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VICE PRESIDENT

SAM SLOM
MINORITY LEADER

The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 2, 2012

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CHIEF CLERK
CAROL TANIGUCHI

Ms. Sharon Narimatsu



Re: Nomination to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission
GM 878

Dear Ms. Narimatsu:

Congratulations on being nominated by Governor Neil Abercrombie to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission. To assist the Senate with its confirmation process, I request that the following information be submitted to my office by **Monday, April 9, 2012**:

- (1) A resume with a list of references
- (2) A written statement that addresses the following questions:
 - (a) Why do you wish to be a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?
 - (b) How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts? During the past five years, State Foundation on Culture and Arts' funding and operations were severely curtailed. What recommendations do you have for State Foundation on Culture and Arts and other agencies to address funding shortfalls?

Enclosed for your information is SCR 57 SD 1, which proposes new partnerships to enhance future growth of State Hawaii Foundation on Culture and Arts.
 - (c) Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position? Please include a brief statement of your skills, expertise, or knowledge that would aid in your decision-making ability as a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.
 - (d) What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

- (e) Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?
- (f) Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?
- (g) Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interests that could arise during your service on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts? How would you overcome any possible conflicts of interest?

Your prompt response in providing the above information will ensure that the Senate confirmation process can proceed in a timely manner. The committee is scheduling your confirmation hearing on Wednesday, April 11, 2012 at 1:15pm in Conference Room 016. Please contact Doris Lam or Ashley Advincula, EDT Committee Clerk at 586-6890 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,



Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senate Economic Development Committee

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO
ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE PLACEMENT OF THE STATE
FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS.

1 WHEREAS, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts was
2 established by Act 269, Session Laws of Hawaii 1965, as a
3 temporary agency and placed within the Office of the Governor;
4 and
5

6 WHEREAS, Act 192, Session Laws of Hawaii 1970, established
7 the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts on a permanent
8 basis, placed within the Department of Budget and Finance; and
9

10 WHEREAS, Act 302, Session Laws of Hawaii 1980, transferred
11 the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts from the Department
12 of Budget and Finance to the Department of Accounting and
13 General Services; and
14

15 WHEREAS, since the inception of the State Foundation on
16 Culture and the Arts in 1965, the Legislature has charged the
17 State Foundation on Culture and the Arts with the task of
18 stimulating, guiding, and promoting culture, arts, history, and
19 the humanities throughout the State; and
20

21 WHEREAS, across the country, state arts agencies have
22 evolved to remain relevant, vibrant, and able to play a
23 significant, if not the central role, in promoting culture and
24 the arts in their respective communities; and
25

26 WHEREAS, one means of achieving greater relevancy and
27 assistance for Hawaii's arts and cultural communities would be a
28 transfer of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts from
29 the Department of Accounting and General Services to a
30 department whose mission, assets, and purpose would provide



1 better opportunities for growth and expansion of the agency's
2 purposes and functions; and
3

4 WHEREAS, such a transfer would provide an opportunity to
5 evaluate achievements and best practices from other
6 jurisdictions in refocusing the State Foundation on Culture and
7 the Arts, as well as programs from other state agencies, to
8 achieve a higher level of business development opportunities for
9 cultural, heritage, and arts programs, as well as leveraging
10 public-private partnerships for financing Hawaii's cultural,
11 heritage, and arts programs; and
12

13 WHEREAS, this would assist the State Foundation on Culture
14 and the Arts ensure that the agency is relevant and responsive
15 to its community needs and audiences as it strives to present
16 all dynamic and diverse art forms in Hawaii; now, therefore,
17

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the
20 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
21 Accounting and General Services is requested to establish a
22 working group to develop recommendations regarding the
23 administrative placement of the State Foundation on Culture and
24 the Arts; and
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the recommendations build upon
27 the current mission of the State Foundation on Culture and the
28 Arts and incorporate the following objectives:
29

- 30 (1) Leveraging public-private financing in support of
31 visual arts, music, design, literature, theater, and
32 dance to strengthen Hawaii's cultural sector with
33 expanded funding and raise the grants funding capacity
34 of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and
35 its partners to levels of \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000
36 annually;
37
- 38 (2) Developing a strategic plan to expand the capacity of
39 Hawaii's cultural, heritage, and arts organizations to
40 provide Hawaii residents and visitors with quality
41 cultural experiences;
42



