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ORDER NO. 2021-08
AN ORDER OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION

Appoint Lara Behnert, Fulgencio Lazo and Jim Suehiro to each serve a three-year term as members of the Port Commission’s Portwide Arts and Culture Program Board, effective immediately.

PROPOSED
SEPTEMBER, 14, 2021

INTRODUCTION

Per the Arts and Culture Policy Directive adopted by the Port Commission in November 2019, the Portwide Arts and Culture Board (Board) shall be comprised of nine (9) members of which four (4) members of the public shall be appointed by the Port Commission (Commission).

TEXT OF THE ORDER

The Port Commission hereby appoints Lara Behnert, Fulgencio Lazo, and Jim Suehiro to each serve a three-year term as members of the Port Commission’s Portwide Arts and Culture Program Board, effective immediately.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE ORDER

The professional public members are integral to the work done by the Board and represent expertise and experience in fine arts, museum management, architecture and/or design. Therefore, the Commission is asked to confirm the following appointments, establishing the first members of the Board:

Lara Behnert:

Lara leads the global art program for Starbucks Coffee Company, helping to evolve store designs and develops the company's brand expression. Ms. Behnert’s background is in creative direction and design for magazines, brands, and worthy causes. She loves solving problems beautifully, and with meaning. Lara is a proud graduate of Rhode Island School of Design and Juneau-Douglas High School in her hometown of Juneau, Alaska. She spent many years in New York City, and currently lives in Seattle.

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Fulgencio Lazo:

Fulgencio was born in Oaxaca, Mexico and studied at the Fine Arts School at the University of Benito Juárez of Oaxaca, under Professor Shinzaburo Takeda, where he specialized in printmaking. In 1990, Fulgencio came to Seattle to study lithography at Cornish College of the Arts. Despite his intentions of returning to his native Oaxaca, he fell in love and initiated his bi-national career, dividing his time between Seattle and Oaxaca.

Jim Suehiro

Also, an active advocate for diversity in architecture, Jim served as the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Seattle President in 1988-89, and on the AIA National Board of Directors 2008-09 representing the AIA Northwest and Pacific Region.

Mr. Suehiro is the owner of Suehiro Architecture, which focuses on airport design and is an active advocate for diversity in architecture. Mr. Suehiro served as the AIA Seattle President and on the Board of Directors representing the AIA Northwest and Pacific Region, in the past. He also served as the Director of the University of Washington of Built Environments Institute for Built Environment Innovation, where through his leadership in the development of integrated practice methods positively influenced project delivery transformation within the building industry. Additionally, Jim Suehiro has experience working as a project designer for McKinley Architects, as an airport design principal, as well as a principle working with NBBJ.