



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

February 20, 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:

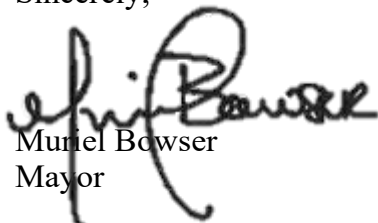
Ms. Gretchen Wharton
5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(Ward 2)

for reappointment as a member with specific interest, ability, or experience in arts or humanities education of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, for a term to end June 30, 2027.

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,


Muriel Bowser
Mayor



Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the reappointment of Gretchen Wharton to the Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Commission on the Arts and Humanities Gretchen Wharton Confirmation Resolution of 2024".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Ms. Gretchen Wharton
5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(Ward 2)

as a member with specific interest, ability, or experience in arts or humanities education of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, established by 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), , for a term to end June 30, 2027.

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

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Gretchen B. Wharton

Gretchen Wharton, a native Washingtonian and life-long Shaw resident, retired from Xerox Corporation after a successful career in marketing and sales that spanned 30 years. She excelled at program implementation, public relations and communications, customer relationship management, and cross-functional teamwork, winning multiple awards, including two President's Awards for extraordinary achievements in customer service.

Ms. Wharton's long and diverse career at Xerox included management of National and Global trade shows, industry seminars and special sales and marketing events. She managed marketing integration, marketing and sales management for the US Navy and major government and commercial accounts, marketing & channel development, strategic alliance development, bid opportunity, marketing operations, collaterals and multi-media presentation design and delivery, customer engagement, and training program design and delivery.

Her tenure also included management of the hugely successful Xerox Corporation worldwide customer education series known as *Innovate*. *Innovate* seminars were attended by over 75,000 people in more than 60 North American cities and some 200 international locations in Central and South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. US ROI for the seminar series exceeded 1000%. She developed budgets, managed speaker selection, directed development of module content, website design, registration, site selection, advertising, and coordinated audience acquisition, direct and electronic mailing, menu selection, language translation and customer satisfaction surveys.

While at Xerox, she was placed on loan to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) where she managed program development for the Graduate Legislative Intern Program. Additionally, she served for five years as the primary fundraiser and manager of the highly successful CBCF fashion show that funded the Intern Program. She was responsible for fundraising and securing sponsorship, as well as managing the operational and logistical aspects of the fashion shows, which were attended by more than 5,000 people each year.

Also, Ms. Wharton was loaned to the Government of the District of Columbia where she served as Transition Director for the new Mayor. In this capacity, during a three month timeframe, she designed the transition process, and managed a team of 400 people, producing comprehensive assessments of and recommendations for improving DC government agencies. At the request of the Mayor-Elect she remained for an additional year as Special Assistant to the Mayor where she spearheaded several initiatives requiring coordination between the Mayor's office, cabinet officials and the City Council. Ms. Wharton introduced the Total Quality Management principals and techniques, used by Xerox in winning the Baldrige Award, to DC government, and served as facilitator for the Procurement Regulations Reform taskforce.

Ms. Wharton, an active member of the Shaw community and member of numerous charitable and community organizations, was formerly Vice President, Board of Directors, DC Special Olympics and Vice President, Board of Directors, Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home. Presently, Ms. Wharton serves as a Mayoral Appointed Commissioner, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities; Chair, Shaw Main Streets and Board member of City Dance.



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

Gretchen Wharton



Gretchen Wharton is a current member of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

Ms. Wharton, a native Washingtonian and life-long resident, retired from Xerox Corporation after a successful career in marketing and sales that spanned 30 years. She excelled at program implementation, customer relationship management, public relations and communications, and cross-functional teamwork, winning multiple awards, including two President's Awards for extraordinary achievements in customer service.

Ms. Wharton's long and diverse career at Xerox included management of national and global trade shows, industry seminars and special sales and marketing events. She also managed marketing integration, marketing and sales management for major military, government and commercial accounts, marketing and channel development, strategic alliance development, bid opportunity review, marketing operations, marketing collateral and multimedia presentation design and delivery, customer engagement, and training program design and delivery.

Ms. Wharton has also worked with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and the District of Columbia government. She has been a member of numerous charitable and community organizations and on the board of directors for DC Special Olympics and the Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home and is an active member of the Shaw community and the Convention Center Community Association.

A Ward 6 resident, Ms. Wharton earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland and continued her education at Harvard University, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, and Georgetown University.



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 25, 2024
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Gretchen Wharton, Kymber Lovett-Menkiti, Cora Masters Barry, and Reginald Van Lee 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 it 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 initial 'E'.

Elizabeth A. (Betsy) Cavendish