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TOWN OF ARLINGTON
MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

September 3, 2020

Sarah Morgan-Wu
Arlington, MA 02474

Sarah.morgan@qpmedia.org

Re: Appointment: Commission for Arts and Culture

Dear Ms. Noah:

As a matter of the standard appointment procedure, the Select Board requests that you attend a virtual meeting of the Select Board conducted by remote participation, on Monday, September 14th at 7:15 p.m.

It is a requirement of the Select Board that you join this virtual meeting. This will give the Board an opportunity to meet and discuss matters with you about the area of activity in which you will be involved.

Information which includes the link to the meeting will be available at the bottom of the Select Board Agenda as well as on the Town Calendar when the meeting is posted Thursday, September 10th by 7:00 p.m.

Please contact this office by e-mail, amaher@town.arlington.ma.us, if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,
SELECT BOARD

Marie A. Krepelka
Board Administrator

August 18, 2020

Dear Cristin and Stewart,

I am quite interested in contributing to the Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture with a commissioner's seat at the table. I currently own and operate with my partner, an art-focused gallery named TheObjectOfStories in Arlington, Massachusetts.

Our gallery is an iteration of a concept first opened by my partner in Beijing in 1995 called the Mustard Seed Gallery. At that time, it was the first Chinese-owned private art gallery in the PRC. In 1997, we opened the first authentic Chinese tea house and gallery in the United States, named QingPing Gallery Teahouse on Newbury Street, and subsequently moved to the South End in Boston. We hosted art exhibitions, music and theatre events, and welcomed individuals and groups who wished interaction within our space and with each other. We created a non-profit cross-cultural alliance to promote understanding and establish a common foundation of communication through art, which grew relationships and further opened doors and purposes for individuals and businesses in the US and China. In 2005, we moved to Beijing and spearheaded several arts and cultural businesses and projects which further engaged these principals. It was a successful and vibrant time. We continue to maintain our business and a residence in Beijing.

When we chose to re-open a space in the USA, we sought a community where creativity, business, and we could thrive. In our search for a space, we came to find that Arlington should be the location for our concept, in no small part due to the efforts of ACAC. Since opening TheObjectOfStories gallery in the Fall of 2019, our warmest and greatest surprise has been the number of our customers from the early QingPing time who have walked into our Arlington gallery by chance and found us again. It seems many now live in Arlington.

Our focus has always been on the integration of art and culture in everyday life activities and the creation of a space or platform or circumstance that would allow for interaction and appreciation, the intent of which leads to understanding, and which is hopefully given back and projected forward.

I appreciate that the town of Arlington endeavors to create the same through the work of the ACAC. I want to offer whatever skills, interests, and experience I have toward the shared labor, passion, and vision of the other committee members.

If there are any questions I could answer to complete any thoughts you may have regarding my application, please let me know. My partner and I plan to continue our interest in supporting the arts and culture scene and the work of ACAC no matter the outcome of the commissioner process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

With all kind regards,

Sarah Morgan-Wu

TheObjectOfStories
189 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02474

SARAH MORGAN-WU

Business Interests:

- *Co-Founder & Co-Owner (2019-Present)* **TheObjectsOfStories:** an art gallery and culture space, located in Arlington, Massachusetts.
- *COO & Editor-in-Chief (2015-Present)* **QPMedia:** a privately held US-based entity enjoined with a fully incorporated PRC entity in Beijing, focused on cross-border artistic and commercial production and funding for film, print, and digital media.
- *Co-Founder & Chief Representative (Beijing Office) (2004-present):* **CRR Consulting & Development Company:** a privately held US-based entity with a representative office in Beijing, which has successfully established, marketed, consulted and created production lines for US-based business entities seeking entrée into the PRC market.
- *Co-Founder & Owner (2005-2017):* **QingPingHuiGuan:** an invitation-only membership-based club. Organized as a privately held PRC-based entity, from which stemmed operations necessary to handle logistics, importation, tax, customs, and warehousing of wine, alcohol, and other products. Achievements include curating a select membership drawn from private individuals, business, government, media, and entertainment industries. QPHG's interest was in the collection and investment of fine wines, particularly those of Bordeaux, and in other various commercial and artistic concerns of the members. The location included an art gallery, salon-style concert and theater performance venue, dining spaces, and conversation, and meeting areas.
- *Co-Creator & Owner (2005-present):* of the largest privately-owned vintage provenance-based Bordeaux collection in Beijing valued of 5,000,000usd created from an initial 200,000usd fund. Established the QingPing Investment Wine Fund (the first China-based wine fund to invest in Wine Futures ("En Primeur")).
- *Co-Founder & Owner (1997-2005):* QingPing Gallery Teahouse; a cross cultural platform in the Boston, Massachusetts which used the mediums of food, art, theatre, literature and music embodied in traditional Chinese culture to establish the first US-based Chinese Contemporary Art Gallery and Teahouse. The entity and its slate of programs resulted in several local and national cultural awards, and the successful marketing of Chinese contemporary art to private, corporate, and museum clients.

Other:

- Published author and historian and consultant in the field of American automobile racing: Books: *Frank Lockhart: American Speed King* (2012); Phoenix Art Museum: exhibition catalogue *Legends of Speed* (2019), *Duesenberg: The Definitive History of the Race Cars* (Spring 2021); *Penugeot: Racing in America* (TBP). Several privately published books on individual car history.

Previous Relevant Experience:

1991-present Private Collections Consultant

Author privately published histories and biographies; Assess conservation needs and catalogue private collections, i.e. book, paper, archive and photograph collections.

1986-1998 The Boston Athenæum

1990-1998: *Special Projects Manager & Assistant to the Curator of Painting and Sculpture*. In charge of planning, coordinating, and supervising special projects in the following areas: collections research, collections presentations as both exhibitions and publications, event coordination and management. Coordinate design, personnel, schedules, budgets, legal documents, publicity, and marketing for all aspects of Athenæum exhibition catalogues/checklists and event invitations; including the following major exhibitions and respective publications: *Margaret Wise Brown: The Picture Book Made New* (1996); *Arthur J. Stone 1847-1938: Designer and Silversmith* (co-authored, 1994); *50 Books in the Collection of the Boston Athenæum* (1994); *Maps, Charts, and Atlases* (1992); *Conger Metcalf: A Retrospective* (co-authored 1990).

1986-1990: *Curatorial Associate, Print and Photograph Department*. Collections management and processing; accessioning and cataloguing, conservation assessment and collections storage, formulator of cataloguing, exhibition, and publication grants, coordinator of internships for college credit and volunteer projects, collections registrar, art reference and research.

1984-1986 Curator of Exhibitions. Milwaukee County Historical Society. Responsible for research, development, and installation of case and room exhibitions.