

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

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**TO:** All Councilmembers

**FROM:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
Committee of the Whole

**DATE:** November 2, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Report on PR 24-243, “Commission on the Arts and Humanities Kymber Lovett-Menkiti Confirmation Resolution of 2021”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 24-243, “Commission on the Arts and Humanities Kymber Lovett-Menkiti Confirmation Resolution of 2021” was referred, reports favorably thereon and recommends approval by the Council.

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**I. BACKGROUND AND NEED**

On May 17, 2021, PR 24-243, the “Commission on the Arts and Humanities Kymber Lovett-Menkiti Confirmation Resolution of 2021,” was introduced by Chairman Phil Mendelson at the request of the Mayor. PR 24-243 would confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Ms. Kymber Lovett-Menkiti for reappointment as a member of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities for a term to end June 30, 2024.

Ms. Lovett-Menkiti is a resident of Ward 4. She received her Bachelor’s degree James Madison University, ha Master of Law and Social Policy as well as a Master of Social Work from the Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. Ms. Lovett-Menkiti is currently the Regional Director for the Maryland/DC Region for Keller Williams Realty International. In that, she is responsible for leading the growth of 19 offices with nearly 5,000 real estate professionals in the region. She is the first African-American woman in the role, and one of the youngest individuals in that role in the company’s history. She has served on the

Commission since 2019. She has also served on the Board of Directors for the DC Association of Realtors and is on the Board of Women in Solidarity for Empowerment which works to support women and children.

The Commission on the Arts and Humanities (Commission) was established by the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Act, effective October 21, 1975 (D.C. Law 1-22; D.C. Official Code § 39-201 *et seq.*). The Commission is now an independent agency within the District government<sup>1</sup> and is designated by the National Endowment for the Arts as the state arts agency for the District of Columbia. Its role is to evaluate and initiate action on matters relating to the arts and humanities and to encourage programs and the development of programs that promote progress in the arts and humanities.<sup>2</sup>

The Commission is tasked with appointing an Executive Director who serves as the chief administrative officer of the Commission.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the mission of the Commission is to provide grants, programs, and educational activities that encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the District's rich arts and humanities community.<sup>4</sup>

For fiscal year 2022, the Commission has an appropriated budget of \$38.7 million, of which not less than 78% shall be allocated as grants. The Commission has a dedicated source of funding, which is 5% of the District's general sales tax revenue.<sup>5</sup>

The Commission consists of 18 members appointed by the Mayor for three-year terms after the advice and consent of the Council.<sup>6</sup> Members of the Commission must be District residents and must have displayed interest or ability in the arts and humanities or must be active in the furtherance of the arts or humanities.<sup>7</sup> Moreover, the Mayor has to give due consideration to recommendations made by the arts and humanities community and has to ensure that there is a reasonable representation of all the wards in the District when considering appointments to the Commission.<sup>8</sup> Further, no employee of the District government can serve as a member of the Commission.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Commission became an independent agency on July 22, 2019. *See* section 2204 of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Independence and Funding Restructuring Amendment Act of 2019, effective September 11, 2019 (D.C. Law 23-16; 66 DCR 9621). *See also* the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Budget Subtitle Technical Emergency Amendment Act of 2019, effective October 20, 2019 (D.C. Act 23-129; 66 DCR 14808); and the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Budget Subtitle Technical Temporary Amendment Act of 2019, effective December 24, 2019 (D.C. law 23-39; 67 DCR 14816).

<sup>2</sup> D.C. Official Code § 39-203(a).

<sup>3</sup> D.C. Official Code § 39-205.

<sup>4</sup> Commission on the Arts and Humanities - About CAH, <https://dcarts.dc.gov/page/about-cah> (last visited January 11, 2020).

<sup>5</sup> D.C. Official Code § 47-2002(d) and § 47-2202(b).

<sup>6</sup> D.C. Official Code § 39-203.