- 1 (3) Developing a sustainable funding model to support
2 increased investment in cultural, heritage, and arts
3 programming throughout the State;
4
- 5 (4) Recommending changes to State Foundation on Culture
6 and the Arts programs and infrastructure, including
7 broadening the scope of the agency and renaming it, to
8 further the effective implementation of the above-
9 mentioned objectives; and
10
- 11 (5) Collaborating with interested stakeholders from
12 cultural, heritage, and arts agencies, including the
13 Department of Business, Economic Development, and
14 Tourism; Department of Land and Natural Resources;
15 Hawaii Tourism Authority; Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
16 and Bishop Museum; and
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Accounting
19 and General Services report its findings and recommendations,
20 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
21 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
22 of 2013; and
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved
25 on June 30, 2013; and
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Comptroller;
29 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
30 Executive Director of the State Foundation on Culture and the
31 Arts; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources;
32 Executive Director of the Hawaii Tourism Authority; Chief
33 Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and
34 Director of the Bishop Museum.



Sharon Narimatsu

Nomination to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission GM 878

QUESTIONS FOR THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

1. Why do you wish to be a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts?

While I am not an artist, I have always had an appreciation for the arts in all of their dynamic manifestations. Now that I am retired, I would like to devote part of my time to the promotion and preservation of art and culture in Hawai'i. In particular:

(a) As a former educator, I have great interest in SFCA's strategic initiative to increase opportunities for arts education among our students.

(b) Having majored in history in college, I have a love of history and culture and believe that every society benefits from knowing its legacy and loses its soul when it forgets.

(c) Being originally from the island of Molokai and recognizing that opportunities are few and far between for exposure to the various forms of artistic and cultural expressions in many small communities across our state, I would be an advocate for assuring that SFCA continues to support its initiative to reach out to the Neighbor Islands and underserved communities throughout our island chain.

(d) Having served as the deputy director for DBEDT, I have a viewpoint that art can be an economic driver. To achieve this will require the collaboration of SFCA with other state and private entities that share common goals. Hawai'i is situated in the middle of the Pacific, with strong ties to other Pacific Islanders and Asians and can, therefore, serve as a gathering place for artists and art lovers. Many more festivals and special events centered on art and culture can be coordinated with partner organizations to further this idea.

For another project on a smaller scale, SFCA could possibly work with HTA, OHA, DBEDT, DLNR, other museums as well as the visitor industry itself to package programs to attract groups of art patrons from the Mainland and abroad to visit Hawai'i to both view performances as well as appreciate and purchase artworks. HiSAM is a wonderful venue for cultivating art patrons from away.

Both the large scale and smaller venue projects would have a double effect of enhancing a segment of the "art tourism market" to support our visitor industry while at the same time, creating opportunities for our indigenous and local artists

to promote and sell their art (performing and visual) as a livelihood and to share their culture. This will add to our State's overall bottom line as well as SFCA's, the latter for serving as the lead initiator of the program.

2. How do you perceive the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts? During the past five years, SFCA's funding and operations were severely curtailed. What recommendations do you have for SFCA and other agencies to address funding shortfalls.

The roles and responsibilities of a commissioner are many and varied, but fundamentally, a commissioner is a policy setter, not an implementer of programs. A commissioner must work closely with the SFCA staff, the arts community, cultural and historical organizations, educators, the business sector, government, and the community-at-large to establish the mission and goals, with attendant strategic policies, for the organization. Of equal importance is the financial viability of the organization, for which a commissioner is responsible. And as changes take place in the art world itself, especially with art merging with technology, and as changes surface in the specific needs of the recipient communities, a commissioner must make sure that SFCA remains relevant by instituting adjustments to policies and programs to incorporate these changes.

As for ways in which to address the shortfalls, partnerships between and among public and private entities that have mutual goals are an essential strategy to pursue. This will ensure that available funding among these public and private entities can be maximized through collaborative efforts to reach target audiences that they share, with agreed upon benefits. Duplication of funding and effort is a waste.

Second, exploring new sources of funding is critical. As mentioned above, perhaps new visitor markets can be created to specifically showcase indigenous and local artists from here in Hawaii as well as from the greater Pacific region and, thereby, become an additional funding source for SFCA while boosting the visitor industry. Seeking out additional granting opportunities from foundations that support art and culture is also important.

