



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Board of Supervisors



Date: November 11, 2016
Board Meeting Date: December 13, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Warren Slocum

Subject: Appointment to the Arts Commission

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation for the appointment of Mary Hofsted to the Arts Commission, representing District 4, for a term ending December 31, 2020.

BACKGROUND:

The Arts Commission was formed to promote and encourage the arts in San Mateo County; to serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors; to provide a community, needs-driven Strategic Plan for the Arts of operation by adhering to an accepted Policy Statement regarding arts and culture; and, to act as a liaison with art organizations to ensure collaboration and related to cultural and art activities in San Mateo County.

DISCUSSION:

Mary Hofsted is the Executive Director of the East Palo Alto Youth Arts & Music Center and helping to create a brand new space for the program. She has 25 years of experience in the nonprofit, academic and educational sectors with roles ranging from curriculum and program development, fund development, research, community engagement and leadership. Before accepting this new challenge, Mary worked at the John W. Gardner Center at Stanford University for more than a decade. Mary brings a love of the arts, of youth and community, and an ability to engage effectively with communities of color; she brings a fresh approach, open heart and willingness to collaborate. In her own words, "I care deeply about equity re: access to the arts and believe in the power of art to strengthen people and place." Mary Hofsted will be a creative, contributing and positive member of the Arts Commission.

Ms. Hofsted holds a BA in Art History from Southern Methodist University and an ED M. from Stanford University. During her undergraduate studies, she had a focus on ceramics. Mary also completed semesters of art history and studio art in Taos, New Mexico and Florence, Italy. Her graduate studies program included a focus in arts education as well as curriculum design and research methods.

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These appointments contribute to the 2025 Shared Vision statement of a Collaborative Community. Our diverse population works well together to build strong communities, effective government and a prosperous economy, civic engagement – including voting, public service, charitable giving, volunteerism, and participation in public discussions of important issues – is uniformly high among the diverse population of San Mateo County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.