



HAWAII
STATE FOUNDATION on
CULTURE and the ARTS

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Honolulu, HI 96813

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Josh Green, M.D.

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Konrad Ng

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**Testimony of KAREN EWALD, Executive Director
State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS
Wednesday April 16, 3:00 p.m.
CR 225 and Videoconference
G.M. 742**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS,
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE MARCIA ROBERTS-DEUTSCH
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2029.**

Chair Lee and members of the Committee, the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) is in **SUPPORT** of the nomination of Marcia Roberts-Deutsch to serve as a commissioner for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Ms. Roberts-Deutsch has extensive knowledge of the arts and culture community in the state. She has demonstrated accomplishment and expertise in the field of culture, the arts and history and the humanities.

Ms. Roberts-Deutsch served as a professor, lecturer and coordinator for Honolulu Community College for many years, where she taught in the visual arts field.

Over many years, Ms. Roberts-Deutsch has served as a Visual Arts Consultant for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Her expertise on visual arts and her dedication to the community will be an incredible addition to the commission.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Ms. Roberts-Deutsch's nomination.

Jonathan Clark, Gallery Director
Maui Arts & Cultural Center
One Cameron Way
Kahului, Hawai'i 96732

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of Governor Josh Green's nomination of Dr. Marcia Roberts-Deutsch to serve on the Board of Commissioners for the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. I have had the fortune of working with Marcia on a recent retrospective of her life's work as an artist at Maui Arts & Cultural Center's Schaefer International Gallery in 2023. She has also contributed multiple written pieces over the years for our exhibition catalogs and related publications.

Marcia has been an active member of Hawai'i's arts community for decades, engaged through multiple avenues that include a career teaching art and women's studies at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Honolulu Community College; an invaluable role as an art critic bringing visibility to Hawai'i's vibrant and evolving art scene; and an ongoing studio practice in printmaking, paper, and other media to articulate issues that are both timeless and intensely relevant. Her extensive knowledge of Hawai'i's art history is complemented by her continued involvement with today's artist community, and she would contribute greatly as a commissioner for SFCA to ensure the vitality of the arts in Hawai'i.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Clark, Gallery Director
jonathan@mauiarts.org

GM-742

Submitted on: 4/14/2025 11:50:12 AM

Testimony for TCA on 4/16/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denise Karabinus	Testifying for Honolulu Printmakers	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Selection Committee State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Honolulu, HI

Subject: Support for the Appointment of Marcia Roberts-Deutsch as Commissioner

Dear Selection Committee,

It is with enthusiasm that I write to express my strong support for the appointment of Marcia Roberts-Deutsch as a Commissioner for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. In my role as Director of Honolulu Printmakers, I have had the distinct pleasure of collaborating closely with Marcia over the past 5 years, and I am impressed by her unwavering commitment to the arts, her deep understanding of Hawai'i's cultural landscape, and her exceptional leadership qualities.

Marcia Roberts-Deutsch is a dedicated advocate for the arts with a proven track record of service to the community. Her passion for fostering creativity and ensuring that the arts thrive in Hawai'i is evident in all that she does. She possesses a unique ability to build consensus and champion initiatives that have a meaningful and lasting impact.

During my time at Honolulu Printmakers, I have witnessed firsthand Marcia's tireless efforts to:

- **Promote and preserve traditional and contemporary art forms:** She demonstrates a deep respect for Hawai'i's rich cultural heritage while also embracing innovation and new artistic expressions.
- **Expand access to the arts for all segments of the community:** She is committed to ensuring that everyone, regardless of their background or location, has the opportunity to experience and participate in the arts. Her extensive community service, including her long-term involvement with organizations like The Contemporary Museum/Honolulu Museum of Art, where she assisted with docent training and conducted tours, exemplifies this dedication. Marcia champions our annual Ohana award which supports a neighbor island artist with a solo exhibition in Oahu.
- **Strengthen arts education:** She recognizes the vital role that arts education plays in nurturing creativity, fostering critical thinking skills, and enriching the lives of our young people. Her decades-long career as a Professor of Art at Honolulu Community College, and her service as Dean of Liberal Arts, demonstrate her commitment to arts education.

