

**SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL  
INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
288<sup>TH</sup> (ANNUAL) MEETING**

**INTERNATIONAL UPDATE**

*The International Board of Directors met on March 6-7, 2020, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA. Following is a summary of actions taken.*

The Board approved the advancement of Anna Rosenberg to International Judging Program Certified status in the Showmanship Category.

The Board approved the introduction of a Senior Quartet Contest at IES 2020.

The Board reviewed the organization's current financial status and approved the 2020-21 budget.

The Board reviewed information regarding Sweet Adelines International's participation at the November 2019 National Association for Music Education (NAfME) National Conference where staff engaged music educators and students in the barbershop art form through tag singing, distributed Young Women in Harmony and Rising Star Quartet contest information, and contacted college representatives to bring awareness of Sweet Adelines.

The Board was pleased to learn that six grants had been awarded by the Young Singers Foundation Advancement Committee for events that support the advancement of barbershop harmony for young women.

The Board reviewed the report of the Nominating Committee and learned 93.4% of all eligible chapters cast ballots in the 2019 International Board of Directors election. This contrasts with 93.7% in 2018.

The Board discussed the corporation's "duty of care" and the possible impacts to Sweet Adelines due to the current coronavirus outbreak.

The Board approved a Sweet Adelines International Investment Policy Statement, which established the investment strategies and guidelines to be used in the management of endowment assets held by Sweet Adelines International with long-term investment objectives.

The Board reviewed and provided input to the preliminary Strategic Action Plan drafted by the International headquarters leadership team.

The Board selected Louisville, KY, USA as the site for the October 30 – November 4, 2023 International Convention & Competitions.

The Board approved a recommendation to include Washington DC, USA in Atlantic Bay-Mountain Region 19.

The Board was pleased to learn that the Life on a High Note fundraising campaign had exceeded the \$150,000 USD goal and had raised over \$175,035 USD.

The Board reviewed and approved recommendations by the International Judge Specialists and Education Direction Committee to revise the *Competition Handbook* effective June 1, 2020 (*once revised, the updated handbook will be available on the website: **Resources** tab, **Forms and Document Center** dropdown, **Competition Resources***).

The Board reviewed and approved recommendations by the International Judge Specialists and Education Direction Committee to revise the *Judging Category Description Book* effective June 1, 2020 (*once revised, the updated book will be available on the website: **Education** tab, **Directors** dropdown, **Forms and Templates***).

The Board reviewed and approved funding for a long-range RMT Training plan beginning in fiscal year 2021-22.

The Board reviewed and approved a recommendation by the Education Direction Committee to revise the YWIH Video Chorus Contest rules, effective immediately, to require only one song or medley arranged in the barbershop style and appropriate for use in a Sweet Adelines competition, with an additional a cappella song or medley of the performer's choosing. The recommendation was proposed to make the contest rules consistent with the updated SA mission statement.

The 2020-21 Sweet Adelines International Committee members were appointed (*a list of committees with personnel will be posted on the website: **About** tab, **Our Board** dropdown – near the bottom of the page*).

The Board reviewed plans for a pilot of a Chorus Diversity and Inclusivity Tool Kit.

The Board elected the officers of the International Board of Directors for the 2020-21 fiscal year:

International President Joan Boutilier  
President-elect Thérèse Antonini  
Secretary Mary Rhea  
Treasurer Jeanne d'Arc (JD) Crowe  
Immediate Past President Patty Cobb Baker

The Board reviewed reports of International committees and Headquarters departments.

The Board reviewed reports of the task forces currently serving the Organization (*a list of task forces with personnel and mandate is available on the website: **About** tab, **Our Board** dropdown – at the bottom of the page*):

- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Display Task Force
- Chorus Growth Incentive Program Task Force
- Diversity and Inclusivity Task Force
- History/Archival Task Force
- New Membership Options and Research Task Force
- Regional Governance Pilot Program Task Force