/* ACADEMY SOFTWARE FOUNDATION

Governing Board Overview

2025

Academy Software Foundation Overview and Governance

/* ACADEMY SOFTWARE FOUNDATION

An Open Source Foundation Developed in Partnership

The Academy Software Foundation provides a neutral forum for open source software developers in the motion picture and broader media industries to share resources and collaborate on technologies for image creation, visual effects, animation and sound.

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THE LINUX FOUNDATION

ASWF created
August 10, 2018
Founding members:
Animal Logic
Autodesk
Blue Sky Studios
Cisco
DNEG
DreamWorks
Animation
Epic Games
Foundry
Google Cloud
Intel
SideFX
The Walt Disney
Studios
Weta Digital

Scitech Council
Open source
Investigation
concludes

01

First project
October 23, 2018
OpenVDB
New members:
Sony Pictures
Entertainment
Warner Bros.
Blender Foundation
Visual Effects Society

February 8, 2019
OpenColorIO

02

May 1 2019
OpenEXR
OpenCue
NVIDIA
ftrack
Red Hat

03

04

Open Source Day 2019
July 29, 2019
OpenTimelineIO
Netflix
Amazon Web Services
Rodeo FX
MovieLabs

05

Sept 13, 2019
Apple
Microsoft

06

April 16 2020
Open Shading Language
AMD
DockYard

07

$1M /year

COVID 19

Open Source Days 2020
August 19-20 2020
Unity
Conductor
Technologies
SMPTE

08

Dec. 15 2020
Adobe
ETC

09

Open Source Days 2021
August 4-5 2021
MaterialX
Maxon

10

Jan. 28 2022
Wevr

11

Open Source Forum 2022
March 10, 2022
Rez
DPEL
Raw2ACES

12

Open Source Days 2022
August 8-9, 2022
OpenFX
OpenAssetIO
Open Review Initiative
Canonical
Khronos Group

13

Open Source Forum 2023
Feb. 16 2023
HP
Framestore

14

Open Source Days 2023
July 25 - August 7, 2023
OpenImageIO
Otoy
Bolt Graphics
Coreweave

15

Open Source Forum 2024
Feb 22 2024
Mod Tech Labs

16

5 YEARS

Open Source Days 2024
July 23-29 2024
Samsung
Caligra

17

Open Source Forum 2025
Feb 13 2025
OpenAPV
Stability.ai
RaynaultVFX

18

May	August	Oct	Feb	May	August	Oct	Feb	May	August	Jan	August	Feb	August	Feb	August	Feb	August	Feb
	2018				2019				2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	

Membership

Premier

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

Adobe

AMD

aws

AUTODESK

DNEG

DreamWorks

EPIC GAMES

intel

Microsoft

NETFLIX

NVIDIA

SAMSUNG

Sony Pictures imageworks

Walt Disney Studios

wetaFX

General

ANIMALLOGIC

BOLT GRAPHICS

caligra

Canonical

CoreWeave

Framestore

ftrack

hp

MAXON

otoy

Raynault

Red Hat

SideFX

stability.ai

FOUNDRY.

WB

Associate

blender

etc

movie labs

SMPTE

KHRONOS

VES

We're a nonprofit, but not separately incorporated

- The Academy Software Foundation is part of the [the Linux Foundation](#) and is not a separate legal entity

- Therefore, the Academy Software Foundation Governing Board is not a corporate board of directors, and is not subject to corporate law statutes (e.g., those that govern fiduciary duties and how corporate boards of directors must operate)

