
Profile**Which Boards would you like to apply for?**

Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau: Submitted**Please select your first Board preference: ***

☒ Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau**Please select your second Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your third Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your fourth Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your fifth Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your sixth Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected

Alvaro Katsuji

First Name

Tanabe Soto

Middle Initial

Last Name

12205 Norwood Rd

Street Address

Suite or Apt

Raleigh

City

NC

State

27613

Postal Code

What district do you live in?

None Selected

Mobile: (323) 252-1018

Primary Phone

Mobile: (360) 690-6484

Alternate Phone

katsujichef@gmail.com

Email Address

LM Restaurants

Employer

Corporate Chef

Job Title

If you live in an Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Area, select Yes:

☐ Yes ☒ No

In order to assure countywide representation, please indicate your place of residence:

☒ Unincorporated Wake County

Interests & Experiences

Why are you interested in serving on a Board or Commission?

My desire to become more involved in local government and policy has been motivated by two major developments over the last year of my life: my relocation to Raleigh and becoming a new citizen of the United States. Since coming to the United States in 1998, I have followed both national and local politics. I learned quickly that every decision made had a chance to impact my daily life and those around me. However, this last election was the first time I was a citizen and able to vote. Physically casting a ballot was a reminder that anyone can make a small difference in their community, and made me want to do more. This is what led me to my interest in the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau. As a relative newcomer to this area, I was able to appreciate Raleigh from the perspective of a visitor first and then continue to learn about my new city with my family every day since. My time visiting Raleigh is what made me decide this is where I wanted to raise my family and open new restaurants that embrace the culture of the region. As I reviewed the Bureau's annual report, I was struck by the increase in visitation for Wake County in 2019. However, this was not surprising for me—the same reasons I moved here are the same ones that would motivate many to visit or extend their stays around conferences and events. As friends and family have continued to visit and inquire about why I chose Raleigh I have been able to show them my love of my new area and inspire them to want to return. I want to do this on a greater scale. Now we face new challenges. Firsthand I have seen the impacts on the service industry and tourism from COVID-19 as well as the resulting, every changing, regulations. For me this has not just been in North Carolina, but across the country. We need a recovery strategy that not only embraces the best of Wake County and North Carolina, but also learns from the successes of others across the globe. Tourism is not only necessary for my industry to survive; it is also a vital part of our economy. To maintain the services and amenities that make this a great place to live for residents and draw in visitors, we need a vibrant tourism and hospitality industry. This will take careful planning and creative thinking. 2021 is a year full of potential despite the challenges we face. I look forward to being a part of the next steps for Raleigh and Wake County.

Work Experience

Over the last two decades I have held diverse positions in the service industry and have owned several restaurants throughout the United States—including in Raleigh. Most of my positions have centered around opening and restructuring restaurants. I have overseen overall concept designs, managed large operations including staffing teams, and have been responsible for financial planning. Additionally, I have experience participating in Food and Wine Festivals as well as television appearances ranging from local media in Raleigh to being a three-time participant on Top Chef. All of these skills lend themselves to being an active and valuable member of the GRCVB.

Volunteer Experience

Volunteerism has been an important part of my life. I want to give back to my community and help to make positive impacts and changes where I can. Much of my volunteer experience has been with mentorship programs including Big Brothers Big Sisters and being a voice for immigrants in the service industry. More recently, I have also been a part of the James Beard Foundation's No Waste Initiatives and working with CORE (Children of Restaurant Employees) to ensure that we are doing our best not only with the food we serve but also for the people we work with every day.

Education

In 2004 I earned an Associates Degree in Culinary Arts from Le Cordon Bleu in Los Angeles, CA. I focused on operations, management, and culinary innovation.

Comments

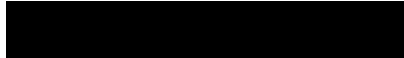
[Chef Katsuji Tanabe Resume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

If you have another document you would like to attach to your application, you may upload it below:

Please upload a file

Demographics



Date of Birth

Gender *

☒ Male

Ethnicity *

☒ Asian
☒ Hispanic

Other

How did you become aware of Wake County volunteer opportunities?

