

# Arts Incubator Workgroup

Subgroup Meeting: MSAC Focus  
7.15.2025

**Hosted by:**

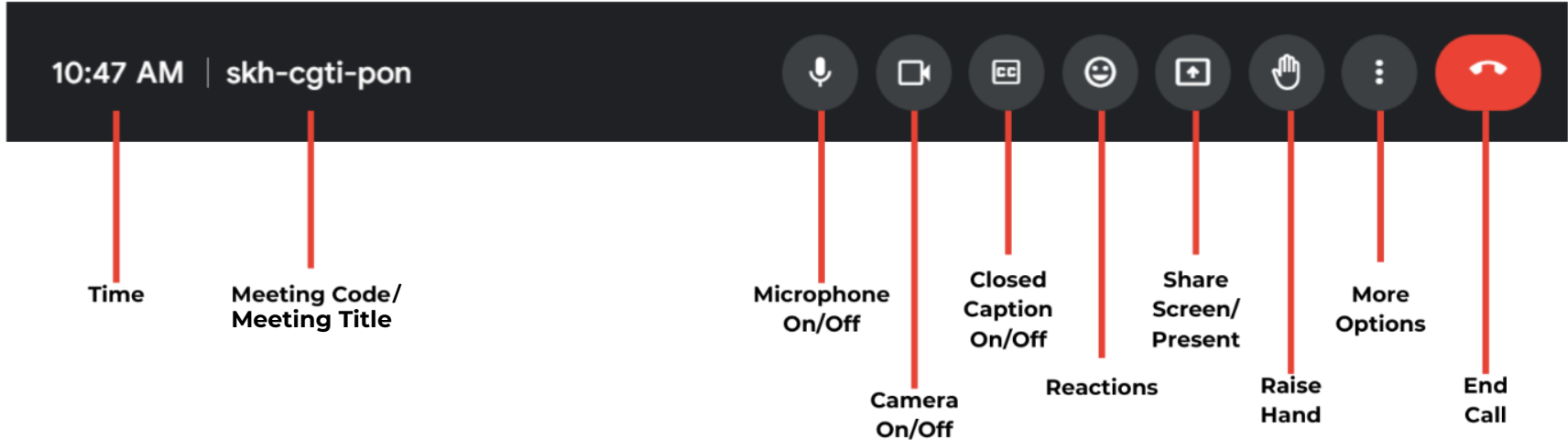
**Nicholas Cohen, Committee Chair**

**Steven Skerritt-Davis, Executive Director, MSAC**

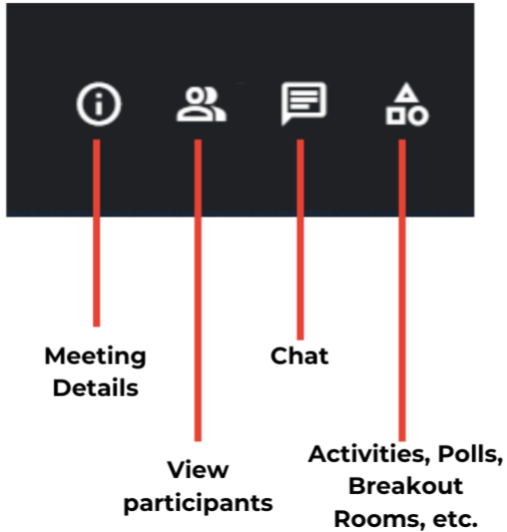
**Jess Porter, Senior Program Director, MSAC**

**elli maria hernandez, Special Projects & Grants Assistant, MSAC**

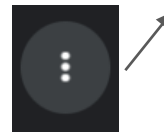
# Reference Shot of Features (1 of 2)









# Reference Shot of Features (2 of 2)







In "More Options"



-  Change layout
-  Full screen
-  Open picture-in-picture
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-  Report a problem
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# Land Acknowledgement Statement

We acknowledge the lands and waters now known as Maryland are the home of its first peoples: the Accohannock Indian Tribe, Assateague People's Tribe, Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians, Choptico Band of Indians, Lenape Tribe, Nanticoke Tribe, Nause-Waiwash Band of Indians, Piscataway Conoy Tribe, Piscataway Indian Nation, Pocomoke Indian Nation, Susquehannock Indians, Youghiogheny River Band of Shawnee, and tribes in the Chesapeake watershed who have seemingly vanished since the coming of colonialism. We acknowledge that this land is now home to other tribal peoples living here in diaspora. We acknowledge the forced removal of many from the lands and waterways that nurtured them as kin. We acknowledge the degradation that continues to be wrought on the land and waters in pursuit of resources. We acknowledge the right of the land and waterways to heal so that they can continue to provide food and medicine for all. We acknowledge that it is our collective obligation to pursue policies and practices that respect the land and waters so that our reciprocal relationship with them can be fully restored.

# Equity and Justice Statement

The arts celebrate our state's diversity, connect our shared humanity, and transform individuals and communities. The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) is committed to advancing and modeling equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion in all aspects of our organization and across communities of our state.

MSAC and its grantees are committed to embracing equity and non-discrimination regardless of race, religious creed, color, age, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, class, language, and/or ability.

## Vision

The Maryland State Arts Council plays an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.

## Mission

Maryland State Arts Council advances the arts in our state by providing leadership that champions creative expression, diverse programming, equitable access, lifelong learning, and the arts as a celebrated contributor to the quality of life for all the people of Maryland.

## MSAC Strategic Plan - Pillars and Goals

### **Access**

Bolster access to arts experiences and resources

### **Awareness**

Amplify the stories of Maryland's arts sector and the value of public support

### **Connection**

Foster networks within and beyond the arts sector

### **Equity**

Cultivate a thriving arts ecosystem centered in equity

### **Leadership**

Commit to a culture of care and innovation

# Creative Meeting Actions

**Celebrate** being in the space with other creative people.

**Engage** with everyone's presence as a gift.

**Acknowledge** that together we know a lot.

**Enter** the conversation with curiosity and inquiry.

**Share** your idea and trust that it will be heard.

**Use** "I" statements.

**Focus** your language on the task at hand.

**Hold** one another accountable with care.

**Honor** all perspectives and build on shared ideas

**Balance** speaking with listening.

**Respect** and appreciate our differences, they are our strength.

**Have** grace for yourself and everyone around you.

**Dream** big!

## Today's Goals/Agenda

- **Final Report Strategy/Focus Update**
  - Share feedback from the Commerce Dept. and strategy for presenting recommendations
- **Further Develop MSAC-related Recommendations**
  - Acknowledge what MSAC already offers in relation to recommendations
  - Consider budgetary needs and actionability

# Subcommittee Recommendations & Legislative Opportunities

- [Document Link](#)

# Timeline

## Now - October 2025

July	Subgroup meetings, draft Final Report
August	Complete Final Report Draft
September	Final Edits, <b>Submit to Department in Mid-September</b>
October 1, 2025	Final Report Due

# Discussion

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# Questions

# Next Steps

# Wrap Up

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# Reflections

**THANK YOU!**