



Council Meeting
July 23, 2025
Atlanta Office

In Attendance

Council Members: Colt Chambers, Karla Redding-Andrews, Brandy Baker, Bryan, Joanne Chesler Gross, Michele Arwood, Linda Nicholson, Rep. Kasey Carpenter

GCA Staff: Allen Bell, Tina Lilly, Delilah Johnson, Emily Yewell Volin, Tyrone Webb, Olivia Byers, Kenny Oaster

Meeting called to order by Chair Colt Chambers at 1:02 pm

Grants

Director of Grants and Research Allen Bell discussed FY26 grant program updates

Legislative Visits

Chair Colt Chambers asked Council members to visit their state legislators to provide an update on GCA activities

NEA

GCA Executive Director Tina Lilly provided an update on FY26 and FY27 NEA funding for state arts councils

Governor's Awards

GCA Executive Director Tina Lilly discussed the Governor's Awards

Traveling Exhibit

Visual Arts Manager Kenny Oaster reported on the progress of the Reimagine traveling exhibit

Council

Chair Colt Chambers led a discussion about how Council communication and involvement. Colt Chambers and Tina Lilly will create task force committees for Council members consisting of fundraising, Legislative communication and strategic planning, among others.

**Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by Joanne Chesler-Gross and seconded by Linda Nicholson. Motion passed unanimously.

State Art Collection

Meeting was adjourned, and attendees toured the State Art Collection work in the Atlanta Office.