<sup>7</sup> *Supra* note 4.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

When established by the Council in 1975, the Commission originally had two members appointed from each ward. Some time ago the ward allocation was eliminated, but still, 18 members is large by comparison to other boards and commissions, especially those with a large operating budget. Twenty years ago, the Commission’s annual budget was only \$2.2 million. Five years ago, the Commission’s annual budget was \$16.9 million. The current budget is nearly \$40 million. To address this issue, the Council adopted a provision as part of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Support Act of 2021 (D.C. Act 24-176) that will reduce the size of the Commission by six members, two per year for three years, starting on June 30, 2022.

**Table 1: Membership of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities**

<b>Resolution #</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Term End Date</b>	<b>Ward</b>
<b>PR 24-243</b>	<b>Kymber Lovett-Menkiti</b>	<b>June 30, 2024*</b>	<b>4</b>
R. 24-122	Reggie Van Lee (Chairperson)	June 30, 2024	2
R. 23-17	Gretchen Wharton	June 30, 2021	1
R. 23-323	Dr. Natalie Hopkinson	June 30, 2021	1
R. 23-324	Cora Masters Barry	June 30, 2021	8
	Vacant	June 30, 2021	
R. 23-62	Derek Younger	June 30, 2022	5
R. 23-318	Alma Gates	June 30, 2022	3
R. 23-319	Rhona Friedman	June 30, 2022	2
R. 23-320	Jose Alberto Ucles	June 30, 2022	5
R. 23-321	Mary Ann Miller	June 30, 2022	3
R. 23-322	Cicie Sattarnilasskorn	June 30, 2022	1
R. 23-569	Quanice Floyd	June 30, 2023	6
R. 23-570	Maggie Fitzpatrick	June 30, 2023	1
R. 23-571	Maria Hall Rooney	June 30, 2023	4
R. 23-572	Hector Torres	June 30, 2023	6
R. 24-573	Carla Sims	June 30, 2023	6
R. 23-574	Stacie Lee Banks	June 30, 2023	3

\* If confirmed by the Council. Current term ended June 30, 2021.

In the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Support Act of 2019,<sup>10</sup> the Council approved additional requirements for individuals to be eligible to serve on the Commission. By July 1, 2019, six of the 18 members appointed to the Commission were required to meet the following qualifications: (1) two members with specific interest, ability, or experience in the humanities; (2) two members with specific interest, ability, or experience in arts or humanities education; and (3) two members with specific interest, ability, or experience in theatre and performing arts.<sup>11</sup> By July 1, 2020, four of the 18 members appointed to the Commission were required to meet the following requirements: (1) two members with specific interest, ability, or experience in public art; and (2) two members with specific experience in arts or humanities organizational administration or governance.<sup>12</sup>

Ms. Lovett-Menkiti meets the requirements to serve as a member of the Commission pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 39-203. Her experience on the Board is well suited for her

<sup>10</sup> Effective September 11, 2019 (D.C. Law 23-16; D.C. Code § 39-201 *et seq.*).

<sup>11</sup> *Supra* note 4.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

continued work on the Commission. Therefore, the Committee recommends the adoption of PR 24-243.

## II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- May 17, 2021 PR 24-243, the “Commission on the Arts and Humanities Kymber Lovett-Menkiti Confirmation Resolution of 2021” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of Mayor Bowser.
- May 18, 2021 PR 24-243 is “read” at the May 18, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting; on this date the referral to the Committee of the Whole is official, and the 90-day period for Council review begins. If this measure is not affirmatively approved before November 3, 2021, PR 24-243 will be deemed disapproved.
- May 21, 2021 Notice of Intent to Act on PR 24-243 is published in the *District of Columbia Register*.
- November 2, 2021 The Committee of the Whole marks-up PR 24-243.

## III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Ms. Kymber Lovett-Menkiti is the Mayor’s nomination for appointment to the Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

## IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on PR 24-243.

## V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee has received no testimony or comments regarding Ms. Lovett-Menkiti’s appointment.

## VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Members of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities are appointed 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).

## VII. FISCAL IMPACT

PR 24-243 will have no fiscal impact on the District of Columbia budget or financial plan. Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 39-203(e), members of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities do not receive compensation.

## VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of Proposed Resolution 24-243.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Kymber Lovett-Menkiti as a member of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities for a three-year term to end June 30, 2024.
<u>Section 3</u>	Requires that a copy of the resolution, upon adoption, be transmitted to the nominee, the Commission and to the Office of the Mayor.
<u>Section 4</u>	Provides that the resolution will take effect once approved by the Council.

## IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

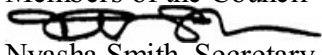
## X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 24-243 as introduced.
2. Legal Sufficiency Determination.
3. Committee Print for PR 24-243.

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington D.C. 20004**

Memorandum

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To : Members of the Council  
From :  Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council  
Date : Tuesday, July 27, 2021  
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Monday, May 17, 2021. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Commission on the Arts and Humanities Kymber Lovett-Menkiti Confirmation Resolution of 2021", PR24-0243

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson, at the request of Mayor

The Chairman is referring this legislation to Committee of the Whole. This resolution will be deemed disapproved on Wednesday, November 03, 2021 without Council action.

Attachment  
cc: General Counsel  
Budget Director  
Legislative Services



**MURIEL BOWSER**  
**MAYOR**

May 17, 2021

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:

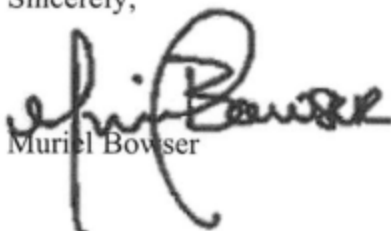
Ms. Kymber Lovett-Menkiti  
Myrtle Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20012  
Ward 4


for reappointment as a member of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, for a term ending June 30, 2024.

Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned candidate, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Muriel Bowser

  
Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the reappointment of Ms. Kymber Lovett-Menkiti 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 Kymber Lovett-Menkiti Confirmation Resolution of 2021".

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

Ms. Kymber Lovett-Menkiti  
Myrtle Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20012  
Ward 4

as a member of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, established by section 4 of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Act, effective October 21, 1975 (D.C. Law 1-22; D.C. Official Code § 39-203), for a term ending June 30, 2024.

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.



**KYMBER LOVETT-MENKITI**  
**MG Residential**

**EXPERIENCE**

***Regional Director DC/MD, Keller Williams Realty International, Present***

- Leads the growth of 19 offices with close to 5,000 real estate professionals across the region
- Directs the continued growth of over 200 million in annual revenue
- National trainer on real estate systems and models

***President of Sales – MG Residential, The Menkiti Group, Washington, DC***

**April 2007-Present**

- Heads a premier real estate sales team that closed over \$100 Million in residential sales volume in 2017
- Leads the MG Residential Team to assist over 800 first-time homebuyers and brokered the sale of over \$1 billion in residential real estate
- Coordinates community outreach efforts and events in conjunction with the sale and marketing for single-family residential and condo properties
- Educates first-time low to moderate income homebuyers on programs available to them such as HPAP, NAC, and DC tax abatement
- Provides ongoing acquisition and negotiation and consultation of homeowners, investors and local developers

***Director of Counseling, Archdiocese of Washington, Catholic Schools Office***

**August 2005-June 2007**

- Provided direction and leadership to principals and school based mental health professionals, including preventative and developmental counseling programs, crisis management and development of the student safe environment curriculum
- Designed and implemented the systemic process for addressing the needs of students with social, behavioral and emotional needs in the Catholic schools
- Served as the liaison to local community and private mental health agencies