☒ County Website

If you selected "Other" above, how?

Please upload a file

ETHICS GUIDELINES FOR COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

By submitting this electronic application, if appointed, I pledge by my signature below that I have read and will comply with the ethics guidelines for advisory boards and commissions as adopted by the Wake County Board of Commissioners, found [here](#).

KATSUJI TANABE

12205 Norwood Rd, Raleigh, NC 27613

323.252.1018

katsujichef@gmail.com · www.chefkatsujitanabe.com · [IG/Twitter/YouTube](#) - [@katsujitanabe](#)

Born and raised in Mexico City, Mexico, Katsuji Tanabe came to the United States in 1998. He then studied at Le Cordon Bleu in Los Angeles and abroad in Hiroshima, Japan from 2002-2005. He utilizes his Mexican and Japanese heritages to create bold, creative flavors. Often takes a risk and is not a “celebrity.”

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Experienced in multi-units with current food costs at 27-31% and 17% for labor.
- Previously has opened restaurants and directed teams while being responsible for devising overall concept, menu design, staffing, and financial planning.
- Knowledge of multiple state and federal regulations regarding employment, safety, and health codes.
- Drafted, planned, and executed strategies to create brand awareness and promote events including the use of social and traditional media.
- Extensive background in dealing with media, donors, and organizations.
- Has managed large scale operations including recruitment, training, and retention programs for staff as well as purchasing and inventory tracking.

KATSUJI TANABE RESTAURANTS

MEXIKOSHER – LOS ANGELES, CA, NEW YORK, NY & QUEENS, NY

JULY 2010 – SEPTEMBER 2019

BARRIO – CHICAGO, IL

JULY 2016 - PRESENT

THE NIXON – LOS ANGELES, CA

AUGUST 2017 – AUGUST 2019

HUSSONGS – LAS VEGAS, NV

SEPTEMBER 2017 – PRESENT

HIGH HORSE – RALEIGH, NC

AUGUST 2019 – JULY 2020

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

CORPORATE CHEF – LM RESTAURANTS

2020-PRESENT

Working with portfolio of restaurants throughout North Carolina and Florida to update and streamline culinary operations.

EXECUTIVE CHEF – SHILOHS

2008

Increased profits and prevented the closure within two years.

EXECUTIVE SOUS CHEF – MASTRO'S

2004

Opened Newport location.

COOK – HOUSTON'S

2003

Assisted with the opening of locations in Pasadena, Century City, and Santa Monica.

COOK – BASTIDE

2001

FOOD AND WINE FESTIVALS

- ASPEN FOOD AND WINE
- CHICAGO GOURMET
- HAWAII FOOD AND WINE
- JAMES BEARD CHELSEA MARKET DINNER
- JAMES BEARD GREEN DINNER
- LA FOOD AND WINE

- NEW YORK FOOD AND WINE
- NO CHILD HUNGRY
- NO WASTE SAN DIEGO
- STAR CHEFS NEW YORK
- USA TODAY FOOD AND WINE EXPERIENCE

TELEVISION APPEARANCES

- **PBS COOKING UNDER FIRE**, 2005
- **FOOD NETWORK CHOPPED**, 2010
- **BRAVO TOP CHEF BOSTON**, 2014
- **BRAVO TOP CHEF MEXICO**, 2015
- **FOX MASTERCHEF MEXICO (JUDGE)**, 2015
- **BRAVO TOP CHEF JR (JUDGE)**, 2015
- **TRAVEL CHANNEL CHOW MASTERS**, 2015
- **NBC FOOD FIGHTERS**, 2016
- **BRAVO TOP CHEF CHARLESTON**, 2017
- **HOME AND FAMILY HALLMARK CHANNEL**,
MULTIPLE EPISODES

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS** 2007-2016
- **SECOND ANNUAL TECH TO THE TIMBERS FOR STEM** 2019
- **CORE AMBASSADOR** 2019-PRESENT
- **WITI GROUP** 2019-PRESENT

EDUCATION

LE CORDON BLEU, LOS ANGELES, CA 2002-2004
Earned Associates Degree in Culinary Arts. Focused on culinary innovation, operations, and management.