- The powers and duties of the Governing Board are set forth in the [Academy Software Foundation Charter](#)
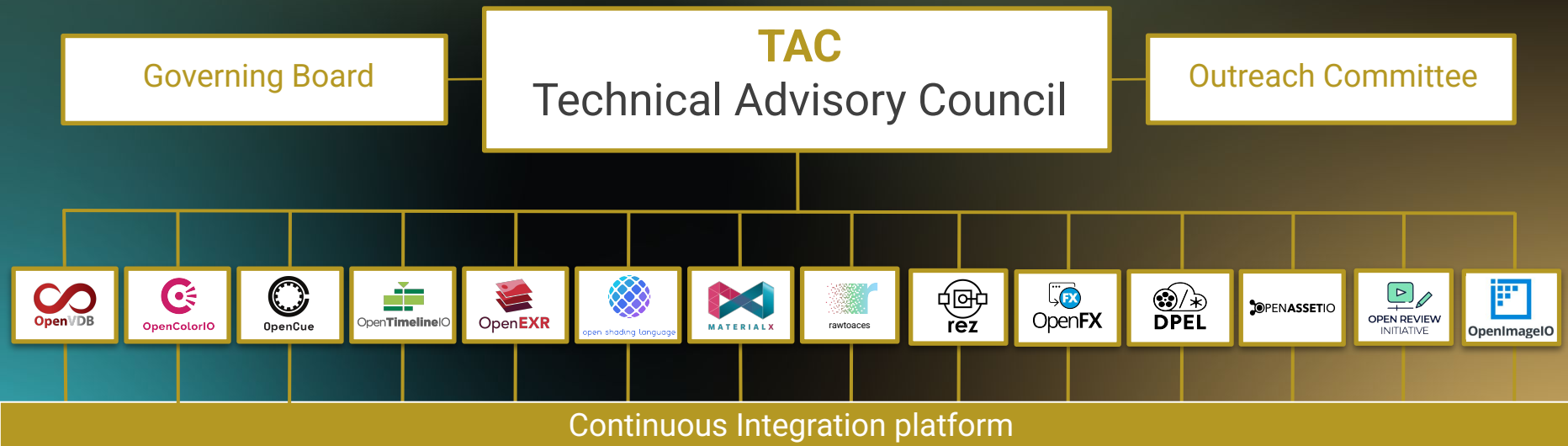
Key Governing Bodies and Committees

- Business & Marketing Leadership
  - Governing Board (Governing Board)
    - Budget Committee
    - Legal Committee
  - Outreach Committee

- Technical Leadership
  - Technical Advisory Council (TAC)
    - You can review the TAC meeting information and upcoming schedule and join the mailing list
  - Hosted Projects and Working Groups

Governing Board Responsibilities

Governing Board Responsibilities

The Governing Board's responsibilities include:

- Approving the Academy Software Foundation budget, directing the use of funds to advance the mission of the Academy Software Foundation;

- Directing marketing and outreach efforts;

- Providing financial governance overall;

- Voting on other decisions that come before the Governing Board.

Additional responsibilities are described in [Section 3](#) of the Academy Software Foundation Charter.

What the Governing Board is NOT responsible for

- The Governing Board does **not** make technical decisions for Academy Software Foundation other than working with the [TAC](#) to set the overall scope for the Academy Software Foundation.

- The Governing Board is **not** responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations of Academy Software Foundation. This is the responsibility of the foundation staff.

- The Governing Board is **not** a Board of Directors; it is a committee that provides budget oversight and direction. There are no personal liabilities for individual Governing Board representatives.

Governing Board Operations

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Governing Board Composition

- The Governing Board voting members consist of:

  - One representative appointed from each Premier member; and

  - General member elected representatives (if any)

  - The TAC Chairperson

- See Section 3(a) of the Academy Software Foundation Charter for more information about composition.

Governing Board Representatives

Rob Bredow
Chair
SVP, Chief Creative Officer
Industrial Light & Magic

Alexander Forsythe
Senior Director, Science and Technology
Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

Daniel Heckenberg
Senior Software Engineer
Netflix, Inc.

Darin Grant
Treasurer
CTO
Netflix

Eric Bourque
Vice Chair
VP Content Creation
Autodesk

Eric Mejdrich
Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)

Gregory Ducatel
Executive Director, Software Development
Sony Pictures Entertainment

Guido Quaroni
Senior Director of Engineering, 3D & Immersive
Adobe Inc.

Guy Martin
Director, Open Source & Standards
NVIDIA Corporation

Jeremy Smith
Chief Technologist
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company

Kimball Thurston
Chief Technology Officer
Wētā FX Limited

Kwang Pyo Choi
Vice President of Technology
Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.