***Capital City Fellow, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Operations, D.C. Government***

**October 2004-August 2005**

- Responsible for providing project management to the change process within the District of Columbia's Office of Contracting and Procurement
- Developed and maintained positive relationships with community organizations, DC Government agencies, state, and federal government agencies for the purposes of promoting, coordinating, planning, monitoring, and data management process
- Responsible for the development and evaluation of agency policies and procedures

***Director of Guidance and Counseling, Thurgood Marshall Academy PCHS Washington, DC***

**August 2003-October 2004**

- Provided weekly guidance and counseling services to special needs students
- Developed curriculum and taught an advisory course for TMA students

- Developed and implemented programs and activities designed to enhance the supplemental experience of TMA students

***Child Advocate Social Worker Intern, Defender Association of Philadelphia***

**September 2002-May 2003**

- Established contact with clients in their current environments and assessed their social, emotional, and educational needs using a variety of theoretical models
- Testified at court hearings and pre-hearing conferences in family court regarding recommendations for clients
- Facilitated discussions with assigned attorneys while practicing social work in a legal framework

**EDUCATION**

***Master of Social Work***

*Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania*

***Master of Law and Social Policy***

*Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania*

***Bachelor of Social Work, Magna Cum Laude***

*James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia*

**BOARDS AND AFFILIATIONS**

- **Capital Properties Menkiti Group (CPMG) Foundation, Chair**
- **DC W.I.S.E., Founding Board Member**
- **DC Association of REALTORS, President-Elect**
- **Crittenton Services, Board Member**
- **National Association of Realtors, Member**
- **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, Member**



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

## KyMBER Lovett-MENKITI



KyMBER Lovett-MENKITI is currently the Regional Director for the Maryland/DC Region for Keller Williams Realty International and a member of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities. In this role Mrs. Lovett-MENKITI leads the growth of 19 offices with close to 5,000 real estate professionals across the region. She is the first African-American woman and one of the youngest executives named to the role in the company's history.

Prior to this, Mrs. Lovett-MENKITI was the President of Sales for The Menkiti Group and for Keller Williams Capital Properties (KWCP), two companies recognized for growth, innovation, and for demonstrated success and achievement in the residential real estate industry. Mrs. Lovett-MENKITI led strategy for the MG Residential sales team as an award-winning broker, holding Graduate, REALTOR® Institute (GRI) designation.

In 2015, Mrs. Lovett-MENKITI was recognized by Washington SmartCEO as a 2015 Brava award winner, for distinguished achievement as a member of Greater Washington's top women business leaders. She has served as the Greater Capital Area Association of REALTORS® (GCAAR) Rookie Committee Chair, and as a member of the Keller Williams Capital Properties (KWCP) Agent Leadership Council for the Washington, Capitol Hill market center. Most recently, Mrs. Lovett-MENKITI served on the board of directors for the DC Association of REALTORS® and is a current board member for WISE, Women in Solidarity for Empowerment, a non-profit in Washington, DC working to support organizations that serve women and children.

A Ward 4 resident, Mrs. Lovett-MENKITI holds two master's degrees in social work and law and social policy from Bryn Mawr College.



1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**  
2 **Committee of the Whole**  
3 **November 2, 2021**

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5  
6 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

7  
8 24-243  
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10 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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14 To confirm the reappointment of Ms. Kymber Lovett-Menkiti to the Commission on the Arts and  
15 Humanities.

16  
17 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
18 resolution may be cited as the “Commission on the Arts and Humanities Kymber Lovett-Menkiti  
19 Confirmation Resolution of 2021”.

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

21  
22 Ms. Kymber Lovett-Menkiti  
23 Myrtle Street, NW  
24 Washington, DC 20012  
25 (Ward 4)

26 as a member of the Commission on the Arts and Humanities, established by section 4 of the  
27 Commission on the Arts and Humanities Act, effective October 21, 1975 (D.C. Law 1-22; D.C.  
28 Official Code § 39-203), for a term ending June 30, 2024.

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

31 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.