Third, looking to successful jurisdictions across the United State and abroad to learn about their best practices would be extremely helpful in determining the course SFCA can take toward achieving financial viability in order to fulfill its important mission.

Fourth, a steady source of funding is necessary to avoid the uncertainties of the economy, which impact on programmatic offerings year-to-year. While it is not a popular idea in these times of fiscal constraints, a dedicated tax for the arts may be something that can be explored for its feasibility.

I hesitate to offer further ideas as I believe it is necessary for new commissioners to learn about the organization first and to respect its history and the good work performed by previous commissioners, which has taken SFCA to this stage in its 47-year development.

3. Given your understanding of the role and responsibilities of a commissioner of the SFCA, why do you believe that you are qualified for the position?

Having been an administrator for many years within the University of Hawai'i system, I am familiar with how government works. This experience with and knowledge of governmental policies and procedures can be an asset when working with other state and local departments and agencies to fulfill the mission and goals of SFCA.

In my career, I have also worked in partnership with the private sector, and this experience can also be brought to the table to assist SFCA at a time in its development when partnerships will be critical to its growth and vitality.

4. What do you hope to accomplish during your term of service?

I would like to work toward financial stability for the organization so that it can expand its programmatic offerings to the many communities across our state, especially to the underserved ones. I would also like to work toward the eventual transformation of the entire building into an art museum so that more performing and visual arts as well as cultural programs can be showcased for our local communities and visitors alike.

5. Name three qualities that best describe you and that would make you stand out. How would these qualities benefit the SFCA?

I believe I have a very positive "can-do attitude", an ability to assess issues rationally, and "networking know-how" to reach across both governmental and private sector lines. These qualities and capabilities will enable me to assist SFCA in addressing issues as they arise, find appropriate answers, and network with other public and private sector partners to make things happen for SFCA.

6. Name one previous experience that would make you stand out. How would this benefit the SFCA?

When I became deputy director of DBEDT, one of the properties under the department's jurisdiction was (and still is) the Film Studio. It was in very poor condition and had been for several years. It was certainly not conducive to the goal of enticing film productions to Hawai'i. By working collaboratively with the film commissioners across the state and with all sectors of the film industry, from actors to directors to editors to support crews and the unions, we mobilized a campaign to persuade the Legislature of the need for \$7 million to refurbish the

Film Studio and were fortunate to secure the funding. I believe this kind of “can-do attitude” and an ability to network with many sectors of the community will benefit SFCA.

7. Can you foresee any possible conflicts of interest that could arise during your service on SFCA?

No, I do not foresee any possible conflicts.

TESTIMONY OF
SHARON S. NARIMATSU
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY
ON
APRIL 12, 2012

G.M. 878

Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, SHARON S. NARIMATSU, for a term to expire June 30, 2016.

Chair Fukunaga and members of the Committee, thank you very much for the opportunity to appear before you today.

I appreciate the opportunity being accorded to me by Governor Neil Abercrombie with this nomination. I consider it a privilege to be considered for the SFCA Commission. I also appreciate the support of those who submitted letters of support in my behalf and to everyone here in attendance who are lending me their support and aloha.

While I am not an artist, I have a love of the arts in their many expressions and an appreciation for historical and cultural legacies that are so vital to a society's sense of place. I would like to spend part of my retirement years helping to promote and preserve indigenous and local art and culture here in our State through SFCA.

I retired from a wonderful career in the field of higher education, primarily as an administrator in various roles of responsibility. In this capacity, I had the

opportunity to work with various governmental departments and agencies as well as well as private sector companies, large and small, and community organizations to reach mutually desired goals. In this day of fiscal constraints, the public sector must do everything it can to partner with private and other public sector groups with similar goals and constituencies to maximize available resources and deliver services with the optimum efficiency and results possible. I believe my knowledge of and experience with governmental policies and procedures as well as my networking capabilities can be of value to the SFCA in fulfilling its mission and goals.

If confirmed, I look forward to working with the SFCA staff, commissioners, the arts community, cultural and historical organizations, educators, governmental agencies, the business sector and the community-at-large to make access to indigenous and local art in all their manifestations readily available to both local residents and visitors alike.

I would like to thank this Committee for the work you do to support culture and the arts in Hawai'i as an important and necessary force that reinforces the deep roots of a society and enriches the lives of its citizenry on a daily basis. Without culture and the arts, a society loses its soul.