- **Support local artists and arts organizations:** She understands the challenges that artists and arts organizations face, and she works diligently to provide them with the resources and support they need to succeed. Her involvement on the Board of Trustees of organizations such as Hanalei School and her active participation in groups like the Hawaii Craftsmen and Honolulu Printmakers further illustrate this support.

Marcia's extensive experience, her deep knowledge of the arts community, and her strong relationships with artists, educators, and community leaders make her an ideal candidate for the position of Commissioner. She possesses the vision, the dedication, and the collaborative spirit that are essential for effectively serving the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts and advancing its mission.

She is not only committed to the arts, but also possesses the practical skills to make a difference. She is organized, strategic, and able to effectively manage complex projects. Her vast professional experiences demonstrate her ability to handle complex organizational tasks. She is also an excellent communicator, able to articulate the importance of the arts to a wide range of audiences.

I am confident that Marcia Roberts-Deutsch would be an invaluable asset to the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. She is a visionary leader, a dedicated advocate, and a true champion of the arts. I urge you to give her application your strongest consideration.

Sincerely,

Denise Karabinus, Executive Director—Honolulu Printmakers est. 1928

Representing - over 150 Members across the Hawaiian Islands

I am testifying on behalf of Dr. Marcia Roberts-Deutsch to serve on the Board of Commissioners for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA.) Marcia has a long history of engaging and serving in various aspects of our art community in Hawaii. She was a lecturer at the Manoa campus of the University of Hawaii, and a tenured faculty at Honolulu Community College, retiring in 2018 as Professor of Art, *emerita*.

She was also a respected artist and arts writer, whose work was widely exhibited in the islands and abroad, and she is well-known as a critic for the Honolulu Advertiser and Star Bulletin as well as other art publications and catalogue essays for Honolulu's art museum. Marcia also spends time volunteering for Hawaii's museum in caring for works on paper and in a respected expert in the field.

She has been an experienced, respected and valued as a member of the art community for many decades and the State Foundation would be fortunate to have her on their team.

Sharon Twigg-Smith

GM-742

Submitted on: 4/14/2025 8:50:17 AM

Testimony for TCA on 4/16/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynne Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in support of Marcia Roberts-Deutsch

Marcia Roberts-Deutsch has been nominated by Governor Josh Green to be a Commissioner for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

I have known Marcia since we were in kindergarten at Hanahau‘oli School, all the way through Punahou and then after college till the present.

She has been a close and special friend pretty much for ever. Her experience in the arts is broad and impressive as one can see from her resume. (I remember her playing duets on the harpsichord with her mother from a young age and her being able to draw a horse from any perspective in fourth grade.)

She was also number one in her class at Punahou, went on to Harvard for her undergraduate degree and then to Stanford for her M.F.A and eventually earned a Ph.D. in Political Science at UH.

She has experience in teaching art, writing about art, and has been and continues to be active as an artist herself. She has also held various leadership positions. She is music lover and musician and has been a long-term supporter of our local symphony.

I can say that her reputation for intelligence, competence, reliability, integrity, artistic talent, and knowledge of the arts is highly warranted. She has been in a variety of leadership positions and continues to work as a volunteer at the Honolulu Museum of Art. She is easy to work with and always nice to be with.

What has always amazed me is her deep humility. How could someone so brilliant, talented, and successful be humble as well? My response has always been, Marcia has so much to be humble about.

I think she will make an outstanding Commissioner for the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Lynne Johnson

President, Honolulu Symphony Foundation

(808) 371-0012

GM-742

Submitted on: 4/15/2025 4:51:36 PM

Testimony for TCA on 4/16/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lesa Griffith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dr. Marcia Roberts-Deutsch would make an excellent addition to the Board of Commissioners, State Foundation on Culture and the Arts.

Her long career as an educator has impacted countless aspiring artists in Hawai‘i and she continues to share her knowledge and empathy as a volunteer docent at the Honolulu Museum of Art. She knows the museum intimately, having spent time here since she was a child. And now as a professional with an MFA in printmaking from Stanford, a BA with honors in social sciences from Harvard and a PhD in political science from the University of Hawai‘i, she gives back to the community through her volunteerism at the museum.

Her knowledge of local art history is encyclopedic, and she has written essays for the exhibition catalogues of artists who are highlights of the state's collection—such as Satoru Abe, Tadashi Sato, and Claude Horan.

I can't think of a better qualified and more gracious human being to serve on the Board of Commissioners.