Larry Gritz
Software Architect / Distinguished Engineer
Sony Pictures Entertainment

Mark Jackels
Director of Research Development
DreamWorks Animation

Michael B. Johnson
Innovation Architect, Pro Workflow
Apple Inc.

Paul Salvini
Global Chief Technology Officer
DNEG

Pauline Koh
Senior Product Manager, Technical
Amazon Web Services, Inc.

Phil Parsonage
Director of Engineering
The Foundry Visionmongers Limited

Sean McDuffee
Graphics Software Engineer
Intel Corporation

Sebastien Miglio
VP Product and Engineering Creator Tools
Epic Games, Inc

Simon Crownshaw
Worldwide Media and Entertainment Strategy Director
Microsoft Corporation

Alternates Policy

- Premier and General member companies with appointed representatives on the Governing Board may appoint alternates.

- Alternates may attend all Governing Board meetings.
  - If the primary representative is present, the alternate may participate in listen-only mode and may not vote or speak.
  - Only if the primary representative is unable to attend the meeting, the alternate may speak and vote in lieu of the primary representative.

- At Strategy and Leadership Meetings (at which no voting occurs), both primary and alternate representatives may speak (the alternate does not need to participate in listen-only mode)

ACTION: To appoint your representative and your alternate, please file a request at members.aswf.io, and have the representatives create an LF ID.

You can change your representative at any time by making a request at members.aswf.io.

Governing Board Alternates

Alexander Wilkie
Head of R & D
Animal Logic Pty
Ltd

Bhanu Srikanth
Partner
Engagement,
Technology
Partnerships,
Standards
Netflix, Inc.

Carol Payne
Color & Imaging
Workflow Leader
Individual - No
Account

Duncan Burbidge
Epic Games, Inc

Erik Niemeyer
Intel Corporation

Greg Denton
Senior Program
Manager
Microsoft
Corporation

john canning
Dir of Dev
Relations -
Creators
Advanced Micro
Devices (AMD)

Kevin Sprout
Director of
Developer
Relations,
Omniverse
NVIDIA
Corporation

Mallory King
Pipeline Td,
Systems Engineer
Apple Inc.

Martine Bertrand
Senior
Researcher AI
DNEG

Morgan Prygrocki
Sr. Strategic
Development
Manager
Adobe Inc.

Rachel Rose
Director,
Research &
Development
Industrial Light &
Magic

Robert Fanner
Engineering
Manager -
Platform
The Foundry
Visionmongers
Limited

Sarah Counnas
DreamWorks
Animation

Sean Wallitsch
Solutions
Architect
Amazon Web
Services, Inc.

Tony Micilotta
Senior Director,
Content Creation
Engineering
Autodesk

Youngkwon Lim
Principal
Researcher
Samsung
Electronics Co.
Ltd.

Succession Policy

- Maximum term for any Governing Board representative is 4 years.
    - Individuals may serve again on the Governing Board after a two year break between terms.
    - Individual may serve as an alternate during the two year break.
    - There are no lifetime term limits.
- Governing Board target goal of rotating 25% of Governing Board representatives on an annual basis.
    - If there are less that 25% of new representatives, the Governing Board may request longer tenured representatives to appoint a replacement.

Governing Board Chairperson

Annually in January, the Governing Board will elect a chairperson to serve for the current year.

Duties of the Governing Board Chairperson include:

- Oversee the day-to-day operational decisions of the Academy Software Foundation.

- Work with the foundation staff to prepare the agenda for Governing Board meetings.

- Be a spokesperson for the Academy Software Foundation and the Governing Board, as needed

See Section 3(c) of the Academy Software Foundation Charter for more information about the chairperson role.

Governing Board Treasurer

Annually in January, the Governing Board will elect a treasurer to serve for the current year.

Duties of the Governing Board Treasurer include:

- Serve as the chairperson of the Budget Committee

- Work with the foundation staff to prepare financial updates and reforecasts to the Budget Committee and Governing Board.

- Work with the foundation staff in preparing and leading the approval of the annual budget.