At this time, I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have. Thank you very much.

GM 878

Ms. Sharon Narimatsu

State Foundation on Culture and the Arts
Commission

EDT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
DEAN H. SEKI, ACTING COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
ON
April 11, 2012

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 878

SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE STATE
FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS COMMISSION, SHARON
NARIMATSU

Chair Fukunaga and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on G.M. 878. The Department of Accounting and General Services supports Ms. Sharon Narimatsu's confirmation to the Commission.

Ms. Narimatsu has served in a number of high level leadership roles at the University of Hawaii (Provost of Leeward Community College and Vice Chancellor for Student and Community Affairs, University of Hawaii Community Colleges), the State of Hawaii (Deputy Director, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism), and as President of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce. She has also served on numerous community boards including the Hawaii Heart Association and the Mid-Pacific Institute Board of Directors. Ms. Narimatsu's leadership experience provides her with the necessary skills to be a contributing member of the Commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



2 April 2012

Senator Carol Fukunaga
Chair Economic Development and Technology Committee
Senatorial District 11
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 216
Honolulu, HI 96813
VIA ONLINE SUBMITTAL

Dear Senator Fukunaga:

Thought leader, team player, humble human being and one who appreciates art are just a few attributes that qualify Sharon Narimatsu to serve on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Commission. She has an impeccable feel for how to get the right thing done right while including all players in a collaborative way. She has respect for the historical foundation of organizations she worked with in the past and tremendous insight into how to create viable futures for them. She will be able to bring these qualities and skills to bear at the Commission to help it fulfill its mission and goals.

In her capacity as DBEDT deputy director and president of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce (HJCC) Sharon always worked with integrity, curiosity and compassion. It was quite impressive how her leadership created new opportunities and drove participation among her colleagues and the community.

Sharon has consistently demonstrated the passion and ability to build economic development into all her endeavors. At DBEDT, she spearheaded a campaign to build awareness of Hawaii as a place to do business, in addition to a visitor destination. At the HJCC, she positioned the *Commitment to Excellence* art exhibition as *art as commerce*, in addition to *art for art sake*, to provide artists the opportunity to make a living through their creative talents.

I have known Sharon Narimatsu for over ten years, and will say with whole-hearted confidence that confirming her to serve on the State Foundation of Culture and the Arts is the right decision.

Sincerely

Emi O. Anamizu, CEO
Core Group One, Inc.

April 6, 2012

Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology

RE: GM 878 – Nomination of Sharon Narimatsu to the State Foundation for Culture and the Arts Commission

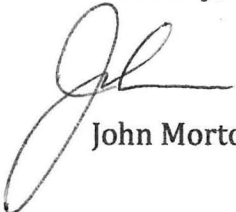
Dear Carol:

I would like to offer my support to the appointment by Governor Abercrombie of Sharon Narimatsu to serve on the State Foundation for Culture and the Arts Commission.

I have known and worked with Sharon for over thirty years. Throughout her long history of leadership and public service, Sharon has served with intelligence, integrity, and with a solid grounding from her growing up on Moloka'i. She has one other quality that perhaps best qualifies her for the State Foundation Commission – passion. Without question, Sharon will commit all of her considerable talent to the benefit of the State Foundation because that is the only way Sharon knows how to approach work or life.

I urge the Senate to confirm her nomination. The State Foundation for Culture and the Arts will benefit from her contribution and the State of Hawai'i will benefit from having another champion for the important role the State Foundation plays for all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Morton', written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

John Morton

**THE SENATE
TWENTY SIXTH LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2012**

**TO: Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair**

Madam Chair and Committee Members,

Good Afternoon. My name is Joseph Sailer. I am testifying in support of the nomination of Sharon Narimatsu to the Commission of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Separately you have received the resume of Sharon Narimatsu career of public service. It is a singular record of achievement in and dedication to education, business and the community service. Not bad for a Moloka'i girl.

My testimony will touch only on a small, but revealing segment of Sharon Narimatsu long, illustrious career. When Sharon Narimatsu was President of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce, she was often asked why the Honolulu Japanese Chamber, a **business** organization, spent so much time supporting an **art** exhibition. Shouldn't the Chamber pass over the annual art exhibition to the Japanese Culture Center of Hawai'i?

