



2019 NOV 26 AM 12:02

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

NOV 26 2019

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 person:

Cora Masters Barry
161 Raleigh Street SE
Washington, DC 20032
(Ward 8)

for appointment as a member with specific interest, ability, or experience in the humanities of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, replacing Lawrence Green, for a term to end June 30, 2021.

Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with 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 me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

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



Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution,
which was referred to the Committee on _____.

To confirm the appointment of Cora Masters Barry 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 Cora Masters Barry
Confirmation Resolution of 2019".

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

Cora Masters Barry
161 Raleigh Street SE
Washington, DC 20032
(Ward 8)

as a member with specific interest, ability, or experience in the humanities of the Commission on
the Arts and Humanities, 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), replacing
Lawrence Green, for a term to end June 30, 2021.

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.

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Cora Masters Barry



Trailblazer, Change Agent, Community builder, Dream-Maker, Motivational Speaker, Political Scientist, Sports, Tennis, and Education Powerhouse, Cora Masters Barry has transformed the lives of countless young people, who are now empowered and committed to making a difference in our communities, our nation, and the world.

While First Lady of the District of Columbia, in 1994 Mrs. Barry founded the Recreation Wish List Committee (RWLC) to provide recreational space and nurturing learning environment for underserved DC youth. In 2001, the doors of the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center (SETLC), a state-of-the art facility opened with a \$5.1 million grant from the City. Today, the SETLC sits as a shining star in Washington D.C.'s Ward 8—one of the District's most underserved and under resourced areas, with the lives of over 15,000 young people being touched. The SETLC was remodeled in 2015 with an additional \$18 million in funding. Plans are now underway to add a new wing to the SETLC campus.

Under Mrs. Barry's outstanding leadership, the SETLC has not only excelled in teaching children the sport of tennis, but has also provided excellent academic tutoring and essential life skills training to every child who comes through its doors. The SETLC was named the "Youth Tennis and Learning Facility of the Year," by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) at the 2005 U.S. Open, and at the same time, was featured on the TBS Network. Since the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center's inception, it has received numerous awards; has been recognized as a premiere tennis and educational facility; and, has been highlighted on all major networks, including: CBS News, NBC News, ABC News, ESPN News, and in other major publications throughout the world.

As a testament to the extraordinary success of the SETLC-Mrs. Barry's vision, and her unequalled leadership and business acumen, she has been named the recipient of the National Recreation and Park Association's "2017 Robert M. Artz Citizen Advocacy Award," the highest and most prestigious award given out by the Association.

For Mrs. Barry, a political scientist turned youth developer extraordinaire, "Tennis is the hook, but Education...the Key." The SETLC's education wing has classrooms, a computer center, and a round room for events and performances. Students are recruited from nearby schools and attend after school programs and the Center's summer school for help needed to perform at grade level. Her passion for creating new possibilities for area youth has helped them learn and honor their rich heritage, while gaining skills to compete in the high-tech 21st Century culture and economy. She has turned her passion for African-American history, into the SETLC's outstanding "Blacks in Wax" program, which features young people depicting and reciting the messages of famous Africans Americans. The scholars of the Center are even styled and wardrobe to look like these heroes. This remarkable educational program has been celebrated on the Millennium Stage of the

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the White House, and is showcased throughout the District of Columbia as well as across the nation.

Mrs. Barry's exceptional skills in building strong partnerships has attracted widespread support for the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center from her friends, tennis icons Venus and Serena Williams, as well as tennis legends Pam Shriver and Zina Garrison. She has also developed powerful public- private partnerships with major businesses like Microsoft, Apple, Comcast, Pepco, Nike, and Bank of America. The Center remains the crown jewel of the Recreation Wish List Committee, under the leadership of Mrs. Barry, with its key partner, the DC Department of Parks and Recreation, and the support of the entire District of Columbia community.

Beyond her trailblazing work with the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center, Cora Masters Barry is described by many as a renaissance woman, skillfully working to break down barriers. A former twenty-one year tenured Professor of Political Science at the University of the District of Columbia, Mrs. Barry specialized in Black Politics, Comparative Political Studies, the Presidency, and the Constitution. She helped young people evolve—expanding their world view and encouraging them to understand and utilize the political process to effect change. Many of the students she inspired have gone on to become elected officials, high ranking government officials, captains of industry, and community leaders.

For over thirty years, Mrs. Barry has applied her knowledge and skills in politics to orchestrate voter education, registration and mobilization initiatives, both locally and nationally; including, the historic political return of Mayor Barry's return in office for an unprecedented fourth term as Mayor of the District of Columbia. It was this bold and energized effort that led to her appointment to head the Million Man March Voter Registration Drive team, which registered over one million men before and during the March.

