricecovington



Bass-baritone, Hunter Enoch is an active performer across the United States. This season Mr. Enoch will make his debut with Opera Theatre St. Louis as Scarpia in their production of *Tosca*, and debut as Jago in *Otello* with Pacific Northwest Opera. During the 2021-2022 season Mr. Enoch debuted as Germont with Pacific Northwest Opera, the title role in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, the Mandarin in *Turandot*, and Flemish Deputy in *Don Carlo* with Maryland Lyric Opera. He performed Scarpia with Anchorage Opera, and Donner in *Das Rheingold* with Miami Music Festival. Mr. Enoch sang the role of Kurwenal in Act 2 of *Tristan und Isolde* with the National Symphony Orchestra at both the Kennedy Center and at Lincoln Center, and sang Palémon in *Thaïs* with Maryland Lyric Opera. In addition to numerous other performances, training includes being a Resident Artist at the Academy of Vocal Arts; The Emerging Artist program at Virginia Opera; Seattle Opera's Young Artist Program; Chautauqua Opera as a Studio Artist; and the Studio Artist program at Wolf Trap Opera. He earned his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music from University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music. Mr. Enoch has appeared as a semifinalist in the Metropolitan National Council Auditions and is the recipient of the Sullivan Foundation's Career Development Award.

## NEW GSA STAFF 2022-2023



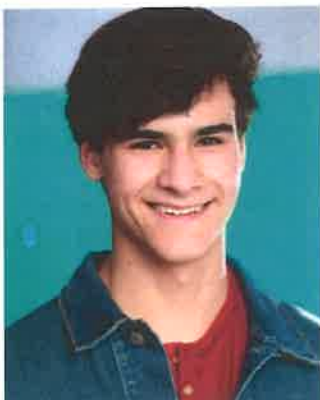
Auston Henderson is a singer/songwriter, dancer, and actor from Houston Texas. He graduated from the prestigious Governor's School for the Arts and has received his B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from Elon University. Auston has performed at theme parks, cruise ships, television, and also has performed internationally in Ghana, Africa. He recently finished his three year run performing on the Grand Ole Opry's General Jackson Showboat in Nashville, Tennessee. Auston's original music is on all streaming platforms.



Joshua "Josh" Knibb- is an alumni of GSA's Tech Theatre class of 2001. He graduated from Randolph-Macon College with a B.A. in Drama. Josh has held many titles; scuba instructor, cheerleading stunt coordinator, surf and skate brand ambassador, Women's Flat Track Roller Derby Referee, and Operations Coordinator in outpatient physical therapy. Josh is currently the Facility Manager for the Goode Theatre at Old Dominion University. Josh is GSA's "All Around Guy," (it says so on his badge) always eager to jump in from Technical Direction for Musical Theater to art installations through GSA. He is currently teaching courses for Visual Arts in Site Specific Installations and assists senior level Visual Art students with their senior Gallery Shows.



Brexdyn La Dieu grew up in Suffolk, Virginia, and is a graduate of The Governor's School for the Arts. He continued his training during the summers having the opportunity of attending intensives at The Richmond Ballet and The Nutmeg Ballet Conservatory. While in college he attended programs such as The Dance Ensemble Intensive, NW Dance Project, and Bounce!. La Dieu received his Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) at George Mason University where he had the great privilege of performing in many student works, as well having the fortuity of working with such artists as Lar Lubovitch, Andonis Foniadakis, Jean Emile, Nacho Duato, Fiona Jopp, Lucinda Childs, and Micaela Taylor, where he was able to study and perform their works. He is currently dancing with TRDance Company in his second season.



Evan Meares is a 2022 graduate from the Musical Theater Department at The Governor's School for the Arts. He has performed in numerous productions over the years with GSA, Virginia Musical Theater, and other local theaters. While he pursues his post-secondary education at Old Dominion University, he will be continuing to pursue his passion for the piano through his new role as an accompanist at GSA.

