



**OFFICE OF MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

MEMORANDUM

DATE : August 11, 2008
TO : Council President Peters & Honorable Members of the City Council
FROM : Mayor Jerry Sanders
SUBJECT : Appointment and Reappointments to the Commission for Arts and Culture

It is my pleasure to appoint John Venekamp and reappoint Colette Carson-Royston, Garet Clark, Robert Gleason, Odelia "Dea" Hurston, Judy McDonald, Bennett Peji, Victoria Reed, and Randy Robbins to the Commission for Arts & Culture, subject to your confirmation.

John Venekamp is a Senior Vice President/Managing Director and top performing broker for Brown Harris Stevens, a full service real estate firm serving both residential and commercial markets in New York City. From 1987-1994, Mr. Venekamp was the Founder and President of New York-based Access Marketing, a marketing consulting company, and held various management positions for the J.C. Penney Company for more than 20 years. Beyond Mr. Venekamp's success as a broker and marketing expert, he has been a great advocate and supporter of the fine and performing arts. Over the last 20 years, Mr. Venekamp has been a philanthropist, marketer, board member, fund-raiser, and strategist supporting numerous arts organizations including the Museum of Art and Design (formerly known as American Craft Museum), New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera, Lincoln Center Performing Arts, City Center, and Twyla Tharp Dance Company. While in New York, Mr. Venekamp chaired the Board of Directors for the Empire State Craft Alliance, successfully co-chaired annual galas and benefits in support of arts organizations, and led leadership seminars on "How to Support the Arts." He also served on the Board of Directors for Ziff Marketing, the largest arts marketing and advertising organization in New York City.

Since living in San Diego, Mr. Venekamp has been very active in the arts community and has supported Athenaeum, La Jolla Music Society, La Jolla Playhouse, Museum of Contemporary Art, Museum of Photographic Arts, Old Globe, and the San Diego

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Symphony. Mr. Venekamp's appreciation, support, and advocacy for the fine and performing arts will be a valuable asset to the Commission for Arts and Culture.

Mr. Venekamp received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of South Dakota and has completed executive graduate courses in Business Administration at the University of Tennessee and Harvard University. Mr. Venekamp will replace Aida Mancillas, who has resigned, for a term expiring August 31, 2009. Mr. Venekamp resides in Rancho Santa Fe.

It is also my pleasure to announce that during the month of September, I intend to designate Colette Carson-Royston as the Chair of the Commission for Arts & Culture. Ms. Carson-Royston has served as Chair since September 2007. She will continue her outstanding leadership of the Commission as it continues to carry out its vital mission.

I ask that you confirm this appointment and reappointments and join me in acknowledging these individuals for their willingness to give of their time and serve the City of San Diego.

JERRY SANDERS

Mayor

JS:lg

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Luis Mitchell for Jerry Sanders". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "JERRY SANDERS".

cc: City Attorney Michael Aguirre
City Clerk Elizabeth Maland