Profile**Which Boards would you like to apply for?**

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☒ Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau**Please select your second Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your third Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your fourth Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your fifth Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected**Please select your sixth Board preference: ***

☒ None Selected

Sheri

First Name

K

Middle Initial

Erhart

Last Name

910 W Johnson Street

Street Address

Suite or Apt

Raleigh

City

NC

State

27605

Postal Code

What district do you live in?

None Selected

Mobile: (919) 625-8314

Primary Phone

Business: (919) 462-3400

Alternate Phone

sheri.erhart@cmchotels.com

Email Address

CMC Hotels

Employer

Owner / EVP

Job Title

If you live in an Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Area, select Yes:

☐ Yes ☒ No

In order to assure countywide representation, please indicate your place of residence:

☒ Raleigh

Interests & Experiences

Why are you interested in serving on a Board or Commission?

We own and operate 12 hotels in North Carolina with 9 of them located in Wake County.

Work Experience

Hotel Owner / Operator, CMC Hotels

Volunteer Experience

Previous Board Experience: North Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association (NCRLA) Board Member 2020-Present Marriott Owner Advisory Council 2016-Present Arts Together Board Member 2015-2018 Cary Visual Arts Board Member 2016 Inn-Flow Hotel Software Board Member 2008- 2018

Education

North Carolina State University BS Industrial Engineering 1997

Comments

[ErhartResume_03152021.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

If you have another document you would like to attach to your application, you may upload it below:

Please upload a file

Demographics

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth

Gender *

☒ Female

Ethnicity *

☒ Caucasian

Other

How did you become aware of Wake County volunteer opportunities?

☒ Current Wake County Volunteer

If you selected "Other" above, how?

Please upload a file

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SHERI ERHART

Principal /Executive Vice President
CMC Hotels

CMC Hotels is owned by G.S. Chhabra, Shahn Chhabra and Sheri Erhart. We are a family owned business which specializes in the development, construction and operation of upscale limited and full service hotels. We currently own and operate hotels franchised under Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt and Best Western brands.

Board Experience

- North Carolina Restaurant & Lodging Association (NCRLA)
Board Member 2020-Present
- Marriott Owner Advisory Council 2016-Present
- Arts Together Board Member 2015-2018
- Cary Visual Arts Board Member 2016
- Inn-Flow Hotel Software Board Member 2008- 2018

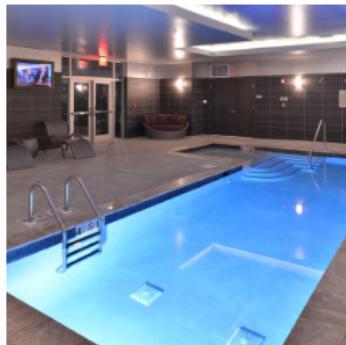
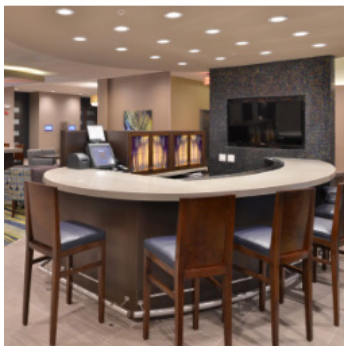
Affiliations

- Hayes Barton United Methodist Church, Member
- Carolina Country Club, Member
- American Asian Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA), Member

Education

- North Carolina State University
BS Industrial Engineering 1997

CMC PORTFOLIO



CMC PORTFOLIO

Currently Owned Assets:

SpringHill Suites Raleigh-Cary
SpringHill Suites Durham – Chapel Hill
Holiday Inn Raleigh North – Midtown
TownePlace Suites Wilmington – Wrightsville Beach
Fairfield Inn & Suites Raleigh-Durham Airport – Brier Creek
Best Western Raleigh North – Downtown
Best Western Plus Cary – NC State
Fairfield Inn & Suites Raleigh – Cary
Embassy Suites Uptown Charlotte
Hyatt House Raleigh/Durham Airport – Brier Creek

Non Hotel Assets:

Dillard Drive Office – 20,000 Sf Class A Office Building
Walnut Place Retail – 10,500 SF Retail

Under Development:

Westin Raleigh/Durham Airport – RTP
Courtyard Raleigh – Cary
Doubletree Raleigh North – Midtown

Previously Owned Hotel Assets:

Holiday Inn – Cary
Holiday Inn – Winston-Salem

CMC ACCOLADES

- Hilton Embassy Suites Development of the Year Award
- InterContinental Hotel Group Renovation of the Year Award – Two time recipient
- Procter & Gamble AAHOA NC Family Hotelier of the Year Finalist
- InterContinental Hotel Group Torchbearer Award – Three time recipient
- Marriott Horizon Award
- Best Western International Outstanding Housekeeping Award – Six time recipient



Profile**Which Boards would you like to apply for?**

Capital Area Workforce Development Board: Submitted
Centennial Authority: Submitted
Durham and Wake Counties Research and Production Service District Advisory Committee: Submitted
Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau: Submitted
Human Services Board: Submitted
Library Commission: Submitted
Planning Board: Submitted
GoTriangle Board of Trustees: Submitted
Wake Technical Community College Board of Trustees: Submitted

Please select your first Board preference: *

☒ Capital Area Workforce Development Board

Please select your second Board preference: *

☒ Human Services Board

Please select your third Board preference: *

☒ Library Commission

Please select your fourth Board preference: *

☒ Keep America Beautiful Advisory Board

Please select your fifth Board preference: *

☒ Commission for Women

Please select your sixth Board preference: *

☒ GoTriangle Board of Trustees

Donna

First Name

Ford

Last Name

Middle Initial

2315 Brasstown Ln

Street Address

Suite or Apt

Apex

City

NC

State

27502

Postal Code

What district do you live in?

None Selected

Mobile: (301) 752-3377

Primary Phone

Mobile: (301) 752-3377

Alternate Phone

lildonna68@hotmail.com

Email Address

State of NC

Employer

IT Business Analyst

Job Title

If you live in an Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Area, select Yes:

☐ Yes ☒ No

In order to assure countywide representation, please indicate your place of residence:

☒ Apex

Interests & Experiences

Why are you interested in serving on a Board or Commission?

It is an excellent way to positively affect community change.

Work Experience

Customer Service Rep Network Engineer Tax Auditor IT Business Analyst

Volunteer Experience

I have volunteered at church as a teacher. I have volunteered at nursing homes. I have also volunteered at outreach programs feeding the homeless.

Education

Associate Degree - Electronic Engineering Technology Bachelor Degree - Accounting Masters Degree - Business Administration (MBA) Master's Certificates - Project Management and Commercial and Government Contracting

Comments

[dfresume-updated.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

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Please upload a file

Demographics



Date of Birth

Gender *

☒ Female

Ethnicity *

☒ African American

Other

How did you become aware of Wake County volunteer opportunities?

☒ County Website

If you selected "Other" above, how?