## NEW GSA STAFF 2022-2023



George Righter was born and raised in Hampton, Virginia. He did undergraduate studies at University of Virginia and graduate studies at Northwestern University. He has been active in the theatre since high school, and has designed sets, lights and sound for over 120 productions. He possesses extensive skills in carpentry, design, lighting, sound, and scenic artistry. He previously served as the Technical Director for York County's School of the Arts for many years, where he created their Technical Theatre Program. Currently, he serves as the Assistant Technical Director and Scenic Artist at Virginia Stage Company. In his limited free time, he enjoys frolicking with his four cats and his canine companion.



Amber Romano, native of Rhode Island, received her early classical ballet training at Festival Ballet and Heritage Ballet. She spent summers training at prestigious schools such as Boston Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, and Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet. She began her professional career with the Nashville Ballet in Tennessee. For four years, she had the opportunity to perform in countless productions, her favorites including George Balanchine's *Serenade* and a demisoloist role in *Waltz of the Flowers* in *The Nutcracker*. In 2016, Amber moved to Norfolk, VA to join the TRDance and Virginia Ballet Theatre companies. Amber first began teaching ballet in Nashville and has found a passion in sharing her experience and love of dance with students of all ages.

# **Proposed GSA Foundation Board Members 2022-2023**

*For consideration by the GSA Regional Board September 28, 2022*

## **Jennifer Marie Morgen**



Jennifer Morgen's professional and personal life has been of service to family, community and colleagues. She is currently an Administrative Coordinator at Capital Group, American Funds Service Organization. Since joining Capital Group in 2008 she has and continues to support multiple General Managers, Directors and Senior Leaders. Additionally, she serves as the site Contributions Secretary/Coordinator acting as a liaison between Capital Group and numerous Hampton Roads non-profit organizations.

Outside of work Jennifer serves on the Board of Directors for First Landing Dance Center Booster Club as Secretary. She has held numerous PTA positions within the Virginia Beach School District from Secretary to President. Holistically, she has been and continues to be a driving force behind creating, organizing and helping people raise funds. She believes that building strong personal relationships with others can foster a productive environment for all to succeed.

Personally, Jennifer has been married to her husband John for 19 years and they have two children, Lexi (15) and Jax (9). She enjoys telling everyone she likes ballet and buckets as her daughter dances and her son plays basketball.



## **BIO**

### **GUY A. ROSS**

Guy Ross currently serves as Vice President for Business Development with the Aequalitas Media Group based in Chicago, Illinois. Previously he was a Sales Manager at the Tourist Development Council (TDC) in Key West, Florida where he promoted Key West and the Florida Keys at national and international events for 7 years. Prior to being recruited by the TDC, Guy served as the Executive Director of the Key West Business Guild. He was an original partner in the marketing consulting firm Waterford LLP based in Middleburg, Virginia where he also advised a private family foundation and produced special fundraising events. Originally from Portsmouth, Virginia, Guy earned a Master's degree from Georgetown University and began his career as a speech writer at the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) in Washington, D.C. He later served as a public affairs officer at the National Association of Home Builders. It was while he was in Washington, D.C. that he formed his own marketing agency, Marketing Diagnostics, where his clientele grew from a core of real estate and development companies to later include banks, hotels and regional automotive dealerships. Guy was the founding Chair of Signature Theater in Arlington, Virginia and has served on the boards of the Piedmont Environmental Council in Warrenton, Virginia, Conserve Virginia in Richmond, and the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum in Key West, Florida. After 8 years of active service as a Trustee, Guy continues to serve as a Trustee Emeritus at his undergraduate alma mater, The University of Richmond. He established the Ross Scholarship for Cultural Arts at the University of Richmond which is a full tuition scholarship that is awarded to a student of merit who majors in any of the cultural arts. In 2010 Guy was ordained as an interfaith minister at Riverside Church, New York, NY and is registered in chaplaincy/counseling.