



Contra Costa County

Please return completed applications to:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

651 Pine St., Room 106

Martinez, CA 94553

or email to: ClerkofTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us

BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS APPLICATION

First Name: Ben, Last Name: Miyaji, Home Address - Street: [redacted], City: Pittsburg, Zip Code: 94565, Phone (best number to reach you): [redacted], Email: [redacted], Resident of Supervisorial District: 5

EDUCATION Check appropriate box if you possess one of the following: [checked] High School Diploma, [ ] CA High School Proficiency Certificate, [ ] G.E.D. Certificate

Table with 3 columns: Colleges or Universities Attended, Course of Study/Major, Degree Awarded. Rows include University of Maryland, University of Chicago, and Evergreen Valley College.

Other Training Completed: USAF Meteorological School; various USAF Training Courses

Board, Committee or Commission Name: Arts and Culture Commission, Seat Name: Commissioner

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying? [ ] No, [checked] Yes, If yes, how many? 2

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission. As person of color, I think all people should have access to the arts. The arts make our lives complete. The arts are more important now than ever before. The arts allow us to use our own creativity to create meaningful pieces that reflect our unique experiences. Veterans, especially those veterans returning from deployment to the Middle East can use the arts to help recover from the trauma of war. Children from lower economic areas benefit from the arts in so many ways - creating something using their own hands; a sense of accomplishment; planning and reviewing their project and finishing the project. An "A" needs to be added STEM making it STEAM.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application) Please see attached resume.

I am including my resume with this application: Please check one: [checked] Yes, [ ] No

I would like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which I may be qualified. Please check one: [checked] Yes, [ ] No

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

Please check one:  Yes  No

List any volunteer and community experience, including any boards on which you have served.

Please attached resume.

Do you have a familial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed below or Resolution no. 2011/55)

Please check one:  Yes  No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the county, such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

Please check one:  Yes  No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand and agree that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause me to be ineligible for appointment to a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

[Redacted Signature]

Date:

[Redacted Date]

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Questions about this application? Contact the Clerk of the Board at (925) 335-1900 or by email at [ClerkofTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us](mailto:ClerkofTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us)

**Important Information**

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: 1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and 2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2011/55, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors member in any of the following relationships: mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, granddaughter, great-grandfather, great-grandmother, aunt, uncle, nephew, niece, great-grandson, great-granddaughter, first-cousin, husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, stepdaughter, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, spouse's grandmother, spouse's grandfather, spouse's granddaughter, and spouses' grandson, registered domestic partner, relatives of a registered domestic partner as listed above.
8. A person will not be eligible to serve if the person shares a financial interest as defined in Government Code §87103 with a Board of Supervisors Member.

I have over 25 years of experience in the non-profit sector in various positions including board member, staff positions and executive director. I have served on numerous grants panels for small, medium and large size organizations. I have also submitted grants proposals. I have a unique perspective as a funder and grantee. I believe my experiences would be a benefit as a Contra Costa County Arts & Culture Commissioner.

- 7/1992 – 6/1996, 7/1999-6/2007, 7/2010-2/2015: City of San Jose Arts Commission (Chair 2003-2006). Served on numerous grants panels. Chair San Jose Mineta International Airport Public Art Steering Committee.
- 1992 – 1999. Children’s Musical Theater of San Jose (CMTSJ) – Largest children’s musical theater organization in the United States. CMTSJ’s mission is to train and educate today’s youth so that they will become the artists, patrons and leaders of tomorrow. Co-President Parents Auxiliary and board of directors member.
- 1/1997 – 6/1999: Asian Heritage Council. Board President.
- 1/2004 – 6/2006: Founding member South Bay Arts Forum: *First Voice, South Bay Arts Forum, builds opportunities for artists and arts organizations by providing a forum for multicultural arts communities to address issues of policy and equity through advocacy.* Organized candidate forums for mayoral candidates.
- 6/2008 – Present: Deputy Commissioner of Civil Marriages, performed over 5800 marriage ceremonies.
- 6/2013 – Present: City of Palo Alto Public Art Commission. Current Chair. Chair of the Palo Alto Public Art Master Plan Steering Committee.
- 2019 & 2020 – Served on California Arts Council Veterans in Arts grants panel and the Silicon Valley Creates Local Arts Group grant panels.
- 6/2020 – Palo Alto Public Art Commission approved a Black Lives Matter mural on Hamilton Avenue in front of Palo Alto city hall. An important piece of public art in our culture. Sixteen artists or artist teams were selected and assigned a letter. No better way to employ artists and make a beautiful statement.