Sharon's answer was the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce is supporting the **business of art**. The Chamber's mission is to support business, especially small business. By supporting the Annual Art Exhibition the Chamber, she explained, was, and is supporting small businessmen and women, **artists**, who make their living by creating and selling their art works. To show and sell the public their *product*, **art**, artists need a showroom, an exhibition, the **HJCC Annual Art Exhibition**. Attached is an Annual Art Exhibition handout, "The What, Why and How of the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce Annual Art Exhibition "**Commitment to Excellence**", which explains more fully, what Sharon Narimatsu meant.

This insight into the relationship of business to art is what Sharon Narimatsu would bring to the Commission of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

It is an insight and passion, which the late Steve Jobs, founder and CEO of the Apple Corporation had. He said that art and technology are two streets which naturally intersect. He insisted that Apple products be objects of beauty and intuitively easy to use. Even the inner electronic boards of a computer had to be beautifully aligned. No one would see them, but the engineers who designed and placed them would know. Jobs would know.

Sharon Narimatsu energy, passion and business acumen are special qualities which she will bring to the Commission of the State Foundation. She is also a very persuasive person. In her first year as HJCC President, she personally recruited the CEO of one of Hawai'i's largest auto dealerships to be the Art Exhibition primary sponsor and a prominent real estate executive to feature the award winning artists with one month exhibition at his new gallery. The auto executive and his company also became the Exhibition's largest patron.

Page 2

Like Steve Jobs, people do not say no to Sharon Narimatsu. Both possess strong wills and passion to produce the finest product and results. Unlike Jobs whose vision came intuitively and sometimes from his “reality distortion”, Sharon Narimatsu uses reason and overpowering enthusiasm. As a Molokai girl, her feet are firmly planted on the ground.

Sometimes appointments to prestigious Commissions are rewards for life long achievements or to add stature to the Commission by the prominence of the new member. Considering Sharon Narimatsu impressive resume of achievement and service, those would be good reasons alone to approve her nomination. But those who know Sharon Narimatsu know she is not looking for something to do. She is certainly not interested in resting on her laurels. She is as busy today as she always was. The juices are still flowing. The energy still surges. If your Committee approves the nomination of Sharon Narimatsu, and I strongly urge you to approve, look out State Foundation, here comes Sharon.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on the nomination of Sharon Narimatsu to the Commission of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Enclosure (1): HJCC Handout: “The What, Why and How of HJCC Annual Art Exhibition ‘**Commitment to Excellence**’”.

The What, Why and How
Of The
Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce
Annual Art Exhibition
“Commitment to Excellence”

The What:

The Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce (HJCC) is a business venture organized to support the business of our members and our community. The HJCC approaches all of its activities, including the Annual Art Exhibition as business ventures. Each venture must foster an *important business objective, be self sustaining and strive for success.*

The HJCC conducts the Annual Art Exhibition to support the *business of art* in Hawai'i by providing an annual venue for the best works of Hawaii's artists.

In 1978, the HJCC held its first Exhibition to promote “Japanese Artists in Hawaii”. Since then the Exhibition has evolved, offering the works of all Hawaii's artists. Over the years the Exhibition has grown in stature, with the addition of invited artists and juried selection of works by rising artists. Now, hundreds of artists compete for selection in the “Commitment to Excellence”.

The Why:

Each Exhibition must fulfill the theme “Commitment to Excellence”. Each Exhibition must be self sustaining. Artistic excellence, public recognition and financial viability are the measures of the Exhibition's success.

The HJCC seeks the best works of some of Hawaii's finest artists. The HJCC wants the public to come and enjoy an outstanding Exhibition. The HJCC wants to foster the environment for the *business of art to grow.*

The How:

The Exhibition offers a balance of works by invited artists and rising artists. 12-15 invited artists enter one work each, and one senior master artist enters several works. The bulk of the works are jury selected works by rising artists. Rising artists' works represent 60% to 75% of the Exhibition. Invited artists set the standard of excellence and are the public draw. They loyally enter their works to support the Exhibition. Jury selected works by rising artists provide new perspectives and excellence. Rising artists compete for ten awards and cash prizes. Rising artists build their reputation by selection in the Exhibition.

The HJCC underwrites the substantial Exhibition costs by sponsor donations, entry fees, and art commissions. Most of commissions come from invited artists' works. Volunteers contribute over 700 hours of labor and talent to control the Exhibition cost.

The What, Why and How
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