



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

January 23, 2024

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to section 4 of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Act, effective October 21, 1975 (D.C. Law 1-22; D.C. Official Code § 39-203), I am pleased to nominate the following individual:

Mr. Demetrius Butler
Sheridan Road, SE
Washington, DC 20020
(Ward 8)

for appointment as a member with specific interest, ability, or experience in public art of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, filling a vacant seat, for the remainder of an unexpired term to end June 30, 2026.


Enclosed, you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muriel Bowser".

Muriel Bowser
Mayor


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

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6 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION
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10 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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15 To confirm the appointment of Demetrius Butler to the Commission on the Arts and Humanities.
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17 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this
18 resolution may be cited as the “Commission on the Arts and Humanities Demetrius Butler
19 Confirmation Resolution of 2024”.

20 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

21
22 Mr. Demetrius Butler
23 Sheridan Road, SE
24 Washington, DC 20020
25 (Ward 8)
26

27 as a member with specific interest, ability, or experience in public art of the Commission on the
28 Arts and Humanities, established by section 4 of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities
29 Act, effective October 21, 1975 (D.C. Law 1-22; D.C. Official Code § 39-203), filling a vacant
30 seat, for the remainder of an unexpired term to end June 30, 2026.

31 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,
32 upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

33 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Demetrius Butler

Artist

Experience:

Artist
2004-Current

Avid art collector who has spent the last twenty years developing the creative capacity of emerging artists and consulting for art galleries across the world.

Biography:

Mr. Demetrius Butler is an avid art collector who has spent the last twenty years developing the creative capacity of emerging artists and consulting for art galleries across the world.

Influenced by his Southeast DC roots, Mr. Butler is cementing his place in the art world as not only an avid collector but as a creative director, cultural advocate and talent developer for emerging artists. To date, Demetrius has represented more than twenty artists and curated dozens of shows between Washington, DC, Los Angeles, New York City, Hong Kong, and Madrid. Known for his eye for spotting emerging talent, Demetrius launched his career as a consultant with Blue Chip, focusing his talent on creating spaces to incubate emerging talent in local DC galleries.

Butler's passion for art is rooted in its illimitable ability to make sense of complex stories and connect people across diverse backgrounds. As a founder of LeagueOTO, a digital space focused on highlighting exclusive art events and culture trends, Butler has amassed a global reach and influence with a following of over 100k subscribers. Through this platform Butler is amplifying underrepresented groups in art and cultivating a networking community for creatives that spans a range of industries. Featured in Artsy, Coveteur, Forbes, and Hypebeast and garnering praise from Beyonce's "Black Parade," Mr. Butler's impact on the global art world is illustrated by LeagueOTO's status as the go-to arts and design digital space for Black businesses.

Understanding the significance and the lack of diverse representation in the District's art scene, Mr. Butler has been hyper-focused on curating culturally responsive art-centered opportunities for nontraditional art influencers across the city. As the Curator and Creative Director for Museum DC, Butler amalgamates fashion with art by innovatively displaying locally sourced artwork alongside luxury fashion displays. In direct response to what he and his community saw as a culture exodus, Mr. Butler founded Flee Market DC as a community hub for all things DC with an emphasis elevating authentic DC art and humanities. Flee DC created a physical platform for hundreds to participate in cultural activations ranging from dance recitals, art shows, to live band performances. Most recently, Mr. Butler collaborated with a local nonprofit to launch Art on the Rise, an art showcase and equity initiative to create economic opportunities for BIPOC artists east of the Anacostia River. Through this initiative, Mr. Bulter hopes to bridge the economic and race gap that excludes Black artists in DC from accessing resources to elevate their work.

Mr. Butler is a Ward 8 resident.



Executive Office of the Mayor – Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

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GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Tomas Talamante, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: January 11, 2024
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Amy Bormet, Demetrius Butler, and Janice Kim as members of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities

This is to Certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced resolutions and found them to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call Erika Satterlee, Deputy General Counsel, Executive Office of the Mayor, at 202-724-1303, or me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, flowing 'E' and 'C'.

Elizabeth A. (Betsy) Cavendish