

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
RESPONSE TO CONFIRMATION QUESTIONS
JOSÉ ALBERTO UCLÉS
JANUARY 9, 2020

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions 2-8 in lieu of that statement.

Please see questions 2-8.

2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$5,000, including publicly traded stock.

None.

3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$1,000 during the past two years.

None.

4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.

None.

5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$5,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.

None.

6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000.

23 T Street NW, WDC 20001 – home that is my residence (Ward 5).

7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.

None.

8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.

None.

9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member, and include the term of service for each.

The DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities.

10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member.

None.

11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.

No.

12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the Commission?

No.

13. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past five years, including any campaign contributions to a local candidate or political action committee.

None, as I am a Federal Worker with the US Department of Transportation.

14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered.

No.

15. Do you understand how much time will be required of you to serve on the Commission and do you commit to spend that time?

As I have been on the Commission, I am very aware of the time that is required to serve and glad to do that and more as necessary as I have flexibility from my job.

16. Why have you agreed to serve another term, and how do you plan to help the Commission fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Commission? Include in your answer what you believe should be the priorities of the Commission and specific challenges you see for it.

I am grateful and honored to have been asked to serve for another three-year term on the Commission. My top priority and challenge will be to assist and support our staff, local individuals, and organizations as we improve as an independent agency and show the community that we are stable, stronger, and ready to make our arts, humanities, and cultural presence even greater.

Humbly, I consider myself a communicator, a connector of people, and seeker of peaceful and productive resolutions and improvements. Under the leadership of our Chair Kay Kendall, our capable Interim Executive Director Heran Sereke Brhan, and our staff, I feel prepared to help with any challenges that may lay ahead.

We are proud to be the official arts agency for the District of Columbia, and I will continue to bring people and organizations together to continue our work to promote progress in the arts and humanities through our mission, programs and policies in grant making, education, public art, events and professional development with our eclectic and diverse organizations and individuals. We are glad to work with, to be of service to, and in turn improve, our creative economy and help continue making Washington, DC an artistic and world class cultural destination.

I am proud that as an agency, we were able to recently have a record-breaking year in our agency's 51-year history - awarding \$24,738,534 in 626 competitive grants to support arts and humanities projects, nonprofit organizations, and individual practitioners across the District in FY 2020. This is what I hope to continue helping with and our ambitious mission.

17. Please discuss any past and present experiences not already mentioned that you believe are relevant to support your reappointment as a member of the Commission.

Having lived in this great city for over 30 years I have a deep appreciation, enjoyment, knowledge, and love for the arts, humanities, and cultures that are so richly and diversely present in our city and metro area and readily available to all of us. I have an extensive background in public relations, media, special events, fundraising and community outreach that will help me continue as an active member of this Commission.

Besides my professional work for the past 19 years at the U.S. Department of Transportation, as the Hispanic Outreach Spokesperson, Public Affairs, and Consumer Relations for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), I was a judge to the Helen Hayes Awards for Outstanding Theater in the WDC metropolitan area ('09 -'11) with TheatreWashington, which provided me an amazing window into the rich and diverse theatre community in our area.

As over my last couple of terms, I have had the pleasure to be visible and supportive participant and helping connect people in so many visual arts, performance arts,

humanities, and cultural events from the Kennedy Center, GALA Hispanic Theatre, InSeries, Cultural DC, Mosaic Theatre, Anacostia Playhouse, National Theatre, Phillips Collection, Textile Museum at GWU, Shakespeare Theatre, Arena Stage, Woolly, Studio, Imagination Stage for Children, SITAR, Explore! and Children's Museum, Washington Ballet, Pride Nite at Kennedy Center for the National Washington Opera and Signature Theatre in Shirlington, DC Jazz Festival, DC Humanities, EventsDC and art exhibits from Zenith Gallery to individual painters, sculptors and artists in our DMV. Many of these organizations, their leaders, and individuals can attest to my involvement, support and love for the arts and humanities and that I have been active in the furtherance of the arts and humanities in the District of Columbia.