



**HAWAI'I**  
STATE FOUNDATION on  
CULTURE and the ARTS

No. 1 Capitol District Building  
250 South Hotel Street  
Second Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

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Ex-Officio  
Chris Lee  
Adrian Tam

Executive Director  
Karen A. Ewald

Telephone  
808.586.0300

Fax  
808.586.0308

Website  
[sfca.hawaii.gov](http://sfca.hawaii.gov)

**Testimony of KAREN EWALD, Executive Director  
State Foundation on Culture and the Arts to the  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
Thursday, April 4, 3:00 p.m.  
CR 224 and Videoconference  
G.M. 578**

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO  
THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE SEAN CONNELLY  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2027.**

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

Mr. Connelly has extensive knowledge of the arts and culture community in the state. Not only is he an artist himself, he has also demonstrated accomplishment and expertise in the field of culture, the arts, history and the humanities and has extensive background in the needs of the communities in the field.

Over the past year, Mr. Connelly has faithfully served as a commissioner with the SFCA and we are grateful for his contributions in 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 this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Connelly's nomination.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**  
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI  
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT. GOVERNOR

**JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA**  
DIRECTOR

**DANE K. WICKER**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [dbedt.hawaii.gov](http://dbedt.hawaii.gov)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

Thursday, April 4, 2024  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room #224 & Videoconference

In support of  
**GM 578**  
**RELATING TO THE STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS,  
GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, SEAN CONNELLY,  
FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 06-30-2027.**

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports GM 578, and the recommendation for Sean Connelly to serve as a commissioner on the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, for a term to expire on June 30, 2027.

As a Pacific Islander American, Mr. Connelly's expansive background in arts, architecture, and experimental works which delve into the oceanic intellect in contemporary practice, brings a wealth of fresh viewpoints to the overall composition of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts Board and its important work for our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.