See Section 3(c) of the Academy Software Foundation Charter for more information about the treasurer role.
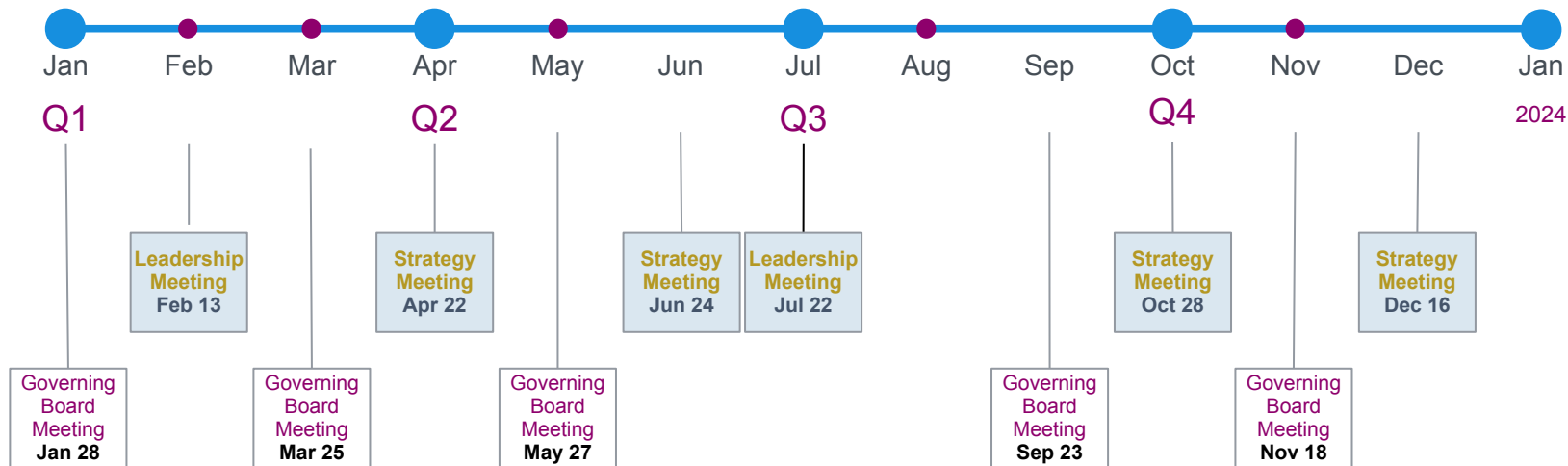
Governing Board Meetings

Meeting Cadence

- The Governing Board has monthly virtual regular meetings, generally on the fourth Thursday of each month.

- Format for the meetings alternates between a formal business meeting and strategy session
    - At the formal business meetings, voting will often take place.
    - For the strategy meetings, the Governing Board will align on a topic to discuss at the previous business meeting.

- Additionally, the Governing Board has two hybrid Leadership Meetings sessions per year (at Open Source Forum in February and Open Source Days in August).
    - TAC voting members and a representative from each General Member are invited to Strategy Sessions.

- In rare and exceptional circumstances (e.g., in an emergency situation), an additional ad hoc special meeting of the Governing Board may be convened.
    - To request a special meeting, please email your request to the Foundation Staff and Governing Board Chair, and they will decide whether a special meeting is necessary or the proposed agenda item can be discussed by email or at the next regular meeting.

FY2025
Meeting Schedule

Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

2024

Leadership Meeting
Feb 13

Strategy Meeting
Apr 22

Strategy Meeting
Jun 24

Leadership Meeting
Jul 22

Strategy Meeting
Oct 28

Strategy Meeting
Dec 16

Governing Board Meeting
Jan 28

Governing Board Meeting
Mar 25

Governing Board Meeting
May 27

Governing Board Meeting
Sep 23

Governing Board Meeting
Nov 18

Future Meetings of the Governing Board for 2025 will be held at 2:00 pm US Pacific Time unless noted

How to propose an agenda item

- If you would like to propose an agenda item for discussion at a Governing Board meeting, please submit your proposal to the Academy Software Foundation Executive Director & the Governing Board Chair.

