

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
**APPOINTMENTS**

DOCUMENT NO.	APPOINTEE	POSITION	AGENCY	APPT. DATE	TERM LENGTH	DATE REFERRED	COMMITTEE REFERRED	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	SESSION DATE	DATE CONFIRMED	NOTES
37GL-23-0264	Monica Okada Gazman	Member	Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA)	3/14/23	Four Years; January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027 To fill the expired term of Francis J. Guerrero	3/20/23	Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts	5/4/23 8:00 a.m.	7/11/23 2:07 p.m.			



# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules  
*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

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June 15, 2023

**Honorable Therese M. Terlaje**

Speaker

Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

**VIA: Honorable Chris Barnett** *DUB*  
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

**Re: Committee Report on the Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman**

Håfa adai Speaker Terlaje:

Transmitted herewith is the Committee Report on the appointment of **Monica Okada Guzman** to serve as **Member of the Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency Board of Directors** and which was referred to the **Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts**.

Committee votes are as follows:

<u>  4  </u>	TO DO CONFIRM
<u>  0  </u>	TO NOT CONFIRM
<u>  0  </u>	TO REPORT OUT ONLY
<u>  0  </u>	TO ABSTAIN
<u>  0  </u>	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE



COMMITTEE ON RULES

Received:  
July 11, 2023 9:55 a.m.  
*Kamarin Nelson*

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

  
Chris Barnett



**Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett**

**Chairperson**

**Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules**

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

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## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

# **Nomination of Monica Okada Guzman**

**As a Member of the Guam Council on the Arts &  
Humanities Agency Board of Directors for a term of Four  
Years; January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027 to fill the  
unexpired term of Francis J. Guerrero.**

**by Senator Chris Barnett**



# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules  
*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

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June 14, 2023

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** **All Members**  
Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts

**From:** **Senator Chris Barnett** *DCB*  
Committee Chairperson

**Subject:** **Committee Report on the Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman**

Transmitted herewith for your consideration is the Committee Report on Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of Board of Directors of the Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency.

This report includes the following:

- Copy of COR Referral of the Appointment
- Copy of the Appointment Letter to the Speaker
- Copy of Appointment Packet & Supporting Documents
- Notices of Public Hearing & Other Correspondence
- Copy of the Public Hearing Agenda
- Public Hearing Sign-in Sheet
- Copies of Submitted Testimonies & Supporting Documents
- Committee Vote Sheet
- Committee Report Digest

Please take the appropriate action on the attached vote sheet. Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Si Yu'os ma'åse'



## COMMITTEE ON RULES

Senator Chris Barnett, Chairperson  
*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan*  
37<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature

March 20, 2023

**To:** **RennaeVanessa C. Meno**  
Clerk of the Legislature

**Attorney Darleen Hiton**  
Legislative Legal Counsel

**From:** **Senator Chris Barnett**   
Chairperson, Committee on Rules

**Subject:** **Referral of Appointment**

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*Håfa Adai yan Biba Guahan!*

As per my authority as Chairperson of the Committee on Rules and subject to §9.01, Rule IX of our Standing Rules, I am forwarding the referral of the following appointment:

**Appointee:** **Monica Okada Guzman**

**Position:** **Member**

**Term Length:** **Four Years; January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027**  
**To fill the expired term of Francis J. Guerrero**

Please refer the following document:

**“Doc. No. 37GL-23-0264** – Office of the Governor – Appointment and Supporting Documents for Monica Okada Guzman, Member, Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA).”

Ensure the appointment is referred to the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts chaired by Senator Chris Barnett. I also request that the same be forwarded to Management Information Services (MIS) for posting on our website.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Joaquin ‘Quin’ P. Taitague, Committee on Rules Director at 671-472-2461.





LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO  
GOVERNOR

JOSHUA F. TENORIO  
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

March 14, 2023

37GL-23-0264  
**OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER  
THERESE M. TERLAJE**

Honorable Therese M. Terlaje  
Speaker  
*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guāhan*  
37<sup>th</sup> Guam Legislature  
Guam Congress Building  
163 Chalan Santo Papa  
Hagåtña, Guam 96932

-03 17 2023

Time: 1:10 PM  
Received:    

**RE: Board Appointment**

*Hafa Adai* Madame Speaker:

By virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Organic Act of Guam and the applicable local laws, 5 GCA § 85103, I am pleased to transmit the following appointment and supporting documents:

- APPOINTEE: Monica Okada Guzman
- POSITION: Member, Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency (CAHA)
- TERM LENGTH: **Four (4) Years; January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2027**  
**To fill the expired term of Francis J. Guerrero**

The appointment is subject to the confirmation of *I Liheslaturan Guāhan*. Please schedule a hearing at your earliest convenience.

*Senseramente,*

**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**  
*Maga'hāgan Guāhan*  
Governor of Guam

cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO  
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO  
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

March 14, 2023

**MONICA OKADA GUZMAN**

*Hafa Adai Ms. Guzman:*

Pursuant to my authority under the Organic Act of Guam and local law, 5 GCA § 85103, I am appointing you to serve as a:

**MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
GUAM COUNCIL ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES AGENCY (CAHA)  
Term Length: Four (4) Years; January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027  
To Fill the Expired Term of Francis J. Guerrero**

Appointing you to this position comes with great responsibility because you will have a vital role to perform placing many demands on your time and energy. Integrity and honesty are virtues that I prioritize for my Administration to exemplify, and I know that you will do the same while in service to the people of Guam. Your responsibilities shall be significant and consequential. I trust that you will fulfill your duties and set a standard for others to follow.

I appreciate your willingness to serve in this position, and I am confident that your time will be spent in a manner to improve the island of Guam.

This appointment is subject to the advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jean Taitano of the Office of the Governor at (671) 473-1121.

*Senseramente,*

Handwritten signature of Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero in black ink.

