



HAWAI'I

STATE FOUNDATION on
CULTURE and the ARTS

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**TESTIMONY OF
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS
March 28, 2023 Conference Room 224 & Videoconference at 3:00PM
GM573**

**Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the State Foundation
on Culture and the Arts, Gubernatorial Nominee, JANET SATO, for a term to**

expire 06-30-2024.

Chair Lee and members of the Committee, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA), is pleased to testify in **SUPPORT** of the nomination of Janet Sato to serve as a commissioner for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

It is critical for individuals appointed to the SFCA commission to be community contributors in the field of Culture and Arts as commission appointments influence the direction the agency takes. The appointment of Janet Sato is most appropriate as her career was dedicated to providing opportunities to Hawaii's under served neighbor island public school community which aligns with the SFCA's Strategic Plan to *"Ensure the equitable distribution of SFCA resources to support arts education in high-needs and under served areas."*

Ms. Janet Sato is a resident of the Island of Maui, who recently retired after over 30 years teaching art at Henry Perrine Baldwin High School. In addition to her role on campus, for many years Ms. Sato brought her students to 'Oahu to participate in the annual Hawai'i Regional Scholastic Art Awards competitions where her students were recognized for their outstanding achievements. Ms. Sato understands the value of the arts in providing students a well rounded education.

We are grateful for her contributions to arts education over the years and look forward to her support of the SFCA and its mission to promote, preserve and perpetuate culture and the arts for the people of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Sato's nomination.

March 22, 2023

P.O. Box 1002
Haiku, HI 96708

To: Transportation and Culture and the Arts Committee members:

From: Susan Browne, Maui resident and commissioner on the board of the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and Arts since 2018

Re: In support of Janet Sato's appointment as a commissioner
on the State Foundation on Culture and Arts board

I am writing in support of Maui resident Janet Sato as a commissioner on the board of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA). I have known and worked with Ms. Sato for 25 years. As the education director at Maui Arts & Culture Center (MACC) from 1998-2016, I was privileged to work with Ms. Sato, an exemplary art teacher at Baldwin High School where she worked from 1988-2021 when she retired. I was also able to spend time in Ms. Sato's classroom in 2018 when I worked as the Maui Field Supervisor for candidates pursuing a master's degree in education from the University of Hawai'i.

Janet Sato has a rare gift of bringing out the very best in her students; whether they are gifted in visual arts or struggling to stay in school and complete assignments, she is kind, patient, and encouraging. I have witnessed these same traits as she works as a peer with colleagues and when instructing other teachers. Ms. Sato attended several week-long summer institutes for teachers sponsored by the MACC, where she extended her learning to include design thinking, writing poetry, and drama. One year she was the visual arts presenter at a summer institute. Ms. Sato is a life-long learner who looks for opportunities to give back to her community.

During her 33 years at Baldwin High School, Ms. Sato mentored several students with exemplary talent in visual arts. Many are now highly successful artists with work in the SFCA's collection of public, relocatable art. Kirk Kurokawa and Noble Richardson are two of those artists who give credit to Ms. Sato for encouraging them to pursue higher education and develop the discipline needed to succeed as a successful artist.

The State Foundation on Culture and the Arts would be very lucky to have Janet Sato as a commissioner. Her skills in collaboration, communication, and problem solving will go a long way in helping us to move forward in the next four years.

I highly recommend the appointment of Janet Sato as a commissioner on the board of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Susan Browne
Commissioner, SFCA
808-283-9285

GM-573

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 9:09:29 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/28/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Neida Bangerter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

3-22-23

To Whom it may concern,

This serves as a recommendation for Janet Yuri Sato for consideration of a commissioner position with the SFCA. I have known Jan for over 20 years in the capacity of friend, art education and in my position as Gallery Director at Maui Arts & Cultural Center.

She was a highly regarded and inventive art educator with 42 years of dedicated classroom experience, passionate about positive learning opportunities created through the arts as the

Visual Arts Instructor, HP Baldwin High School, Wailuku, HI — 1988–2021.

She implemented standards-based, student-centered Visual Arts curriculum offered in sequential courses from introductory through Advanced Placement levels with balanced emphasis on art for countless students, many of whom became professional artists in career choices.

Her dedication to empowering students with AP portfolios and entry into Regional Art Shows receiving recognition through Scholastic Achievement awards and preparing them with bigger choices.