- Please include in your request:
  - A description of the topic
  - Board resolution or discussion-only item
  - Requested amount of time to discuss the item

- For a regular Governing Board meeting, please submit your proposed agenda item at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

- For a Strategy Session, please submit your proposed agenda item at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

Proposing an agenda item (continued)

- Please be patient. Our board meeting agendas are often very full. If we cannot accommodate your request in the upcoming meeting we may:
  - Wait until the following meeting to discuss the topic
  - Call a special meeting to discuss your topic, or
  - Refer the topic to the appropriate committee or task force of the Governing Board.

- We may ask you to provide slides 5 days before the meeting, and slides are subject to change (with your approval) to fit the broader meeting slide deck.

Governing Board Materials

- Agendas and Exhibits for Governing Board meetings will be made available one week prior to the scheduled meeting
  - The FINAL deck will be made available one day prior to the meeting.
- Past meeting materials can be found [here](#).
- All meeting materials are confidential and for the view of Governing Board representatives and their alternates ONLY, unless otherwise specified.
  - No meeting of the Governing Board is recorded unless the Governing Board provides explicit consent to do so.

Discussion Channels

Relevant Mailing Lists

- Governing Board: board@lists.aswf.io

- TAC: tac@lists.aswf.io

- Budget Committee: budget@lists.aswf.io

- Legal Committee: legal@lists.aswf.io

Slack Channel

- You can join Academy Software Foundation slack here.

- To join the Governing Board slack channel, make a request at members.aswf.io.

Governing Board Committees

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Budget Committee

- The Budget Committee is lead by the Governing Board Treasurer and collaborates with the Academy Software Foundation staff to develop and review the Academy Software Foundation budget.

- Any Governing Board representative may join (not alternates)

- Meets generally monthly on the Monday of the week before the Governing Board meeting

ACTION: If you want to participate in the Budget Committee, make a request at members.aswf.io.

Legal Committee

- The Legal Committee makes recommendations to the Governing Board regarding license exception requests from Academy Software Foundation projects and other questions submitted to the Legal Committee by the Governing Board.

- The Legal Committee does not represent Academy Software Foundation and does not have an attorney-client relationship with Academy Software Foundation.

- Meets on an as needed basis.

- Governing Boards may attend only if accompanied by their legal counsel.

Policies and Other Resources

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Important Academy Software Foundation Policies and Resources

- [Academy Software Foundation Charter](#)

- [Linux Foundation Antitrust Policy](#)

- [Foundation GitHub repository](#) with many other public facing policies and materials including…

  - [Elections Process](#)

  - [Academy Software Foundation hosted project charters](#), which define each project's intellectual property and licensing policies.

- [ASWF Landscape](#)

- [High Level Overview](#)

LFX Organization Dashboard

LFX Organization Dashboard provides access to key membership materials, including…

- Member contacts, which you can change at any time (look under 'Users' > and then under the 'Key People' tab)
- Membership details (look under 'Membership' > 'Academy Software Foundation'), including…
  - Membership Overview Deck and High Level Overview Deck (look under the 'Resources' tab)
  - Your fully executed membership agreement (look under the 'Membership' tab)
  - Details on how to leverage membership benefits (look under the 'Benefits' tab)
  - Insights on contributors from your organization (look under the 'Project Contributors' tab)

ACTION: Request access to LFX Organizational Dashboard here.

Foundation Staff

David Morin
Executive Director
Academy Software Foundation

Deb Giles
Event Director
The Linux Foundation

Emily Olin
Director of Marketing Communications
Academy Software Foundation

John Mertic
Director of Program Management
The Linux Foundation

Yarille Ortiz
Senior Project Coordinator
The Linux Foundation

Contact the staff at members.aswf.io

Who's Who in the Academy Software Foundation

- [Academy Software Foundation Members](#)

- Staff: [Academy Software Foundation Staff](#), [Linux Foundation Leadership](#)

- [Governing Board Members](#)

- [Technical Advisory Council Members](#)

- [Academy Software Foundation Project and Working Group Leads](#)

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Thank you!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the staff at members.aswf.io.