

March 10, 2021

Minnesota House of Representatives
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Mr. Fue and Ms. Murphy,

I am a colleague and friend of members of The Funny Asian Women Kollektive (FAWK) and I am writing in support of this group of women artists and performers and their mission to create The Asian American Center for Media and the Arts (AACMA). FAWK is based on the East Side of St. Paul and is invested in creating a more culturally and economically vibrant neighborhood.

I have witnessed members of FAWK create, lead and innovate for more than a decade and their work has been nationally recognized from CNN, New York Times, Smithsonian, Warners Bros, Netflix and Tribeca Film Festival. They have also been recognized locally and have a broad network in the arts and non-profit world in the Twin Cities.

I am a performing and teaching artist who lives in St. Paul and AACMA would create opportunities for presenting new work and networking in a space run by artists in my own community. I have collaborated and organized with members of FAWK and I believe in the work they have done and continue to do. I have witnessed their skills and seen them in action on stages and in the community.

I envision myself supporting AACMA in a variety of ways, as a teaching artist/performer and supporter of the arts. St. Paul would benefit greatly from AACMA as it would create jobs, provide access to audiences and artists and create a space for community to gather, participate in workshops, create, witness and connect. The arts are our culture and it is essential to create more spaces for people to be a part of that culture in a meaningful way. The AACMA would be a great addition to the Eastside and its influence and impact would expand far beyond one neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Desdamona Ross
Poet Mentor/Teaching Artist, TruArtSpeaks

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