

NASA General Assembly

Saturday, March 14, 2026 | 11:00am

AGENDA

1. Call to order
 - a. Myles Boothroyd called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.
2. Greetings from President (Andrew video:
<https://youtube.com/shorts/2SsY5HPTKmc?si=Nlb4uok66UjF2aSi>)
 - a. The video was played.
3. Conference Acknowledgements
 - a. Conference acknowledgements and thank-yous
 - i. Hosts: Michael Torres (professor), Michael Ibrahim (director), and the Ohio State University School of Music (incl. staff, students, and volunteers)
 - ii. Jordan VanHemert, program committee chair and program committee
 - iii. Gabriel Piqué, the NASA competitions committee, and all judges, competitors, and teachers
 - iv. Kyle Blake Jones, Marketing Director (vendor logistics)
 - v. All sponsors and vendors
 - vi. Chairs, co-chairs, and members of our other standing and ad hoc committees
 1. CDEIBA, CGE, PD&E, Jazz and Popular Music, Editorial Board
 - vii. Members of the EC and all of the NASA (appointed officers, regional directors)
 1. Julia Nolan, outgoing Director of Scholarly Publications (books are selling well on Groth to this day!)
 2. Jonathan Nichol, outgoing Region 4 Director
 3. Bobbi Thompson, new Editor of *The Saxophone Symposium*
 4. Adrienne Honnold, new Director of Scholarly Initiatives
4. Reports of standing committees
 - a. Committee for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Accessibility
 - i. 2026 NASA Biennial Travel Grant Awards
 - ii. Budget Allocation
 - iii. Mentoring Program
 - iv. 2026 NASA Biennial Conference Panel Discussion in cooperation with CGE
 - v. NASA Guidelines for Diversity in Publicized Events

Category	Item	Projected	Actual
Mentorship Program Stipends	(yet to be paid out)	\$ 750	\$ 750
Travel Grant	3 x \$500	\$ 1500	\$ 1500
Biennial Conference Panel	Combined with CGE	\$ 250	\$ 250
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 2500	\$ 2500

Budget Proposal

DEIBA Budget Request for 2026-27 of \$3000

- \$1000 to go toward mentor stipends for our Mentorship Program
- \$2000 to go toward sponsoring guest clinician/speaker panels at the 2027 Regional Conferences

Future of DEIBA

The Committee on Gender Equity (CGE) and the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Accessibility (DEIBA) Committee have been in talks about potentially combining into a unified body in the future. As both committees have grown in their work, it has become increasingly clear that our initiatives are deeply interconnected; advancing gender equity and fostering a diverse, inclusive community are efforts that naturally complement and reinforce one another. By joining forces, we would aim to streamline our resources, strengthen our collective impact, and create a more cohesive approach to the values we share. This potential merger is not about diminishing the importance of the communities we each serve; on the contrary, it is about ensuring that gender equity and all dimensions of diversity receive the dedicated attention, advocacy, and resources they deserve, together, and with greater strength than either committee could achieve alone.

- b. Committee for Gender Equity
- c. Community Engagement Initiative
 - i. 2026 NASA Biennial Travel Grant Awards
 - ii. Budget Allocation
 - iii. Mentoring Program
 - iv. Alexia McLean, leader
 - v. CGE Website
 - 1. Mariah Goulet, web design
 - vi. Committee Advisory Appointments of CGE members
 - vii. Heidi Radtke, Professional Development and Engagement Committee
 - viii. Lee Ross, Programming Committee
 - ix. NASA Guidelines for Diversity in Publicized Events

- x. 2026 NASA Biennial Conference Panel Discussion in cooperation with DEIBA
- d. Professional Development & Engagement Committee
 - i. Grants awarded
 - ii. NASA Seed Grant (\$300): Matthew James, "Florida Youth Saxophone Summit"
 - iii. NASA Seed Grant (\$300): Joseph Lyons, "Creating New Colors: Commissioning, Performing, and Recording New Solo and Duo Compositions for Saxophones and Interactive Electronics"
 - iv. NASA Seed Grant (\$300): Maria Torres Melgares, "Influences of Latin American Dances in the Saxophone Music of Paquito d'Rivera"
 - vi. Thomas Liley Memorial Saxophone Research Grant (\$500): Holly Hubbs, "The Discovery of a Counter-Story: Isabele Taliaferro Spiller"
 - vii. Workshop initiatives
 - viii. Three (3) workshops scheduled for Fall 2026:
 - 1. Kyle Jones: "CVs, Cover Letters, Bios, and Grant Writing"
 - 2. Alexia McLean: "Teaching While Disabled: Adapting a Saxophone Career to a Changing Body"
 - 3. Alexia McLean: "Beyond Performer vs Professor: Designing a Sustainable Portfolio"
 - ix. Career in Saxophone"
 - x. Other initiatives
 - 1. NASA Biennial student ensemble: organized a large ensemble rehearsal and performance conducted by Shawn O'Kelley (Owasso High School)
 - xi. Future initiatives
 - 1. Online workshops
 - 2. NASA podcast series
 - 3. Website updates to increase engagement (forums, local events)
 - 4. Conference travel grants
 - 5. Instrument insurance for NASA members
 - 6. NASA merchandise and digital marketplace
 - 7. Workshops for public schools and private teachers
 - xii. Category Item Projected Actual
 - 1. Research support
 - 2. Seed Grants (6 x \$300) \$ 1,800.00 \$ 900.00
 - xiii. Workshops
 - 1. Honoraria (3 x \$50) \$ 150.00 \$ 150.00
 - xiv. Biennial Conference
 - 1. Ensemble music \$ 30.00 \$ 38.90
 - 2. Total \$ 1,980.00 \$ 1,088.90

