

2020 SICA-USA Annual Report

SICA-USA had a difficult year in 2020, As did almost all human beings in a pandemic year. It turned out to be a year of transition that bodes well for the future of the organization, the Cultural Wing of Subud USA.

The website was the organization's main success, as there was a post every week of the year that went to our 1,277 website subscribers. There were 16,186 hits on the site, an increase over 2019 by 18%, with a daily average of 44 hits.

The website has recently been updated, with improved browsing speed and refining of site design. Plans for expanding blogging to a number of contributors and for outreach to non-board member contributors is a key goal for SICA-USA in 2021, along with the first SICA-USA fundraising campaign in recent memory. We hope to expand outreach to non-Subud cultural creatives, help send Board Members to National and Regional Congresses and fund projects by Subud creatives.

Harmony was a key issue in 2020 and that was resolved by relying on Subud process. Key factors in the development of a new harmony in SICA-USA operations include our National Helper Liaisons Michal Brownell and Jim Dehner. Guidance from Past Chair Hamilton Cheifetz, Subud USA Chair Lucas Boladian and SICA-International Co-Founder Latifah Taormina was also critical. Faith in testing and other aspects of Subud process was renewed.

Accounting was taken over by Ralph Davila and his efforts deserve special commendation here. A financial report will be done for 2020 and a 990 will be filed for the first time in several years.

A Subud cultural night Zoomooka, (which some called SICAMooka) was staged via Zoom to mostly positive feedback despite interruptions. Much of the video of the event made for great content on the SICA-USA website and can be viewed again there. Most of the night had the energy of Subud's beloved annual Menucha event, which like many events, was not staged due to the lockdown designed to slow the spread of Covid-19, the novel Coronavirus.

Hamilton Cheifetz ended his term as Chair due to SICA-USA by-laws and was replaced by yours truly, Secretary, Paul E Nelson. I took over as Chair on November 20, 2020 and want to express gratitude to Hamilton for his guidance for several years and for creating the environment for a new SICA-USA Board to be established.

A key project funded in 2020 was the Poetry Postcard Fest, a project of the non-profit I founded in 1993. Lawrence Pevec, one of the current SICA-USA Board Members, was among several Subud USA member participants in the postcard fest and created this wonderful video of his process:

<https://youtu.be/jWKZvudsYfE>

Like all we do, we welcome feedback on this report and ask you to stay tuned to SICA-USA in 2021 as we plan to have one of the most active and substantial years in the history of this organization.

I am humbled and honored to report this news and grateful to be part of Subud.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul E Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul E Nelson
SICA-USA Chair