



# ORDWAY

Ordway Center for the Performing Arts  
345 Washington Street Saint Paul, MN 55102 | ordway.org

March 15, 2021

Honorable Mary Murphy  
Honorable Fue Lee  
Capitol Investment Committee  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Ms. Murphy and Mr. Lee:

I am writing in enthusiastic support of the Funny Women Asian Kollektive's vision for The Asian American Center for Media and the Arts.

Over the course of twenty years in the performing arts, I have come to believe deeply in the power of the arts to unite and inspire, and I know that a center for the arts plays many important roles in our community, such as an employer, and economic driver. The visionary leaders of Funny Women Asian Kollektive will bring each of these benefits, and more, to the East Side of St. Paul.

In 2019, the Funny Asian Women Kollektive presented their *Super Show* in the Ordway's Concert Hall. It was a joyous evening, and the culmination of the Ordway's longstanding partnership with Saymouka Vongsay. Each project that we have worked on with Saymouka has benefited from her leadership and artistic excellence, and thus we are confident in any effort that includes her skills and talents.

The Funny Asian Women Kollektive is part of a rich Asian Pacific Islander American artistic community in the Twin Cities, and by building a new Asian-American led arts center FAWK will create a space for artistic voices that are too often unheard, or marginalized, to be lifted up and celebrated.

I cannot wait for the opportunity to deepen our partnership, either by once again presenting FAWK at the Ordway, or collaborating on a project in the new Asian American Center for Media and the Arts.

Sincerely,



Dayna Martinez  
Senior Programming Director