**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**  
*Maga'hågan Guåhan*  
Governor of Guam

cc: *Honorable* Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam

**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**  
Governor



**JOSHUA F. TENORIO**  
Lieutenant Governor

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM Nomination and Appointment Information Sheet

The following information is required for submission to the  
Speaker of *Liheslaturan Guåhan* in accordance with Title 4, Guam Code Annotated Section 2103

### NOMINEE INFORMATION

<b>Last Name</b> GUZMAN	<b>First Name</b> MONICA	<b>Middle Initial</b> OKADA
<b>Mailing Address</b> [REDACTED]		<b>Apartment/Unit #</b>
<b>City</b> [REDACTED]	<b>State</b> [REDACTED]	<b>Zip Code</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Phone</b> [REDACTED]	<b>E-mail Address</b> [REDACTED]	
<b>Position to which Appointment is Made</b> Member, Board of Trustees, Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities		
<b>Are you a citizen of the United States?</b> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>If no, are you authorized to work in the United States?</b> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

### EDUCATION

SCHOOL (Name, City and State)	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	TYPE OF DEGREE	YEAR EARNED
<b>High School</b> Notre Dame High School, Talofofo Guam		High School Diploma	1976
<b>College</b> University of Guam, Mangilao Guam			
<b>Graduate School</b>			
<b>Other Degree</b>			



## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

<b>Name of Present/Last Employer and Mailing Address</b> GALAIDE GROUP LLC Hagatna, Guam	<b>Position Title</b> CEO/Managing Director
	<b>Dates Held</b> 2007-present

<b>Previous Employer and Mailing Address</b> GUMA Guam Unique Merchandise & Art	<b>Position Title</b> Executive Director
	<b>Dates Held</b> 2018-present

<b>Previous Employer and Mailing Address</b> GALAIDE GROUP	<b>Position Title</b> Partner
	<b>Dates Held</b> 1998-2007

<b>Previous Employer and Mailing Address</b> Make-A-Wish Foundation of Guam	<b>Position Title</b> Executive Director
	<b>Dates Held</b> 2005-2007

<b>Previous Employer and Mailing Address</b> OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	<b>Position Title</b> Special Assistant
	<b>Dates Held</b> 1989-2003

## PRIOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM SERVICE

<b>Agency or Department Name</b> Guam Housing & Urban Renewal Board of Commissioners		<b>Position Title</b> Board Vice Chair
<b>Address</b> P.O. Box 2950 Hagatña Guam	<b>Phone No.</b> 671-477-9851	<b>Dates Held</b> 2019-2023

<b>Agency or Department Name</b> Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities		<b>Position Title</b> Board Chair
<b>Address</b> P.O. Box 2950 Hagatña Guam	<b>Phone No.</b> 671-300-1204	<b>Dates Held</b> 2008-2016

**PRIOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE (EXCLUDING GOVERNMENT OF GUAM)**

<b>Agency or Department Name</b> US Postal Service		<b>Position Title</b> Postal Clerk	
<b>Address</b> Barrigada, Guam	<b>Phone No.</b>	<b>Dates Held</b> 1980 - 1983	

<b>Agency or Department Name</b>		<b>Position Title</b>	
<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone No.</b>	<b>Dates Held</b>	

**TRAINING**

<b>INSTITUTE/SEMINARS/ON-THE-JOB TRAINING</b>	<b>DATE</b>
Certificate of Completion, National Business Incubator Management	2013
Certificate of Mentor Program Manager, International Business Innov	2021

**AWARDS**

<b>List all educational, professional, civic awards, and recognition for public service:</b>
Recipient, SBA Small Business Minority Champion - 2015 Nominee, Guam Women Executive of the Year - 2014 SBA Women in Business Champion - 2011 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award - 2011, top 148 in over 4,000 nominations Recipient, Guam Woman of Movement - 2010

**PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT**

<b>List involvement on a local/national/international level. List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:</b>
Delegate, 2018 Japanese American Leadership Delegation Board Member, National Association of State Arts Agencies - 2016 to present Board Member, Pacific Islanders in Communications - 2011 to 2019 Secretary, Executive Committee 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts Organizing Committee Programming Chair, 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts Founding Member, Guam Womens Chamber of Commerce - 2013 Vice Chair, Council of Pacific Arts and Culture - 2012

**COMMUNITY / CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

*List organizations, activities participated in, and offices held:*

Board Member, Guam Nikkei Association  
 Vice President, Guam War Survivors Memorial Foundation  
 Member, US Japan Council  
 Member, Guam Contractors Association  
 Member, Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce  
 Member, Guam Chamber of Commerce  
 Member, Guam Visitors Bureau

**PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

*List any published articles, papers delivered at professional meetings, etc.:*

Presenter, Administration for Native Americans (ANA) 2023 Annual Assembly  
 Weekly column, "Saonao yan Eyak" Pacific Daily News, Guam 2014-2016  
 Facilitator/Advisor, The Museum Effect Conference, Guam Museum Foundation, 2014  
 Presenter, Uno Hit Conference, San Diego, California, Guam's Diaspora, 12th FesPac, 2014  
 Presenter, Nat'l Association of State Arts Agencies, New Orleans, Louisiana, "Guam FestPac", 2014  
 Presenter, Association of Pacific Island Legislators, Yap, "Micronesian Council of Culture & Art", 2014  
 Presenter, 2nd Marianas History Conference, "Guam Masters of Traditional Art", 2013

**MILITARY SERVICE (Please attach Form DD-214)**

<i>BRANCH</i>	<i>DATES OF SERVICE</i>	<i>RANK AT DISCHARGE</i>	<i>TYPE OF DISCHARGE</i>

**OTHER INFORMATION**

(1) Have you ever been found guilty of a felony in any court, whether within or without the United States?

Yes  No  If so, please specify in detail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of the Court: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of Conviction: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Infraction Committed: \_\_\_\_\_

**(2) Have you ever been declared mentally incompetent by any court, whether within or without the United States?**

Yes  No  If so, please specify in detail the reasons and facts related to such declaration:

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**(3) Have you ever been found not guilty or not punishable in any criminal proceedings by reason of insanity?**

Yes  No

**(4) Have you ever been confined to a mental institution for any reason?**

Yes  No  If so, please specify in why the appointing authority believes you that you are not suffering from any mental illness or affliction:

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**LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO**  
Governor

**JOSHUA F. TENORIO**  
Lieutenant Governor



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM**

**Statement of Financial Interests**

(Required by 4 G.C.A. §13104.1)

TO: The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero  
Governor of Guam  
Ricardo J. Bordallo Governor's Complex  
Adelup, Guam 96910

FROM: Monica Okada Guzman

I have no financial interest in any business

I do have interest(s) in the following business(es):

NAME AND ADDRESS OF BUSINESS INTEREST	TYPE AND AMOUNT OF INTEREST
GALAIDE GROUP LLC	51%

  
Signature

March 6, 2023

Date

**AFFIDAVIT / DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY**

I, the undersigned, do hereby depose and say that: (1) I have read and reviewed the information contained in the attached Appointment/Nomination letter from the Governor of Guam; (2) that the matters contained in the Appointment/Nomination letter, together with all attachments thereto, are true and correct and that I am competent to testify to said matters; and (3) that this Declaration is made for the purpose of complying with the requirements of 4 G.C.A. Section 2103.5.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam (4 G.C.A. Section 4308) that the foregoing is true and correct.

  
**Monica Okada Guzman**

March 6, 2023

Print Name and Signature

Date

## Monica Okada Guzman

*Executive Director, GUMA Guam Unique Merchandise & Art*

In her position as Executive Director of Guam Unique Merchandise & Art, Inc., Monica is responsible for the overall management for the non-profit. Monica has successfully managed numerous projects for her own company, Galaide Group LLC, and other nonprofit organizations as well as local and federal government entities. Her public service experience spans 13 years under multiple administrations coordinating and managing community outreach programs, constituent and media communications, research programs and special projects.