Jan established long-term community relationships with professional visual arts centers and organizations, and post-secondary programs/scholarships to connect students to available resources and opportunities. (HSFCA Artists-in-the-Schools, Maui Arts & Cultural Center, Hui Noeau Visual Arts Center) We invited her to participate in the Schaefer Portrait Challenge 2022 as a juror for statewide entries where she assumed a pivotal part in making decisions to form an excellent exhibition.

I encourage your consideration of Jan Sato for any role in your organization and feel she would be an asset to all projects with integrity and a wonderful personality.

Thank you-

Neida Bangerter

Director, Maui Arts & Cultural Center, Schaefer International Gallery

Aloha prestigious committee of the Medical Advisory Board and the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts,

My name is Edwin Ushiro and I am a working professional artist. I am writing in support of Janet Sato to represent Maui district as a Commissioner for the Medical Advisory Board and the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. This will be the easiest recommendation I write.

As a former student of Mrs. Sato, I can tell you that she is dedicated to the arts in Hawaii. She encouraged us to experience art through museum excursions, books, inviting visiting artists to our class and digital forms. The number of artists in Hawaii and beyond (including me) are the results of her tireless efforts.

When she recently retired, it came to no ones' surprise that she accepted a position to serve the Hawaii art community as a judge for the Schaefer Portrait Challenge at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. And just a few years later, we find her here with another opportunity to champion the arts in Hawaii. This is her dedication to the arts in Hawaii at work. You won't find her cruising into the sunset. She wants to make a difference. I am confident that you and the residents of Hawaii will be satisfied with her inclusion onboard the Medical Advisory Board and the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Mahalo Nui Loa for your time and consideration.

-Edwin Ushiro

GM-573

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 1:12:26 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/28/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jodie Chock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Janet Sato to represent the island of Maui at the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. I believe that she will be a credible and sound representative; who will listen to all points being presented on any matter regarding the arts, before providing any feedback or her own perspective with care and fidelity. She serves as a continually dependable voice for the county of Maui, especially in its arts community, as she has been active in this community for many years as a highly recognized arts educator. As an arts educator myself, with students directly affiliated with business in the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and Arts, I could not think of a better candidate for this position.

GM-573

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 1:56:40 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/28/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Clarke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern,

I have worked with Mrs. Jan Sato for 29 years at H.P Baldwin High School. During that time, we had many occasions to collaborate on lessons that incorporated history and art. Jan's knowledge of the art world is impressive and her ability to share it with others in an educational setting is masterful. Whenever I had a question about art history, Jan was the first person I would go to. She would be a tremendous addition to this program and I would recommend her without any hesitation.

Sincerely,

Scott Clarke

AP European History Teacher, H.P. Baldwin High School

GM-573

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 4:31:05 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/28/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Matsumoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of GM573, nominating Janet Y. Sato to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. As a Maui resident, recently retired and dedicated art teacher and active member in the Arts community, Ms. Sato will bring diversity and expertise as a commissioner.

In the classroom, Ms. Sato always kept herself current while exposing and educating her students about the value of the Arts, in its many forms. She has successfully nurtured young artists in her classroom, which became just a stepping stone for many as they continued their education and later entered careers in the Arts.

In the community, Ms. Sato has watched art evolve and transform her own hometown. She embraces new ideas and experiences, especially for local artists. Recently she has supported multiple mural and art installation projects and served as a juror for the 2022 Schaefer Portrait Challenge.

Ms. Sato's name is synonymous with art on Maui. Many know her for her achievements in arts education and work in the community. She is a collaborative worker, forward thinker, and most of all, passionate about art appreciation and the importance of art and culture in Hawai'i. Ms. Sato's appointment to the State Foundation on Culture and Arts could not be more fitting.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support.

GM-573

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 10:13:41 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/28/2023 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kirk Kurokawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Kirk Kurokawa. I am artist living and working on the island of Maui. Janet Sato has been a friend of mine for many years. I also have been one of the many fortunate individuals to have had her as a teacher. Her reputation as an elite art instructor is second to none. I am frequently asked if I am one of “Jan’s Kids”?

I believe she is the perfect person for this position because of her life long commitment to art and Hawaii. She has experienced the art industry and has seen its changes over the years as an art enthusiast as well as an educator. She is well versed in various art techniques. She also possesses a wide scope of knowledge of diverse art genres and has an eye for excellence.

I believe what truly makes her unique, is her continued support for former students that are now working artist. Through the years support she has formed a unique perspective on art. She listens and understands the work and hardships of an artist, as well as the excitement and gratitude of our achievements.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kirk Kurokawa