



City of Sonoma

COMMISSION APPLICATION

CA-18-26

Received Date: May 22, 2018

Application Type: Cultural & Fine Arts Commission

NAME: Debra Self

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EMAIL ADDRESS: selfcats@gmail.com

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY: 2 months **REGISTERED VOTER:** Yes

EMPLOYER: Self Mediation (selfmediation.net; mediation and arbitration); Producing professional artist.

EMPLOYMENT STATUS: Part-time

REASON FOR APPLYING: As a new resident of Sonoma with a strong interest in arts and culture in the community, i would like to contribute to its development. I believe that fresh eyes by a newcomer can be a valuable asset to assist in development.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Purdue University, BS in Chemistry 1974
University of Cincinnati, JD 1980
University of California Berkeley Law, LL.M 1981

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE: I am a producing, professional artist (dragoncatstudio.com) with organizational, legal and non-profit experience. I am the immediate past president of the Marin Society of Artists, a past BOD member of Marin Open Studios and was a BOD member of the former Marin Arts Council.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: I am a new member of the Sonoma Valley Art Museum and exploring other organizations in Sonoma.

GENERAL QUESTIONS:

Have you ever attended a meeting of the Commission to which you are applying? If so, how many?

No, but I intend to do so.

What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this Commission?

As described to develop a balanced program to promote, enrich and advance the cultural and fine arts community.

What would be your goal(s) as a Commissioner?

Advance as many initiatives as possible to insure quality fine arts and culture in Sonoma that benefit the community while stretching to promote growth rather than just maintenance and comfort. I believe that art and culture should stimulate discussion and examination. The Plaza exhibition last year of Albert Paley's work

is a great example of that promotion.

What do you feel you could contribute to see these goals realized?

I bring fresh eyes, great enthusiasm, a substantial skill set, an open mind and a willingness to work hard.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS:

If appointed, you will be required to fill out a disclosure statement, which identifies certain details of your financial interests beginning with the immediate twelve-month period prior to your appointment and annually on or before April 1 of each year thereafter. Please confirm that you have read Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Form 700 Reference Pamphlet and the City's Conflict of Interest Code agree to file the required FPPC Form 700 Statements of Economic Interest, as required by the Political Reform Act and/or the City's Conflict of Interest Code.

I AGREE

I agree that all of the information contained in my responses to the questions on this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that, by checking the box below and submitting this application, online or otherwise, I am affixing my digital signature to this form as of the date submitted. I also agree that if appointed, I will serve on the Commission/Committee for which I have submitted this application.

I AGREE

Debra B. Self

May 22, 2018

Debra B. Self

dragoncatstudio.com; dragoncatstudio@gmail.com

626-524-9700

ART AND ARTS NON-PROFIT EXPERIENCE

Chinese arts education and experience, commencing 2001

Tom Chow - painting and calligraphy, Los Angeles

Sun Wuk Kim (deceased) - Calligraphy and seal carving master, Los Angeles

China Academy of Art, Hangzhou China - 2006 intensive course

Taught culture classes in Dalian, China and Xian, China.

Sold and exhibited my work in juried exhibitions in California, New Mexico, New York, New Jersey, China, Thailand and Australia.

Organizations

Board member - Art of Ink in America, www.artofinkinamerica.com

Board member North American branch - International Chinese Calligraphic Art & Chinese Ink Painters Society

Member - Ja Yu Kuan chapter of the American Artists of Chinese Brush Painting

Immediate Past President Board of Directors 2015-2017 - Marin Society of Artists

Board Member Marin Arts Council - 1998-2000 (organization now defunct)

LEGAL AND BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

2004 - Present - Private mediator for civil litigation

Arbitrator - FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority) Board of Arbitrators.

1997-2003 Financial Consultant, Smith Barney (now Citigroup)

1995-1997 Regulatory and litigation counsel; business manager, Ford Motor Co,

1991-1995 Litigation and preventive law counsel, General Electric Co.

1981-1991 Litigation partner and associate, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman (formerly Pillsbury Madison & Sutro)

EDUCATION

1981 LL.M. University of California Berkeley Law (formerly Boalt Hall School of Law)

1980 J.D. University of Cincinnati College of Law

1974 B.S. Purdue University (Chemistry)