**Guam COVID-19 Alert Program:** Monica was the lead outreach planner for the Guam Covid Alert exposure notification app developed by Apple, Google, the PathCheck Foundation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and local developer Vince Munoz of NextGenSys. She worked closely with the Office of the Governor, Public Health, the Office of Technology and the Guam Visitors Bureau to develop an unfunded grassroots campaign to deploy the program and encourage downloads of the app. Her efforts were featured in the November issue of the MIT Technology Review, “with no budget, and relying almost entirely on a grassroots volunteer effort, Guam has gotten ... the island’s adult residents to download its exposure notification app, a rate of adoption that outstrips states with far more resources.”

**2020 Census of Guam:** As Program Manager, Monica provided managerial guidance and oversight for entire project, directing all resources in support of the goals of the Bureau of Statistics and Plans' Census Team. Here efforts included media planning and ad buys, as well as coordination and purchasing of promotional items and collateral materials. Her extensive community connections were crucial to ensure that target messaging and outreach efforts were on point with positive results.

**Senator Antonio M. Palomo Guam Museum:** Project Principal. Monica has oversight and responsibility for the management, operations and maintenance of the Guam Museum. This includes public awareness and outreach, website and social media management, design and installation of changing exhibits and monthly community-based programs. Efforts include creating strategic partnerships with media and private and nonprofit corporations.

**Guam Transportation Program:** Responsible for all outreach, public relations and communications related to the execution of more than \$300 million in federally funded road construction projects. Outreach program includes the development and maintenance of an interactive website and social media platforms, as well as a roadway construction and traffic alert system. Efforts have included more than 80 media events, 100 presentations and interactions with civic organizations, community groups, military planners, mayors, Village Municipal Planning Committees, legislators and residents.

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Role:

- Public Relations and Outreach
- Media Management and Coordination
- Community Consensus Building
- Public Meeting Planning and Facilitation

**Firm:** Galaide Group LLC

**Years of Experience:** 25 years with current firm

**Education:** University of Guam

#### Professional Registrations:

- Founding Member, Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce
- Guam Chamber of Commerce
- Guam Contractor's Association
- Guam Visitors Bureau
- Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Guam Unique Merchandise and Arts (GUMA)
- Previous Board Member, National Assembly of State Art Agencies (NASAA)
- Previous Board Member, Pacific Islanders in Communications
- Recipient – SBA's Women in Business Champion (2011) and SBA's Small Business Minority Champion of the Year (2015)

#### References:

- Hon. Melissa Savares, Mayor, Municipality of Dededo, (671) 632-5203



**Government of Guam  
GUAM POLICE DEPARTMENT  
RECORDS & IDENTIFICATION SECTION  
P.O. Box 23909  
Guam Main Facility, Guam 96921**



March 8, 2023

**SUBJECT: CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD**

<b>NAME:</b>	<b>Monica Okada GUZMAN</b>		
<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b>		<b>FINGERPRINT#:</b>	
	<b>The individual has no record of criminal conviction(s) in the Guam Police Department files that are subject to Guam law.</b>		

\*\*\*\*\*NOTHING FOLLOWS\*\*\*\*\*

*THIS INFORMATION MAY BE LIMITED TO A LOCAL CRIMINAL OFFENSE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR USE FOR ANY LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.*

**By Direction: BARBIE**

**STEPHEN C. IGNACIO  
Chief of Police**

The absence of an original GUAM POLICE seal invalidates this police clearance.  
REVISED 04/26/19





# SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM

Guam Judicial Center | 120 West O'Brien Drive | Hagåtña, Guam 96910 | (671) 475-3370 | Fax: (671) 475-0078

Name: **MONICA OKADA M GUZMAN**

Driver's License ID [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

## CERTIFICATE OF SEARCH

The undersigned Clerk hereby certifies the following results of a diligent search of the records of this Court:

**Criminal Cases:**  
**No Cases Found**

**Civil Cases:**

Request for further information may be addressed at the Records Division of the Superior Court of Guam, Guam Judicial Center, 120 West O'Brien Drive, Hagåtña, Guam. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and local/federal holidays. **Court Clearances are Non-Refundable.**

**Dated: 03/10/2023**

**Sophia Santos Diaz**  
**Clerk of Court**

By: *Evan L Topasna*  
**Deputy Clerk I**

**Prepared by: Evan L Topasna**



**The absence of an  
Original Court Seal  
Invalidates this  
document. 162208**



Erin M. Grajek &lt;egrajek@guamlegislature.org&gt;

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## FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

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Erin M. Grajek <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>  
 Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Thu, Apr 27, 2023 at 8:00 AM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 27, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media**  
**From: Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett**  
**Re: FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: Thursday, May 4, 2023**

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will conduct a series of public hearings on **Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 am** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

- Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Rolando C. Zepeda to serve as Visual Arts Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Simone E.P. Bollinger to serve as Literature Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as Member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council
- Appointment of Christine Baletto to serve as Upper Level Management Position in Private Business Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors
- Appointment of Margarita Felicitas B. Angel as Retired Teacher/School Administrator of GDOE Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors

If you are interested in participating in the Public Hearing to provide testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett via electronic mail at [malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org) or (671) 969-3586 no later than May 3, 2023 for further guidance.

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The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via i Liheslaturan Guåhan's live feed. Written testimonies may be sent via email at [malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org).

All government activities, programs, and services are accessible for people with disabilities in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Should you or interested parties require assistance or special accommodations to fully participate in this public hearing, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett at (671) 969-3586 or via email at [malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org).

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Si Yu'os ma'åse',

**Erin Marie Grajek, Committee Director**  
 The Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett  
 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor  
 163 Chalan Santo Papa

6/14/23, 9:13 PM

Guam Legislature Mail - FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

Hagåtña, Guam 96910  
671-969-3586

*i Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
*Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts*



**2023-04-27 FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing.pdf**  
245K



# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2023

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# FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

 PRINT

## FIRST NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

**PUBLIC HEARING**



 **Posted on:** 04/27/2023 08:00 AM

 **Posted by:** Erin Grajek, Committee Director

 **Public Hearing Date:** 05/04/2023 08:00 AM

 **Department(s):**  
**GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department\_id=92)**

 **Division(s):**  
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT (/notices?division\_id=269)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic\_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type\_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 27, 2023

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Appointment of Rolando C. Zepeda to serve as Visual Arts Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors

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Appointment of Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as Member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council

Appointment of Christine Baleto to serve as Upper Level Management Position in Private Business Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors

Appointment of Margarita Felicitas B. Angel as Retired Teacher/School Administrator of GDOE Representative of the Guam Education Board of Directors

If you are interested in participating in the Public Hearing to provide testimony, please contact the Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett via electronic mail at [malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org) or (671) 969-3586 no later than May 3, 2023 for further guidance.