Please upload a file

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DONNA FORD

(H) (301) 752-3377 | msdonna68@gmail.com | 2315 Brasstown Lane Apex NC 27502

SKILLS & ABILITIES

- Project Management
- Peer mentoring and training
- Reports generation and analysis
- Hardware and software configurations
- Time management Skills
- Written and oral communication
- Engineering documentation
- Vendor-specific technologies
- Strong analytical skills
- Data synchronization
- Telephony
- UAT Testing

EXPERIENCE

IT Business Analyst, NC Department of Revenue, November 2020-Present

Raleigh, NC

- Uses professional concepts in accordance with company objectives to solve complex problems in creative and effective ways
- Demonstrates expertise in functional area business processes and understands assigned and cross functional areas
- Plans, coordinates and conducts the analysis of client business processes and functional requirements and the preparation of appropriate documentation to communicate and validate the information
- Acts as a liaison between business clients and technical staff and/or with development staff throughout the development life cycle
- Provides on-going project management and status reporting at all levels
- Analyzes business requirements, system capabilities, and the end-to-end operating model to integrate and release new technology products, features, services and applications into current end user service, process, and support models
- Performs functional testing of installed products or systems for requirements traceability
- Participates in development and UAT phases of all new reports and report enhancements
- Maintains a formal system of evaluating all telephony resources for licenses and capacity reports

Tax Revenue Auditor, NC Department of Revenue, November 2019-November 2020

Raleigh, NC

- Applied the internal Revenue Code and North Carolina Revenue Laws across multiple NC tax schedules

- Applied auditing and accounting principles and practices in the review of a taxpayer's books, records and returns
- Communicated comprehensive information on matters of a complex nature in a concise manner
- Investigated tax compliance issues of a substantial variety and complexity
- Communicated and resolved technical and controversial tax matters with professional judgement utilizing tax research skills as needed
- Maintained effective working relationships with taxpayers, CPA's, Attorneys, and employees
- Extensive knowledge of Microsoft Office Applications
- Tested tax software, worked with project managers to ensure testing protocols were properly implements and adhered to rigorous testing schedule

Administrative Specialist I, NC Department of Revenue, July 2019-November 2019
Raleigh, NC

- Timely posted and corrected taxpayer submissions that were flagged by the system
- Evaluated suspended items to enable posting by the Department of Revenue systems
- Used the Error Correction application to aid in correcting suspended items
- Worked with other divisions as needed to ensure taxpayer items were posted according to administered guidelines
- Used a clerical degree of tax knowledge for a variety of tax schedules

Network Engineer III, Verizon Business, May 2018-December 2018
Cary, NC

- Provided Tier II technical support to the Global Transport Network Operations Center for the Verizon Wireline/Verizon Wireless/XO networks by managing customer devices, providing root cause solutions, and resolving configuration issues
- Understood, reviews, and creates action plans for planned and unplanned network issues
- Performs root cause analysis, complex implementations, and network configurations
- Responsible for identifying, troubleshooting, and successfully resolving all transport network incidents concerning the SONET OMS Platform, Cisco 15454, Fujitsu FW9500, Ciena 6500
- Created and successfully executes system maintenance requests for various network augmentations such as node additions, fiber splicing, card replacements, software upgrades, light level testing and ring balancing

Senior Technician, Verizon Communications, July 2014-May 2018
Cary, NC

- Performed software upgrades to Verizon Network Elements: Alcatel-Lucent (DMX, WaveStar, Lambda Unite, FT-2000), Fujitsu (FW9500, FW4500, FW4100, FLM2400), Cisco 15454, Adtran (Opti6100, TA3000), Coriant 7100

- Monitored alarms, created repair tickets for the field and central offices, troubleshoot and repaired maintenance issues
- Trained new technicians/occasional management relief
- Projects: Upgraded Lucent FT2000 for the Verizon Business network – 100% completion
Reset transponders on the Coriant 7100 network elements – 100% completion
Upgraded the CPU/DCC hardware cards and software versions for the Fujitsu Flashwave 4500
Upgraded the Adtran TA5000 for Verizon Telecom HSI group – 100% completion
Project managed DACS IV project – Created maintenance tickets/Created and maintained Excel Spreadsheets to track inventory and project progress of hard drive replacements/Initiated weekly progress conference calls/Advised upper management of progress
- Systems used: Network Monitoring Analysis (NMA), Repair, NetSmart 1500 and 500, Cisco CTC, Oracle, Adtran OptiApps, Tirs, Junos Pulse, Microsoft Office

