

CREATIVE CHAMPIONS NETWORK

Useful Resources: Engaging your Board Effectively – and having fun in the process!

April 27, 2016

Recruitment: Building Boards That Work

Inspired Recruitment

“Developing A Board Recruitment Process”, Wild Apricot.

<http://www.wildapricot.com/membership-articles/developing-a-board-recruitment-process>

A comprehensive overview of how to create a standard process of recruitment for volunteer board members.

A Diversity of Perspectives

“Board Profiling”, BoardConnect.

<http://www.boardconnect.com.au/resources/fact-sheets/boardrecind/186-profiling.html>

A quick checklist that reveals areas where a board is well-represented, and where further engagement can be addressed.

Diversity in Governance: “A Toolkit for Inclusion on Non-profit Boards”

Ann Decter (editor), Maytree Foundation, 2007.

http://www.neighbourhoodartsnetwork.org/sites/default/files/diversity_toolkit_nonprofit.pdf

A guide to examining diversity on a board and how to implement more diverse recruitment, training and policies for a non-profit organization. This report includes numerous templates and clearly defined expectations for creating an inclusive and diverse board.

Orientation: Starting Off Right

Thoughtful Orientation

“Board Building: Recruiting and Developing Effective Board Members for Not-for-Profit Organizations”, The Muttart Foundation and Alberta Community Development, Revised Edition, 1997.

<http://www.creativetrust.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/3-boards-recruiting1.pdf>

A comprehensive view on recruitment and developing strong board members. The “Orienting, Training and Developing Your Board” section is especially relevant for creating programs to educate your board members.

Defining Expectations

“Board Member Work Plan”, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir, Sample Yearly Work Plan, 2005/2006 Season.

http://www.creativetrust.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/sample_bd_wk_plan_Tafelmusik.pdf

“How effective are your board members?” Simone Joyaux, SOFII, April 22 2014.

<http://sofii.org/article/how-effective-are-your-board-members>

An excellent short article listing clearly defined areas of success for an effective board member.

“Values in your organization” Simone Joyaux, Nonprofit Quarterly September 11, 2015

https://nonprofitquarterly.org/2015/09/11/values-in-your-organization-and-what-they-have-to-do-with-making-money-part-2/?utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=21966769&hsenc=p2ANqtz-9nARiJrNkgOlPrtEef6SdnVEkYW74vKX-FE8XBxbfUjCSxGakTAnAm6viltS-Qhdvcl7OhwOczvcHirwFkoxowln_frzU5AO_ppDa1EFfKQbrISBI&hsmi=21966769

The challenge and importance of aligning behavior with values: making values part of your board and staff corporate culture.

Meaningful Conversations: Effective Meetings

Meaningful Conversations and Effective Meetings

“Seven Steps to Facilitating a Great Meeting”, Jessica Bell, 2014.

<http://www.jessicabell.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/Seven-steps-to-facilitating-a-great-meeting-JBell.pdf>

A concise guide to promoting positive and healthy engagement in meetings.

Maintaining an Engaged Board

“Engaging Your Board”, Jeannette Archer Simons, Non-profit Resource Network, 2008.

<http://www.nonprofitresourcenetwork.org/resources/engageboard.php>

“Problem Boards or Board Problem?” William P Ryan, Richard P. Chait, and Barbara E. Taylor, Non-profit Quarterly, Summer 2013.

<https://nonprofitquarterly.org/governancevoice/36-problem-boards-or-board-problem.html>

Looks at the underlying issue for ineffective or under-performing arts boards, identifying a lack of clear purpose as a board's greatest challenge in creating meaningful board experiences.

Succession Planning

“Succession Planning”, Canadian Federation of Friends of Museums/ Fédération canadien des amies des musées, *au courant* Winter 2012 newsletter, Pg 3-4.

<http://www.creativetrust.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/13.7.8-Leaving-Succession-planning-Winter-2012-English-v3.pdf>

A short overview on the importance of succession planning for arts and non-profit organizations.

Risk Management: Not Risk Avoidance

Understanding the Finances

Tip Sheets on Financial Planning and Management, Heather Young, Young Associates, Nov 30 2011.

<http://www.youngassociates.ca/tip-sheets/?category=Financial+Management>

Useful Ideas for financial planning, management and reporting in non-profit arts organizations.

“Hidden in Plain Sight: Understanding Nonprofit Capital Structure”, Clara Miller

<http://www.nonprofitfinancefund.org/sites/default/files/docs/2010/NPQSpring03.pdf>

The difference between successful coping and successful changing – a strategic approach to creating financial health.

Sustainability: A Board's Special Responsibility

“Deconstructing Sustainability”, Jeanne Bell, Jan Masaoka and Steve Zimmerman, Adapted from *Non-profit Sustainability*, published on Blue Avocado, Oct 5 2012.

<http://blueavocado.org/content/deconstructing-sustainability>

A look at what sustainability means in the non-profit world.

MORE: Other Useful Resources

BoardSource <http://www.boardsource.org> National U.S. organization providing resources to strengthen non-profit boards

BoardConnect <http://boardconnect.com.au/> Australian source of resources and useful fact sheets to support arts and non-profit boards

Creative Trust at the Toronto Arts Foundation <http://www.creativetrust.ca/> A blog on building strong and sustainable arts organizations, with frequent posts on arts boards and board issues