Mrs. Barry along with Civil rights icon, Dr. Dorothy I. Height also served as co-organizers of "Women for the Million Man March," where they were responsible for galvanizing support and participation of women from across the United States. Mrs. Barry, the first woman to speak at the historic October 10, 1995 Million Man March, is credited with orchestrating the participation and speaking roles for Dr. Maya Angelou, Dr. Betty Shabazz, and other local and national women at the March.

Cora Masters Barry's long and impressive career in the field of Sports began as Chairman of the DC Boxing and Wrestling Commission, the first woman in the United States to hold such a position in the male- dominated sport of boxing. As in other endeavors, Mrs. Barry utilized the platform to address inequities, including the lack of women involved in the sport. She was the first to have women included ringside as medical professionals and judges. True to her passion for youth development, she also established the Mayor's World Cup which expanded their horizons and opportunities in the sport for local youth. Mrs. Barry, a member of the Executive Board of the World Boxing Council was elevated to the International Boxing Federation.

Throughout her celebrated career, Cora Masters Barry has been the recipient of numerous awards. She is the proud recipient of the Community Impact Award from the DC Chamber of Commerce. Café Mocha, the nationally syndicated radio show best known as "radio from a woman's perspective," recognized her with the "Salute Her: Champion for Children Award," for

her passion, commitment, and development of children, and for providing a safe haven for youth at the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center. The Washingtonian Magazine honored her as a “Washingtonian of the Year, 2013.”

Mrs. Barry is the proud recipient of the Founders Award, the highest honor bestowed on civilians by the USTA. Her remarkable accomplishments have led to her induction into the USTA’s Mid-Atlantic Tennis and Education Foundation’s Hall of Fame, and most recently in 2018 into the Black Tennis Hall of Fame. She was also named a Tennis Hero by Tennis Magazine.

Cora Masters Barry’s passion for developing urban youth is reflected in her membership with such influential, civic-minded organizations as the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW); the National Coalition of Civic Participation; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; and Leadership Greater Washington, which emerges professionals in regional civic engagement.

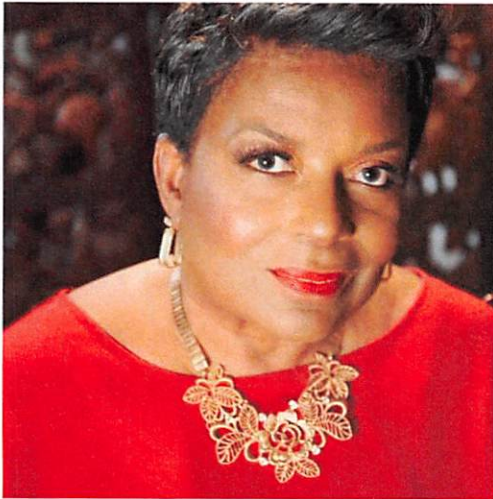
As a result of the diversity of her high level experiences and expertise, Mrs. Barry has become a much sought after motivational speaker, moderator, and panelist on topics related to organizational building, management, philanthropy, and non-profit development, empowerment of children and youth, as well as voter registration and education, on the local, regional, and national levels.

Originally from Pasadena California, Cora Masters Barry has been a resident of Washington, DC for over 40 years. She has two adult daughters, Lalanya Masters Abner and Dr. Tamara Masters Wilds Lawson. She is a proud grandmother to her beloved and only granddaughter, Zora Asali Lawson.



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

Cora Masters Barry



Ms. Cora Masters Barry has a long history of public service and commitment to the District. She is currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Recreation Wish List Committee. In this capacity, Ms. Masters Barry has helped lead the Southeast Tennis and Learning Center where youth in Washington, DC can learn about tennis.

In 1980, she was appointed as the first woman on the three-member DC Boxing and Wrestling Commission, where she ultimately became chairman.

Ms. Masters Barry is a former University of the District of Columbia political science professor and began her career in Washington, DC completing community projects the Anacostia and Shaw neighborhoods. Ms. Masters Barry worked as a counselor for teenage girls with Operation Sisters.

A Ward 8 resident, Ms. Masters Barry received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Texas Southern University and a Masters of Arts degree from Howard University.

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



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To: Gianelle Rivera, Steve Walker
From: Betsy Cavendish
Date: November 22, 2019
Subject: Legal sufficiency review of Resolutions nominating Cora Masters Barry, Natalie Hopkinson, Cicie Sattarnilasskorn, Mary Ann Miller, Alma Gates, Jose Alberto Ucles, and Rona Friedman as members to the Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

This is to Certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced legislation and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 202-724-7681.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Elizabeth A. Cavendish'. The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Elizabeth Cavendish