Central Office Technician, Verizon Communications, January 2009-June 2014

Ashburn, VA

- Performed proactive software upgrades on network elements to ensure quality customer service: Alcatel-Lucent DMX, Lambda Unite Ft-2000, Fujitsu Flashwave 4100, 4500, 9500, Wavestar 2.5, Metro Eon, and Tellabs 7100.
- Troubleshoot network elements to restore communications when failed.
- Trained technicians on procedures for the proactive team.
- Project Managed Alcatel Lucent Controller Card Replacements - Created maintenance tickets for field dispatch/Created and maintained Excel spreadsheet for inventory tracking/Created shipping labels for the shipment of the controller cards/Escalated with dispatch and field management when necessary/Updated upper management on project progress
- Systems Used: Wfa-C, V-repair, Tirs, SharePoint, Netsmart 500 and 1500.

Long Distance Technician, Verizon Global Networks, July 2003-January 2009

Arlington, VA

- Provisioned long distance data circuits - (Frame Relay, ATM, Private Line) 10M Ethernet, OC48, OC12, OC3, DS1, DS3, Network-Network Interface Trunks (NNI), User-Network Interface Trunks (UNI), Permanent Virtual Circuits (PVC).
- Occasional management relief and Peer-Peer Training
- Projects: Verizon Wireless – Pretested circuits/Verified cross-connects/Worked with vendors to complete head to head tested/Adhered to provisioning schedule/Initiated weekly conference calls with design engineers, field technicians, Vendors, service managers, and management personnel
- Systems used: Naviscore Optical GUI (INC), XNG, Actiview Order Manager, Hekimian React 2001, Naviscore, Remedy, Netsmart.

Central Office Technician, Verizon Advance Data, Inc., May 2000-July 2003

Washington, DC

- Performed routine monitoring and troubleshooting of circuits on the Lucent CBX 9000, CBX 500, Siemens Tandem, and Newbridge switches.
- Tested, analyzed, and provided fault resolution for troubles within data circuits via Hekimian React.
- Tracked, analyzed and reviewed system alarms and created trouble reports for Frame Relay, TLS, SMDS, and ATM circuits.
- Occasional management relief Systems Used: Foreview, BNS, Openview, Wfa-C, DNMS, Hekimian React, Ncon, Newbridge/Alcatel, Naviscore, Tirks, Vrepair.

Customer Service Administrator, Bell Atlantic - Maryland, September 1998 -May 2000
Silver Spring, MD

- Created maintenance tickets, updated customers with testing results, tested Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS), Centrex, and ISDN lines
- Made corrections to database systems
- Accessed on-line systems: LFACS, SOACS, EXACT, LMOS, SWITCH, WFA-C, WFA-DO

Consultant, Bell Atlantic, March 1992-September 1998

Washington, DC

- Handled requests for new residential telephone service, upgrades and disconnections
- Discussed, investigated, and resolved billing issues
- Exceeded annual sales requirements by 105%
- Participated in the Winners Circle - 1994, 1995,1996

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Masters of Business Administration - MBA

Business Administration, University of Phoenix Arlington, VA 2013

Bachelor of Science

Accounting

Strayer University, Suitland MD 2003

Graduated Cum Laude

- Masters Certificate, Project Management IT
- Masters Certificate, Government and Commercial Contracting

Villanova University Online, 2003

Associate

Electronic Engineering Technology TESST College, Laurel MD 1989

Verizon Certificates

- Optical Transport Networks, 2015
- Reconfigurable Optical Add-Drop Multiplexer (ROADM), 2015
- DMX Access Multiplexer Turn-up and Provisioning, 2011

- DWDM Essentials, 2011
- Tellabs 7100 ROADM Turn-up and Testing, 2010
- Network Synchronization, 2010
- Lambda Unite Multiservice Switch, 2010
- Business Imperatives – Driving Growth and Business Performance Program
- Interconnecting Cisco Network Devices, 2006
- Introduction to Cisco Network Technologies, 2006