3. Total available budget \$ 2,500.00 \$ 2,500.00
 4. Remaining \$ 520.00 \$ 1,411.10
 5. NASA budget requested for 2026–27: \$2,500.00
- e. Program Committee for 2026 Biennial Conference
- i. **Membership**
 1. Aaron Burr
 2. Yiqun Chen
 3. Joel Ferst
 4. Matthew James - DEIBA Liaison
 5. Ryan Johnson
 6. Mike Nguyen
 7. Olivia Phaneuf
 8. Lee Ross - CGE Liaison
 9. Alec Russell
 10. Cody Sirk
 11. Matthew Tracy
 12. Joe Wolf
 - ii. **538** Proposals (334 in 2024)
 - iii. **285** Accepted Proposals – This does not include vendor sessions.
 - iv. **~53%** acceptance rate
 - v. **Acceptance Metrics for Peer Events**
 - vi. College Music Society accepted less than **42%** of proposal submissions for their 2025 national conference in Spokane, WA. There were **301** proposals submitted
 - vii. The International Clarinet Association was able to accept **37%** of proposals accepted for their 2025 conference in Fort Worth, TX. There were **300** proposals submitted
 - viii. MTNA accepted **32%** of proposals submitted for their 2025 national conference in Minneapolis, MN. Unknown total submission number.
 - ix. Each proposal was carefully reviewed by a subcommittee of at least 3 people sorted according to expertise. To act as a control for outliers, I reviewed every proposal.
 - x. NASA Guidelines for Diversity in Publicized Events - Submitted

by CGE + CDEIBA

5. Unfinished business
 - a. Finances

Before looking at yearly activity, I want to briefly summarize NASA's current assets. As of December 31, 2025, the organization holds \$312,254 in total assets. The largest portion of this is split between our operating accounts and our endowments. Approximately \$116K is held in checking and money market accounts, which provide operating liquidity for the organization. In addition, \$144K is invested in the General Endowment, and \$24,500 is held in the Thomas Liley Endowment. We also maintain smaller balances in prepaid assets and inventory related to publications and organizational materials.

[SLIDE 5]

This slide provides a broader overview of NASA's financial activity over the past decade, based on the records available beginning in 2015. Across this period, the organization has averaged approximately \$83,000 in annual revenue and \$79,000 in annual expenses, resulting in an average net income of about \$4,200 per year. As you can see, revenue and expenses fluctuate from year to year depending on conference cycles and major initiatives. It is encouraging to note that the past three years have all produced positive net revenue, indicating a stable and healthy financial cycle for the organization moving forward. While this trend of increased revenue is encouraging, it is important to note that it has not fully kept pace with inflation, which is something the Executive Committee will continue to keep in mind as we plan for the organization's long term financial health.

[SLIDE 6]

Looking specifically at revenue, NASA generated \$112,934 in 2024 and \$102,735 in 2025. Membership dues continue to be the largest and most reliable source of income for the organization. Conference income, donations, and other smaller revenue streams also contribute to the overall total. While conference years typically produce higher revenue, membership remains the foundation that supports NASA's programs and services year after year. It is also worth noting that NASA's membership dues remain relatively low compared to many of our peer organizations, which helps keep the organization accessible to students, educators, and performers across the community.

[SLIDE 7]

Turning to expenses, NASA spent \$103,175 in 2024 and \$90,153 in 2025. These expenditures support the core operations of the organization, with the largest expenses tied to conferences, website development and maintenance, and general administrative needs. The website redevelopment represented a significant one time investment this past year, but the goal of that project was to modernize the platform and reduce the ongoing costs associated with third party maintenance and management. As with

revenue, these expenses can fluctuate depending on conference cycles and special projects in a given year.


[SLIDE 8]

This slide compares the financial performance of regional conferences and biennial conferences. It is important to see the large swings in revenue and expenses that occur depending on whether a given year includes a regional or biennial conference. On average, regional conference years generate about \$66,000 in revenue with roughly \$63,000 in expenses. Biennial conference years, however, tend to produce a stronger financial outcome, averaging about \$110,000 in revenue and \$94,000 in expenses.