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The Public Hearing will broadcast LIVE on local television (GTA Channel 21, Docomo Channel 117) and stream online via i

Liheslaturan Guåhan's live feed. Written testimonies may be sent via email at [malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org).

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Erin M. Grajek &lt;egrajek@guamlegislature.org&gt;

---

**CORRECTION - SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023**


---

**Erin M. Grajek** <egrajek@guamlegislature.org>  
 Bcc: phnotice@guamlegislature.org

Tue, May 2, 2023 at 10:34 AM

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 2, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**To: All Senators, Stakeholders, Media**  
**From: Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett**  
**Re: SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: Thursday, May 4, 2023**

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will conduct a series of public hearings on **Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 am** at the Public Hearing Room in the Guam Congress Building.

The agenda is as follows:

- Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
- Appointment of Rolando C. Zepeda to serve as Visual Arts Representative of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
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--

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

**Erin Marie Grajek, Committee Director**  
 The Office of Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett  
 Guam Congress Building, 2nd Floor

6/14/23, 9:14 PM

Guam Legislature Mail - CORRECTION - SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

163 Chalan Santo Papa

Hagåtña, Guam 96910  
671-969-3586

*i Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*  
*Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts*

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 **2023-05-02 SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing.pdf**  
245K



# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2023

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# SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023

 PRINT

## SECOND NOTICE of Public Hearing: May 4, 2023


**PUBLIC HEARING**



 **Posted on:** 05/02/2023 08:00 AM

 **Posted by:** Erin Grajek, Committee Director

 **Public Hearing Date:** 05/04/2023 08:00 AM

 **Department(s):**  
**GUAM LEGISLATURE (/notices?department\_id=92)**

 **Division(s):**  
OFFICE OF SENATOR CHRIS BARNETT (/notices?division\_id=269)

 **Notice Topic(s):** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?topic\_id=74)

 **Types of Notice:** PUBLIC HEARING (/notices?type\_id=7)

 **For Audience(s):** PUBLIC (/notices?public=1)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 2, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

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# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules  
*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

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April 26, 2023

**Transmitted via Electronic Mail**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Re: Notice of Confirmation Hearing – May 4, 2023**

Håfa adai Ms. Guzman:

Congratulations on your appointment as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors.

This letter is to notify you that the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts has scheduled a Confirmation Hearing for your appointment on **Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 am**. The hearing will take place in the public hearing room of the Guam Congress Building.

You are welcome to invite your family members and members of the community to submit written testimony or provide oral testimony in support of your confirmation.

Written testimony should be submitted to our office on or before May 3, 2023 and may be sent via email to [malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org). We look forward to your reply.

Si Yu'os ma'åse',

Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett





# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

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## Public Hearing

Public Hearing Room – Guam Congress Building

Thursday, May 4, 2023

### AGENDA

8:00 am

- Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors
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--

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# Senator Chris "Malafunkshun" Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guahan*

## PUBLIC HEARING SIGN-IN SHEET Thursday, May 4, 2023 – 8:00 am Public Hearing Room, Guam Congress Building

Appointment of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as Member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors

NAME	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION	POSITION	TESTIMONY	CONTACT INFORMATION
1. Jackie Perlas	CAHA	SUPPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	[REDACTED]
2. Judith Won Pat	GDOE	SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3. Evangeline Cepeda	Guam Academy Charter School Council	SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4. Christine Baleto		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5. Sandra Flores	CAHA	SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
7.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	
8.		SUPPORT <input type="checkbox"/> OPPOSE <input type="checkbox"/>	WRITTEN <input type="checkbox"/> ORAL <input type="checkbox"/>	

Page 1 of 1

Guam Congress Building · 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor · 163 Chalan Santo Papa · Hagåtña, Guam 96910

671-969-3586

malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org



# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett


Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

## COMMITTEE VOTE SHEET

**Nomination of Monica Okada Guzman to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency for a term of Four Years; January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027 to fill the unexpired term of Francis J. Guerrero.**

	SIGNATURE/ DATE OF SIGNATURE	TO DO CONFIRM	TO NOT CONFIRM	TO REPORT OUT ONLY	TO ABSTAIN	TO PLACE IN INACTIVE FILE
<b>Senator Chris Barnett</b> Chairperson	 06/15/23	✓				
<b>Senator Christopher M. Dueñas</b> Vice Chairperson						
<b>Speaker Therese M. Terlaje</b> Member	E-VOTE 06/15/23	✓				
<b>Senator Sabina F. Perez</b> Member						
<b>Senator Joe S. San Agustin</b> Member	E-VOTE 06/15/23	✓				
<b>Senator Joanne M. Brown</b> Member	E-VOTE 07/11/23	✓				
<b>Senator Thomas J. Fisher</b> Member						



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

---

## URGENT REQUEST for E-vote: Monica Okada Guzman (CAHA BOD)

---

Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>  
To: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

Tue, Jul 11, 2023 at 11:56 AM

Håfa Adai,

To Do Confirm.

Very Respectfully,

**Tracey Aguerro**

Office Manager

Office of Senator Joanne M. Brown | *I Mina' Trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan (37th Guam Legislature)*

[120 Father Dueñas Avenue](#)

Capitol Plaza Building, Suite 103

Hagåtña, Guam 96932

Telephone: (671) 647-1409

**Hafa Adai! Except with respect to public records exempt from disclosure by express provisions of the law, please be advised that, as an official office of the Legislative Branch of the Government of Guam, this electronic communication, is subject to the laws, rules and regulations governing the Sunshine Reform Act, and any other processes and procedures carried out in the spirit of an open and transparent government.**

[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

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## URGENT REQUEST for E-vote: Monica Okada Guzman (CAHA BOD)

---

Joe S. San Agustin <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 15, 2023 at 9:46 AM

To: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: Senator Therese Terlaje <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>, "Senator Sabina F. Perez" <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>, "Senator Thomas J. Fisher" <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>

To Do Confirm

### The Office of Senator Joe S. San Agustin

Committee on General Government Operations & Appropriations

*I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

37th Guam Legislature

Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910

T: (671) 989-5445 F: (671) 969-6737 E: senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com

Website: www.senatorjoessanagustin.com

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[Quoted text hidden]



Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

**URGENT REQUEST for E-vote: Monica Okada Guzman (CAHA BOD)**

**Speaker Therese M. Terlaje** <senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 15, 2023 at 12:16 PM

To: Senator Darrel Christopher Barnett <malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org>

Cc: "Honorable Joe S. San Agustin" <senatorjoessanagustin@gmail.com>, "Senator Sabina F. Perez" <office@senatorperez.org>, Chris Duenas <senatorchrisduenas@gmail.com>, "Senator Joanne M. Brown" <office@senatorjoannebrown.com>, "Senator Thomas J. Fisher" <senatorfisher@guamlegislature.org>

To Do Confirm.

