

First Draft

Arts Legacy Committee

Minutes of Zoom Meeting of February 8, 2025

In attendance: Don Marcus, Roger Anderson, David Peck, Bob Ross, Jack Hopke, Dave Gang, Jim Lawrie, Mark Waterhouse, Norm Silverman and Jay Cary. Cedric Kam and Eric Hatch were unable to attend.

The Arts Legacy Project of the Class of 1968 is meant to fund and advance the teaching mission of Dartmouth College in regards to the arts, with particular reference to the College Libraries, the Hood Museum of Art and the Hopkins Center for the Arts.

- 1) David Peck, acting as facilitator, welcomed members of the Committee to the zoom meeting.
- 2) The group first shared memories of Ron Weiss, an Arts Legacy Committee member who recently passed away. Each committee member expressed personal memories of Ron as a friend, as a Dartmouth classmate through the years, and as a member of his community. We will all miss him. It was suggested that Ron might be nominated posthumously for a Dartmouth alumni award.
- 3) Jim Lawrie provided a status report on the Arts Legacy Endowment. Approximately \$106,000. Project Green Light years 3, 4 and 5 are on hold, at \$5,000 each. Thus \$15,000 is potentially accounted for (see discussion below). Another \$8,000 for recording the Mexican concert in the past has never been invoiced and might not be needed. So available funding for projects at this point might be between \$80,000 and \$90,000. **It was suggested that a new class-wide direct appeal request go out to all classmates to make donations to the Arts Legacy endowment in memory of Ron Weiss, to grow the Fund. David Peck will draft the letter and review it with the committee before sending it.** In addition, the request should go into the Class Newsletter, the Class Website and Class Notes.
- 4) The minutes of the meeting of October 26, 2024, were approved as distributed in advance. Motion by Don Marcus, second by Jim Lawrie and unanimously approved.
- 5) A Project Green Light (PGL) update was provided by Don Marcus. PGL Year 1 student Sasha Aginor (professional name Sasha Lourdis) is at the Sundance Festival right now. She is still adding music to her movie *Munchies*, expected to be done in a month. PGL Year 2, in Studio Art, has "meager" progress, Don reports; he did learn that there were 7 applicants of whom several were disqualified for some reason. He doesn't know what medium (sculpture, painting etc.) was submitted yet. He will communicate his/our disappointment with progress, but may know more by February 22, the date of the next

Class Committee meeting. Funding for Years 3, 4 and 5 is contingent on the success of years 1 and 2.

- 6) A recently received potential project for Arts Legacy funding for \$40,000 a podcast booth (soundproofing and equipment) as part of a new Creative Writing Institute was discussed by the Committee. Katherine Norton of the Development Office provided a 2-page summary of the potential new Creative Writing Institute. There was general committee interest, especially given the number of authors among the Class of 1968. However, we have questions and need more detail before potentially endorsing. The largest questions were about the Creative Writing program itself: how will it be administered? How does a podcast booth integrate into the program? Is this request only for creating writing or can other writing programs such as journalism use the facility? What is the deadline for making a donation or pledge? Will there be naming rights? Can our donation be partial and shared with others? David asked all committee members to send their questions to him and he will forward to Dartmouth requesting answers and more detail
- 7) Roger Anderson presented the potential gift of the Kobayashi painting *Angel 2024*, which would be companion piece at the Hood for already donated *Occultation*. The image of the painting had been distributed in advance. The cost would be \$15,500 including shipping. Roger reported that John Stomberg of the Hood is very supportive. **After motion by Mark Waterhouse, second by Jack Hopke, it was unanimously approved to recommend to the full Class Committee the acquisition of the Angel 2024 for the Hood Museum, for \$15,500.**
- 8) Roger then proposed, for discussion, that Arts Legacy support the Dartmouth Symphony Orchestra for one of their concerts in 2026. He has been talking to the director Filippo Ciabatti, and the specific idea is sponsoring a soloist (estimated at \$4,000 plus travel expenses) for a Fall or Spring concert (Note: not winter, as that would be harder for classmates to get to Hanover). Supporting some of the costs of recording the concert could be considered as well. The work of composer Andres Martin could be featured. After discussion, the group leaned toward a violin concerto rather than cello. Support for an existing violin concerto, or a premier of a new violin concerto could be considered. **Roger will send to the committee a recording of the violin concerto, to assist our consideration of this idea. The committee gave general support, but asked for more detail and specifics**
- 9) It was also noted that Ron Weiss was a violinist, who had performed other Martine work. The fundraising letter in Ron's honor (noted above) could note how supporting the Arts Legacy Fund enables such support for the Symphony.
- 10) The next meeting of the Arts Legacy Committee will be in approximately four to six weeks, after more details are available, to learn and discuss more on the Creative Writing and Dartmouth Symphony ideas.

Respectfully submitted,

David Peck
Arts Legacy Committee facilitator