[SLIDE 9]

Overall, these trends show that NASA's finances follow a predictable cycle tied to conference activity. The organization experienced a temporary dip during the pandemic years, but finances have recovered and stabilized. Over the past three years, NASA has generated consistent surpluses while continuing to support conferences, publications, and ad hoc committees. I would also like to thank past leadership, especially Jess Voigt-Page and Kim Loeffert, whose careful financial stewardship helped guide the organization through a challenging period and maintain NASA's financial stability. Combined with our current asset base, this places the organization on a stable financial footing with a positive trajectory moving forward.

10. New business

- a. Congratulations to new Honorary Life Members (Myles) (3 min)
 - i. From the bylaws: "A special complimentary membership — Honorary Life Membership — may be extended to individuals of distinction who have made outstanding contributions to the areas of saxophone performance, pedagogy, scholarship, and/or repertoire. Such persons may be nominated by any voting member of the Alliance by submitting such a proposal to the President in writing at any time. Upon majority approval of the Executive Committee, a nominee shall be placed before the general membership for election. The nominee shall be elected Honorary Life Member upon receiving a two-thirds vote of the voting members in a ballot election."
 - ii. New inductees  2026 Honorary Life Member bios.pdf
 1. Susan Fancher (attending)
 2. James Forger (not attending)
 3. Steven Jordheim (not attending)
 4. Clifford Leaman (attending)
 5. Charles McPherson (not attending)
- b. Coordinator of Digital Scholarship (vote to add appointed officer position) (Adrienne)

- i. Give some background on this position and on renaming the Director of Scholarly Initiatives
- ii. "I would like to make a motion to advance a proposal for a new appointed officer, the Coordinator of Digital Scholarship, to the membership of NASA for approval (the new appointed officer would be added to the Constitution by name under Article V, Section 2, with the position description added to the Bylaws). Can I get a second?"

Coordinator of Digital Scholarship

This position will oversee public-facing digital initiatives that expand the reach and accessibility of NASA's scholarly work through diverse media formats and content types. The Coordinator of Digital Scholarship will work in conjunction with the Director of Scholarly Initiatives, *Saxophone Symposium* editorial board, Professional Development & Engagement Committee, and NASA's web team to ensure digital content complements NASA's existing scholarly output and is relevant and accessible to the NASA membership.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Produce and manage digital scholarship content
 - a. Content may include (but is not limited to) blogs, podcasts, video series, interviews, student features, and open-access-style reference materials that expand the reach and accessibility of NASA's scholarly work
 - b. Content should be related to pedagogy, professional and career development, and other relevant topics that advance knowledge of the saxophone and serve the needs of the community
2. Curate and disseminate professional resources
 - a. Coordinate collaborative peer review for digital content
 - b. Manage a student research mentorship program
 - c. Oversee career development programming for emerging and established scholars/saxophonists

Motion Passes via vote of the membership,

New business, continued:

- c. Vision and goals for NASA into the future
 - i. Financial viability and growth
 1. Sponsorships, giving, and targeted initiatives
 2. Careful review of current spending and commitments in 2026 and beyond
 - ii. We will issue a call for a new Development Officer (already approved in bylaws) to lead a new Development Committee
 - iii. Andrew Allen will launch an Elections Committee this year to lead the process for choosing new leadership in 2027

- iv. More membership benefits (online content, instrument insurance, grant programs, more website interactivity and resources, Christian McBride commission [TSX and jazz ensemble, “Opus 49: The Cold Chicken Suite”] on website for members)
- v. Website improvements
 - 1. WildApricot can be used as a more comprehensive conference platform that syncs conference registration with NASA member data
- vi. Return to Midwest Clinic in December 2026
- vii. Other ideas
 - 1. Internship program
 - 2. “Enthusiast” workshops and events
 - 3. Ongoing conversations with peer organizations who have dedicated, paid administrative officers
- d. 2028 Biennial Conference (Myles) (1 min)
 - i. Thank you to schools who applied and submitted detailed proposals (these help our financial projections and viability). You are encouraged to apply again!!
 - 1. Louisiana State University – Kendra Wheeler
 - 2. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign – Nicki Roman
 - 3. University of Mississippi – Adam Estes
 - ii. The 2028 Biennial Conference will be held at the University of Memphis – hosts Kyle Jones and Michael Shults.
 - iii. Thank you to Kim Loeffert and the 2028 Biennial Site Selection Committee (new process!)
- e. Congratulations to Kim Loeffert on 6 years of leadership for NASA!
- 2. Questions (all, but led by Myles)
 - a. Myles, have you mentioned Gene Smith?
 - i. College jazz competition – first woman winner.
 - b. What’s the best way to get involved with NASA leadership?
 - i. Receive emails as a NASA member. NASA Update always includes leadership roles and committee roles.
 - ii. Second way is to send an email to president@saxophonealliance.org, President elect, or Myles Boothroyd’s email address.
- 6. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jordan VanHemert