Thank you,  
TMT



**Office of Speaker Therese M. Terlaje**  
Committee on Health, Land, Justice, and Culture  
I Mina'trentai Siette na Liheslaturan Guåhan 37th Guam Legislature  
Guam Congress Building, 163 Chalan Santo Papa, Hagåtña, Guam 96910  
☎ (671) 472-3586  
✉ senatorterlajeguam@gmail.com  
🌐 www.senatorterlaje.com

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# Senator Chris “Malafunkshun” Barnett

Chairperson

Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts · Committee on Rules  
*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

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## COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

### I. OVERVIEW

The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts convened a public hearing on the appointment of Monica Okada Guzman on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 8:00 am at the Public Hearing Room of the Guam Congress Building. The appointment history is as follows:

- Appointment by i Maga'håga Guåhan on Mach 14, 2023 for Four (4) Years from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027.
- Appointment packet forwarded to I Liheslatura on March 17, 2023; and
- Appointment packet forwarded to this Committee on March 20, 2023.

#### Public Notice Requirements

Public Hearing notices were disseminated via **e-mail** to all senators and all main media broadcasting outlets on **Thursday, April 27, 2023** (5-Day Notice), and again on **Tuesday, May 2, 2023** (48-Hour Notice).

#### Senators Present

Chairperson Chris Barnett  
Vice-Chairperson Christopher M. Dueñas  
Committee Member Joanne M. Brown  
Committee Member Thomas J. Fisher  
Senator Telo T. Taitague

#### Attendees

Monica Okada Guzman, Nominee  
Judith Won Pat, Acting Superintendent – Guam Department of Education  
Evangeline Cepeda, Chairperson – Guam Academy Charter School Council  
Christine Baleto – National Small Business Association Leadership Council  
Sandra Flores, Director – Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Council

### II. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY & DISCUSSION

The **public hearing** was Called-to-Order at **8:10 AM**.

**Senator Chris Barnett, Chairman - The Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts:** Good morning Guam. *Håfa Adai. Buenas, Manana si Yu'os.* On this Thursday morning, this public hearing conducted by the Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts is called to order at 8:10 CHamoru Standard Time. Notice of the hearing was disseminated to all local media outlets on April 27th, 2023, with a second notice provided

Guam Congress Building · 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor · 163 Chalan Santo Papa · Hagåtña, Guam 96910

671-969-3586

malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org

on May 2nd, 2023. Notice of the hearing was also made known on the Guam Legislature's website and the government of Guam Public Notices portal. This morning, the committee is holding a public hearing to hear and accept testimony on the appointment of the following members of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors, Monica Okada Guzman, to serve as member. Rolando Cepeda to serve as Visual Arts representative, and Simone Bollinger to serve as literature representative upon a conclusion of those appointments, we'll take a five-minute recess before we hear and accept testimony on Evangeline M. Cepeda to serve as member of the Guam Academy Charter Schools Council. Christine Baleto to serve as a private business representative in an upper-level management position on the Guam Education Board of Directors, and Margarita Felicitas B. Angel as the retired teacher or school administrator of GDOE representative on the Guam Education Board of Directors. I'd like to welcome my colleagues joining us today, including my Vice Chair, Senator Chris Duenas and also Senator Tom Fisher. Before we begin, I'd like to go over the general rules of conduct. No pulling hair, biting, individuals testifying shall first be recognized by the chair before speaking and state their name for record keeping purposes. Questions and testimony shall be confined to the substance or nature of the agenda. Personal inference as to the character or motive of any senator or individual testifying is not permitted. The chairperson of the committee may order the removal from a hearing any member of I Liheslaturan Guahan who fails to observe proper decorum, pursuant to the 37th Guam Legislature's Standing Rules, any violation of this general rule of conduct will result in the removal from the hearing by the host. We'll now proceed with discussions on the appointment of Ms. Monica Okada Guzman, to serve as member of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities Board of Directors. We'll begin with those present, here to present testimony on Ms. Okada Guzman's behalf before we hear from the appointee herself. So is there anyone here to testify on Monica's behalf? If not, then - Okay. Come on up. And ma'am, before you begin your testimony, please just state your name for the record.

**Evangeline M. Cepeda, Chairperson - Guam Academy Charter School Council:** Good morning, *Buenas*. My name is Evangeline M. Cepeda. I, you can call me Vangie. I don't have anything prepared, but when I saw Monica, she's a dear friend of mine. I've known her for many years. I'd like to say I am in support of her, of this. She is a hardworking woman. She understands the whole arts. And I wanna just say that she's very passionate about stuff like this. She's always been this way. I mean, she's a really sweet, humble, but she can be feisty and fights for what she believes in. And I'm here this morning to give her full support. And I hope this body before me is going to give her the support to nominate her to this particular thing that on or will like to remain on the board. I think she's done an excellent job. And if you know Monica, everything she does from start to finish, she's done it with everything that she has. I mean just look at her history, she is impeccably hardworking. And she's dedicated. And I'm here to say that please senators, please give her your support. Thank you.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you, ma'am. I don't know who got to the table first. Acting superintendent, please proceed, thank you.



**Judith T. Won Pat, Acting Superintendent - Guam Department of Education:** Buenas and Håfa Adai. Thank you so very much for holding this confirmation. And I'm going to do this a little bit different. Oh, by the way, I am Judith Won as a private citizen of Guam in, this particular case. I just wanna say that I wanna thank you rather, because before you are really fantastic strong, dynamic women that you're going to confirm for the various agencies. You would never find anybody as accomplished as these women that will come before you. And I say this primarily because I have worked with them personally, for many years that I've been in the legislature and in my private life. So you would not make a mistake. They would definitely contribute to the different departments and agencies and the boards that they're going to be serving in. And of course, I like to say that I worked with Monica as well, and I know her. She is definitely very passionate about the arts. I also know Vangie because I used to work with her when I was the CEO for GAX. And she was the chairperson of the charter council and this lovely woman to my left, and I will do a disclosure, she is my niece and I totally support her. I know she's been very successful in the private sector. She was also very successful in the Government of Guam at the time when she was the director of DOA. And I know that she's going to bring a wealth of her personal experience in finance and business to the Department of Education. And last but not least, also for Ms. Feli Angel who's also going to be a board member. She's already started to work with our students, so she's a definite, you know, additional list to our board of education. I hope I didn't miss anybody. Was there a fifth person?

**Chairman Barnett:** One shot. That's good.

**Superintendent Won Pat:** That's it. *Esta* I support all these. We have one shot, only because I have to go to a meeting now at the governor's office. Thank you very much.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you. Acting Sup. All right. One and done. Christine?

