

Join Our Board of Directors

*If you feel a connection to the mission of **Maria L. Baldwin Community Center (MLBCC)** and are looking for meaningful volunteer work, consider joining the MLBCC Board of Directors. MLBCC plays an important role in the community and the Board helps to ensure the long-term success, sustainability, and viability of the organization.*

Mission

The mission of the Maria L. Baldwin Community Center is to be a place that nurtures lifelong creativity and learning and serves as a forum for civic advocacy and engagement through dynamic, community-based programs for all ages.

We believe in:

- Welcoming: Fostering an equitable environment where everyone feels valued, by adopting intersectional* anti-racist practices in all that we do.
- Empowering: Building confidence and a sense of belonging in everyone we serve.
- Collaborating: Uniting different voices and perspectives across all ages and backgrounds.
- Creating Joy: Embracing the joy that comes from being free to explore, create, and connect.

**Intersectionality: The overlapping and interdependent systems of oppression across, for example, race, gender, ability, and social status. Intersectionality encourages us to embrace and celebrate individuals' multiple social identities. It also highlights the complex and cumulative effects of different forms of structural inequity that can arise for members of multiple marginalized groups. (Source: [NAEYC](#))*

Board Member Position Description

The Board of Directors supports the work of MLBCC and provides mission-based leadership and strategic governance. While day-to-day operations are led by MLBCC's Executive Directors, the Board-Executive Directors relationship is a partnership, and the appropriate involvement of the Board is both critical and expected. Specific Board Member responsibilities include:

Leadership, Governance, and Oversight

- Serve as a trusted advisor to the EDs as they develop and implement MLBCC's strategic and action plans, and ensure such plans align with the mission
- Contribute to an annual performance evaluation of the Executive Directors
- Review outcomes and metrics to evaluate MLBCC's impact
- Attend monthly meetings and any additional committee meetings. Review agendas and supporting materials in advance.
- Approve MLBCC's annual budget, audit reports, and material business decisions
- Stay informed of, and meet all, legal and fiduciary responsibilities

- Assist the EDs and board chairs in identifying and recruiting other Board Members
- Partner with the EDs and other board members to ensure that board resolutions are carried out
- Serving on committees or task forces and take on special assignments that fit within area of expertise
- Ensure MLBCC commits to a diverse board and staff that reflects the communities MLBCC serves

Fundraising/Development

MLBCC Board Members will consider MLBCC a philanthropic priority and make annual gifts that reflect that priority. So that MLBCC can credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations, and individuals, MLBCC expects to have 100% of Board Members make an annual contribution that is commensurate with their capacity. This capacity may vary greatly, and there is no minimum donation.

Additionally, Board Members should use their specific skills or connections in ways that support the fundraising efforts of the agency. This may include:

- Representing MLBCC to stakeholders; acting as an ambassador for the organization
- Making introductions between MLBCC and potential individuals, foundations, or businesses that may be interested in supporting the mission of MLBCC
- Attending fundraising events and inviting others to purchase tickets to or support these events through monetary or in-kind donations
- Signing or writing notes on mailed solicitations
- Accompanying EDs, Development Director, or other MLBCC staff to meetings with potential funders/donors
- Volunteering to help with fundraising or donor cultivation events or activities
- Assisting with grant research or writing

Board Terms

The MLBCC Board slate is approved annually by the Baldwin Neighborhood Council at the May Annual Meeting. MLBCC's Board Members are elected for two-year terms, and officers (Chairs, Treasurer, Clerk) are elected each year. There are a maximum of 10 board members and there is currently no term limit

Qualifications

Who should join the MLBCC Board?

- Parents of children in MLBCC Children's Programs
- Adult participants in MLBCC Arts Programs or Living Well Network
- Baldwin Neighborhood residents
- Local business leaders with an interest in community
- Lawyers or those with legal expertise looking for a way to contribute to the community
- Community members committed to the mission of MLBCC and interested in visual arts, community building, children's programming, aging-in-place, issues of equity and access, anti-racism, or non-profit governance and fundraising

Knowledge and Skills

Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- Professional experience with significant or rising leadership accomplishments in the sectors of business, government, education, philanthropy, legal, arts, or nonprofit
- Savvy diplomatic skills and a natural affinity for cultivating relationships, fostering community, and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity, credibility, and a passion for improving the lives of MLBCC's participants with a particular focus on those most vulnerable
- Connections with and a history of involvement with communities served by or involved with MLBCC.

MLBCC is currently in particular need of individuals with legal or financial expertise. We are also seeking to increase the racial diversity of our board and advisors to better reflect the community we serve. People of color, and those with legal and/or financial expertise are highly encouraged to apply.

Schedule

MLBCC Board Meetings are generally held from 6-7:30pm on the second Wednesday of the month from Sep-June. Additional committee meetings may be scheduled as needed. Board members are expected to attend 75% of the monthly meetings.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should email a statement of interest and a resume to Executive Director, Maria LaPage at mlapage@agassiz.org. Please note your connection to the organization, why you are interested in joining, whether you are interested in the MLBCC Board, and what you would contribute. If you have questions or want to learn more, please reach out!