**Christine Baleto - National Small Business Association Leadership Council:** Yes. *Håfa Adai*, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I'm actually here for my own confirmation hearing, but upon meeting Monica when I walked in, I felt compelled to also offer testimony in support of her confirmation. I've known Monica, believe it or not, for over 30 years from the time that I started at Sanctuary. She was heavily involved in community service even during that time and has continued to do so throughout her career. She's always been passionate, hardworking, and committed to whatever endeavor that she has taken on. And even as of late she helped start a small business training and development program that I know personally, people who have benefited from it. So, you know, throughout her career, everything that she's done, the product, the achievements have been evident and so I fully support her and hope that the committee does so as well. Thank you.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you ma'am. Sandy?

**Sandra S. Flores, Executive Director - Guam Council on The Arts and Humanities Agency:** Thank you, Senator Barnett. Thank you to the Guam Legislature for allowing us to give comments on this. I'm Sandra S. Flores, the director of Guam CAHA, and I wanted to provide testimony and support of Monica Okada Guzman. Monica has been a, has a long

history as a promoter of the arts. She is executive director of the Guam Unique Merchandise and Art Organization, which works with artists to bring their products to market. And I feel this is a great testimony to her commitment to the success of the arts and entrepreneurship on Guam. She is a former board member of CAHA, in fact, a former chair. I've worked with her in her programs over the years. We work well together and she's very experienced in all the aspects of the agency's function, and so I wanted to just provide my support and say that her nomination would provide continuity and support for the agency. Thank you.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you. Thank you, Sandy. Mr. Suzuki, are you going to testify in support or of Ms. Monica?

**Chairman Barnett:** Now we'd like to hear from the appointee if there's no one else to testify. Okay. Good morning ma'am. So I guess, I guess we'd just like to first give you the floor if you have a prepared statement to read, and then we'll turn it over to the committee for questions. Thank you. And good morning.

**Monica Okada-Guzman, Nominee – Council on the Arts and Humanities Agency Board of Directors:** Good morning, manana si Yu'os and Håfa adai to Senator Barnett. Senator Fisher and Senator Duenas, and of course, the members of the Committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts. Thank you for allowing me to be here this morning and for the opportunity to provide testimony to serve on the Board of Directors of the Guam Council on Arts and the Humanities. I would also like to thank Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lieutenant Governor Joshua Tenorio for this appointment. The arts and culture have always been important to me as the daughter of a Chamorro teacher, I grew up watching my mom prepare her lesson plans and making empanada and *bunelos* for her students. The passion and love for her work and our Chamorro language and culture was evident in everything she did growing up. I have always been surrounded by art entrepreneurs. Many of them are my best friends who share the many joys and challenges they have with their art. I have grown to understand the uniqueness of our culture and how the arts can express who we are at any given moment in time. Together, art and culture are dynamic and fulfilling manifestations of our community. I was fortunate to have served on the CAHA board as chair from 2007 to 2016 during my tenure, we had an active percent of the arts program. Our traditional masters were recognized, and we hosted the 12th Festival of Pacific Arts in 2016. Today, seven years later, CAHA is preparing Guam's delegation to hope to the 13th Festival in Honolulu next year. The agency has new offices in a gallery, and it has developed regional partnerships that expands the collective consciousness of our arts and culture. The mandate to serve our growing artisan and cultural communities remains a core priority for CAHA, and with the use of technology, we can reach a greater number of artists and cultural practitioners to continue providing them with support. The limited CAHA staff is an incredible team that is committed to the growth and development of the arts and culture in Guam and will continue to move forward. Covid19 had serious impacts in our community, especially in the area of our mental and spiritual health. There are many studies that report increased anxiety and depression among young adults experiencing pandemic related consequences. On our small island like or like ours, these impacts are even more pronounced. I have always been a believer that art therapy can help people manage stress and can reduce anxiety and depression through artistic expression, or even just being

exposed to the arts. This along with emphasis on creative aging among our manamko and our veterans, is a good start in uplifting some of the most vulnerable sectors in our community, if confirmed to serve on the board of directors, I commit to using my skills and resources to elevate our community of artists and cultural practitioners raise the awareness of the value of arts, and most importantly, inspire our community and our people and help express their aspirations. I hope you will give me the opportunity to serve once again on the board of Directors of the Guam Council on the Arts and Humanities. *Si Yu'os Ma'ase* and I welcome any questions. I would also like to take this opportunity to provide support to Ms. Simone Bollinger and Mr. Rollie Zepeda in their confirmation also to serve on the board.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank, thank you. Monica I guess the, I had a couple questions. What I wanted to first ask do you have any plans or do you believe that we should expand our traditional master's program to include maybe different disciplines or. Or do you feel there are any individuals or practices that we may have overlooked or we need to add to this great program?

**Ms. Guzman:** I believe that the master's program in itself is to recognize traditional masters. And I think that's a very critical part in preserving our culture and other genres. Like for example, contemporary arts or contemporary dance and all that stuff can be recognized in other forms, but to recognize our masters should be with traditional arts, traditional and cultural arts. That's what I believe.

**Chairman Barnett:** Well, thank you. Would you be open to opening up the nomination process for traditional masters? Because you know, just going around the island, I hear from a lot of different people. For example, there's a family I know that their grandfather was a very accomplished fisherman and he would when the Japanese came, he would, he was, you know, to go and fish for the Japanese and dis guy's legendary fisherman skill, that kind of thing. Or would you be open to opening up the nomination process? If that's how it works, or could you also maybe explain how it works?

**Ms. Guzman:** Absolutely. It's been I believe the last masters that were recognized was in. Before FestPac, I can't remember if it was 2014 or 2015, the current law states that you open nominations, I think it's one per year or four in a four-year span. I believe it's time we are losing our masters. At one point there was over 100 masters that were recognized. Now we're down to, I would say, maybe under 20. So it's really important that we move quickly to recognize those that are still with us so that they can continue in that preservation of that art form. I know that board member, Frank Rabon has been working very hard to continue the program and he as the first recognized Master of Chamorro dance has very has a lot of experience and knowledge on, on that process. And I think he's done a lot of work and yes, I agree. We should definitely open nominations like asap.

**Chairman Barnett:** What about permanent home for CAHA? I honestly believe that we should have a permanent home for CAHA. And I, I know that one of the challenges is identifying property. It would be great if we could identify property in Hagåtña. And then also working with other agencies that may be able to provide funding or support to build a permanent office and a gallery befitting of our artists. I know that CAHA has kind of

pivoted a little bit from visual to performing arts, right. With the recent arrival of the dancers and stuff. In what ways do you think we can expand CAHA to recognize and share other kind of art disciplines with the public?

**Ms. Guzman:** Currently the council receives funding from the National Endowment of the Arts, and I think that's matched also with local funding. And they have a part of that funding is used to provide grants to our artists and our practitioners utilizing some of those funds to recognize other genres would help in promoting those artistic disciplines. The visual arts, the literary arts, the traditional arts, the performing arts are all genres that need to be recognized having exhibitions and demonstrations also at the various fairs and festivals will also help in uplifting those artists.

**Chairman Barnett:** I know that you have a good relationship with the Director Ms. Sandy. So can you just share with me before I turn it over to my colleagues, what are some of the ideas that the director has on our plate that you are interested in pursuing if you're confirmed to the board?

**Ms. Guzman:** I attended the last couple of CAHA board meetings, and there was a program that that both that the director really wanted to execute. And that was the Mariana's Island International the Meet Off Mariana's International Dance Festival. And that was funded with corporate support and also with some funding that they received from the Western State Arts Federation. Those kinds of collaborations with other organizations to bring artists and from other countries to Guam will certainly help to expose our local artists to what's happening in the world. So that was one program that they did, and it just concluded last weekend.

**Chairman Barnett:** Okay. Thank you Monica. I'd like to also recognize Senator Telo Taitague. Good morning and wanna recognize the vice chair Senator Chris Duenas for any questions he may have. Senator.

**Senator Christopher M. Duenas:** *Si Yu'os Ma'ase*, Mr. Chairman and Monica, welcome back. Thank you. I think that this is a wonderful appointment and I thank the governor and Lieutenant Governor for making this appointment. You certainly have the experience. You brought out some early who's who to testify for you, and this is a little earlier hearing than we normally have, so I think that speaks well of you. Monica, I just got one question and I'm probably going to give you an opportunity to boast a little bit here. I know you're not a boastful person, but the great program that you're operating now GUMA. And one of the things when the tourist folks, we've been going over a number of hearings and one of the things that we talked about in a confirmation hearing for Robert Hoffman is, you know, once again, we see our exit survey every time, and it always talks about culture and the need for our culture and cultural experiences. And I mentioned that, you know, in your presentation to many senators what you've presented under GUMA is the ability to build homegrown businesses throughout the villages around the island. So hopefully when we get that robust tourism again that's going out and out of Tumon and around the island I just wanted you to give an opportunity to talk about how these programs actually more than likely marry and can continue to make CAHA proliferate more by more cultural arts

artisans. And growing that at a grassroots level and why that experience and your experience will bring much needed input in the board.

**Ms. Guzman:** Thank you. Senator Duenas. GUMA, Guam Merchandising and Art is a non-profit organization. We're 10 years old this year, and it was actually born of the desire to assist and support our artists and cultural practitioners in, in their business plans. We started out with a partnership with DFS and then we went out and got some grants so that we can provide intradural entrepreneurial training and mentoring to our artisans and cultural producers. Since then we have received additional grants and some funding and thank you to the legislature for appropriating some funds to GUMA. With that money, we went into the villages all 19 villages and we conducted home-based training to over 200 participants that came to each of the village trainings. We've had our goal under that grant was to have 115 home base business licensed. We've exceeded that grant or that goal. And with the appropriation that we received from the legislature, we've probably given, we've given out about 67 micro-credit grants to folks that have completed the program. And there's another 40 that are in the trench. So, with that funding, we're probably going to exhaust it in July. And every single penny of that that appropriation has gone to our home base businesses. Our training and mentoring program that we're doing right now is a 16-week program. We partnered with the Small Business Development Center. We had over a hundred people sign up for the training. Right now we're in week 13. We'll soon be graduating. We estimate probably about 80, 85 participants from that program. Once they complete the program, they can apply for incubator funding pro you know, providing a business plan prototypes of whatever their products are. And then that will be reviewed by a panel. So far in the training and incubator program, we've funded 37 incubators. Businesses like Gourmet Guam, like Leaf, like Latitude 13, Tao Pacific Designs, Fu'una cultures. I wish I could re memorize all 37 businesses, but, you know, businesses that are doing well with a little bit of funding and support that we have provided to them. And I'd just like to thank the people of Guam, our partners for believing in the program. And I just wanna say that initially we require that everyone that came through our program be a member of CAHA. You know, since then we've expanded the program to include other businesses besides cultural , but the majority of the businesses that we're supporting now are artisans and creatives. I just had to bring that once again to light, because I know this past Christmas season, a lot of the features at DFS and the like, you know, I know that many media outlets did a lot of, you know, showcasing of products, local artisans who have been able to monetize their product. You know, I hearken back to a good friend of ours Simeon Palomo known to us as Moni, his beautiful art that he makes with all the natural resources of Guam. I know many artists they normally are not in because of their nature. They're not there to monetize their product. But then I, it really is organic a lot of times because it's people who love their work so much and say, I got to pay you, I got to compensate you for that work and that effort that you put in. Even at ECA Gardens. Now, I always told him, I said, that has to be a tour attraction. And he's like, no. Go back. I don't wanna monetize, you know, something that I love, right? But I mean, when you see CCA Gardens and you see a lot of the Chamorro people that are really, you know, they love their island and they want to continue to do something after retirement. He's not monetizing it. But the fact of the matter is that, you know, that this, that's why I'm so grateful that you accepted the challenge and that I think CAHA will continue to grow. And once again,

individuals who have a chance to make the connection between GUMA and CAHA and the ability to have seed money to make their dreams come true, you know, after they've gotten all their artists qualities under, you know, going, but then also realize, wow, I can make a living doing this too and help my family.

**Senator Duenas:** *Si Yu'os ma'âse.* So you certainly have my support and look forward to voting and the affirmative for your confirmation. Thank you for being willing to serve. Once again, Monica.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you. Senator Duenas. Senator Fisher?

**Senator Fisher:** Thank you Chair. I don't have any questions. Ms. Guzman, I would echo what both Chris, I guess have said. And I look forward to voting for you. Thank you. Thank you for your service.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you. Senator Fisher. Senator Taitague.

**Senator Telo T. Taitague:** Good morning Mr. Chair and good morning to everyone that's here. Monica, it's always good to see you. You're one busy woman, I tell you, but you know, I appreciate you wanting to continue to serve to our community and provide your definitely institutional knowledge in every aspect of me. You've been on many boards and there's no doubt you're highly qualified. The only concern I have here with regards to your nomination is just a conflict of interest on any awards or anything. CAHA. May be awarding because you do have your hand in like a nonprofit organization. Do you see any conflicts at all in what you have, because you do own GOI Group. GOI is a considered a company that goes out for grants, you know, provide things like that. So is there, do you see any conflict at all?

**Ms. Guzman:** Absolutely not. I think the work that we're doing with GUMA is col is works hand in hand with what CAHA is doing, and it can be a very good partnership and collaboration. GUMA in the early days we did apply for CAHA grants, but we have not applied for a CAHA grant in like the last five or six years.

**Senator Taitague:** Is there any stipulation in CAHA's bylaws or guidance on if a board member relieves their duty or no longer a board member?

**Ms. Guzman:** There's a certain amount of years they have to wait before obtaining a grant from CAHA. I would imagine that it's just the standard one year. I think I'm not sure about one year.

**Senator Taitague:** One year? Yeah, so Monica FestPac is next year, FestPac pack, huge. It's going to be in Hawaii and there's going to be a lot of money that's going to be needed for that to send to our group to Hawaii. And I was wondering what is your take on, what's your position in CAHA? Are you going to be taking a huge role in this considering you do have the expertise in many FestPacs, actually. So what do you foresee this coming FestPac next year?

**Ms. Guzman:** Well, I am the governor appointed me to chair the 2020 FestPac committee. And I've already started meeting with the genre chairs. They had determined prior to my meeting with them CAHA had determined that the delegation that was supposed to participate in 2020 would still participate in 2024. So what CAHA is doing now is they're reaching out to the delegates to confirm if there's still an interest in their participation. We're just at the beginning of the planning for it. And we're hoping that perhaps by August have a delegation that we could announce to the people of Guam.

**Senator Taitague:** And how much does CAHA have in their coffer as far as funding for this upcoming FestPac? I understand that for 2020 there was a legislative appropriation to utilize some of the percent of the arts money to assist with funding Guam's delegation to Hawaii. What is that percentage and do you know that amount?

**Ms. Guzman:** I believe the appropriation back then was for \$350,000. And so that's another thing that that we're doing now is we're revising the budget and if we don't need to use all of that money, then of course we won't. But the current appropriation has 350,000.

**Senator Taitague:** And that's how much you have in the account currently?

**Ms. Guzman:** Right now for FestPac for next year, yes.

**Senator Taitague:** Okay. Are you planning on any kind of fundraiser? Because usually the delegations, you know, get together and do a fundraiser for their tickets and stuff?

**Ms. Guzman:** So, I think the first thing that we need to do is you know, reach out to corporate sponsors to see if they can assist in any of the needs of the delegation, and of course there will be fundraisers.

**Senator Taitague:** Okay. When is the first meeting for, excuse me, for FestPac? The starting of FestPac and organizing.

**Ms. Guzman:** Organizing the I've had two meetings so far and I, if I remember correctly the committee meeting is the third Thursday of the month at three o'clock at the CAHA Gallery.

**Senator Taitague:** At the office, Okay. Do you know, third Thursday, is it open to the public?

**Ms. Guzman:** Yes, Of course.

**Senator Taitague:** So in the, you know, there was a bill introduced I believe, in the 35th Guam legislature, ensuring that funding for CAHA is you know, is still there. I mean, people tend to want to dip into somebody else's funding source and take it for a while. And I was always concerned about CAHA being raided, you know? And I know that there's a certain percent percentage. Are you familiar with the law of taxes that are levied toward CAHA?

**Ms. Guzman:** The which law?

**Senator Taitague:** The, there's legislation that actually, well, it's already been in the books that a certain percentage of taxes goes to CAHA. Are you familiar with that?

**Ms. Guzman:** If you're referring to the percent of the arts Legislation. And that is 1% of any construction on any government building. Over \$100,000, 1% goes to the arts. And then that also includes any tax breaks that GEDA gives as far as the qualifying certificate. Then 1% of that construction costs will go to the arts.

**Senator Taitague:** Have you ever served on CAHA before?

**Ms. Guzman:** Yes.

**Senator Taitague:** How long ago was that?

**Ms. Guzman:** I served on CAHA from 2007 to 2016. I'd just like to point out that a lot of the art that is here in, in the Congress building that is hanging in the walls was actually a result of the percent of the arts program.

**Senator Taitague:** So you have served on CAHA for nine years, and then you've taken a break for how long?

**Ms. Guzman:** Seven.

**Senator Taitague:** Seven years. So nine. And you're back. Okay. Well, you can see the changes that CAHA made or may not have made, you know, and I hope that your term will bring some, like I said, institutional knowledge that you have, but also bring some new ideas to CAHA on raising funding for this really important agency. And I wish you the very best. And good luck and please keep me abreast about FestPac. I'm very interested in that. You know, I've worked on it before when I was at GVB, so I'm looking forward to being a part of that too as well. So, good luck to you and of course to the CAHA staff. Thank you so much for all your hard work and continuing to promote the culture and heritage of our island. Thank you.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you, Senator Taitague. Senator Brown?

**Senator Joanne M. Brown:** You're lucky you're here this morning. Not yesterday afternoon. I don't have a lot of questions. I mean, Monica Guzman, and I go back. I was just calculating cause said, oh, how many years? 34 years, Monica. Oh my God. Since we worked together in the a Blas administration, boy time flies by. I mean, I, you have an impressive resume and you're very committed to what you do and you do a lot of things, but I think definitely you're passionate about the arts on Guam and promoting it and encouraging that creativity and people around you is really wonderful. So, no questions from me. You have my support and I appreciate your efforts cause I know you're very busy. But to make this time to do what you're passionate about, I think is wonderful. And I think we're all going to benefit from it in the community. So you got my support and I wish you well in, in your upcoming term. Thank you very much.



**Ms. Guzman:** Thank you, Senator.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you, Senator Brown. Any other testimony for Ms. Monica? If not that concludes this portion of the hearing. Thank you again. Thank you. Thank you. I know we said we were going to take a five-minute break, but if we're all CAHA, let's go ahead.

**Chairman Barnett:** Thank you, Senator Brown. Thank you, Senator Brown. Thank you Simone, for your testimony. And if there's no further testimony, we'll consider the appointments of Miss Monica Okada Guzman, and Simone Baller Bollinger duly heard. Sorry. Have ever been saying it wrong all this time. Okay. Bollinger, right? So we'll consider the points of the two ladies duly heard. And we'll schedule another hearing for Mr. Rollie Zepeda, who we weren't able to get ahold of here today. So, again, this, that concludes this portion of the public hearing we're going to take is it okay if we take a five-minute recess real quick and then we'll go ahead and hear the other appointments on the agenda? Thank you.

And if there's no more testimony to be heard committee on Education, Public Safety and the Arts will continue to accept testimony on all of the appointments we heard this morning. You can drop your testimony off here at the Guam Congress Hall or email it to [malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org](mailto:malafunkshun@guamlegislature.org). That's M A L A F U N K S H U N at guamlegislature.org. This concludes this hearing of the Committee on Education and Public Safety on the Arts at 10:45. Chamorro standard time. Esta.

The public hearing was adjourned at **10:45 AM**.

### **III. FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

All discussion and testimony presented to and received by the Committee affirm the support for the appointment of Monica Okada Guzman as a member of the Board of Directors of the Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency.

The Committee on Education, Public Safety, and the Arts hereby reports on the appointment of Monica Okada Guzman as a member of the Board of Directors of the Guam Council on the Arts & Humanities Agency for Four (4) Years from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027 with the recommendation **TO DO CONFIRM.**