

June 24, 2026

Greetings and Salutations.

As I write this recommendation for Queen Mother II of the America's, it is from a place of pride, faith, and a profound and personal friendship with the nominee, Mulan Rouge. I am humbled when realizing how much I have placed my faith in Mulan.

I have known Mulan Rouge for about a decade, give or take a few months. At our time of introduction, a decade ago, Mulan was Empress of Tacoma and, along with their parter, received recognition from my home court of The Imperial Sovereign Court of the Willamette Empire (Salem, Oregon). Note that at that time we had a group of 10 prior monarchs to fill the vacancy for our 38th Reign. 10 monarchs. 10 opinions. 10 egos. We overwhelmingly agreed on recognizing Mulan Rouge with our Monarchs/Realm to Empress award for Reign 38.

Since that time, Mulan moved into our realm here in the Willamette Empire and then got busy. Busy with learning about our population, our processes, and our passions. Starting with the Ms. Gay Salem title, she worked her way up and into the role of Star Empress 45. She educated herself to the unique dynamics of our organization with a direct understanding that each of our own empires have their own unique traits and processes with respect to each of our peoples. Mulan treated this journey with the respect that our Empire deserves.

During her journey to Star Empress 45, she also became more involved with a direct role in the ICC, leading to her current role of 2nd in line of succession. During most of Mulan's transition into this role, I was honored to be reigning as Star Emperor 47 and I came to cherish and celebrate Mulan's involvement. Watching them succeed and shine has been very much a source of Pride. We can all recognize the importance of being represented, and for a 'smaller' court, this has been paramount.

In addition to the involvement and work with the ICC, Mulan maintained a high level of commitment to our Empire via the board position of treasurer, lead for our By-Law review, and one of the Ball Chairs for our 48th Coronation. Let's not diminish the work and talent it takes to juggle all of those roles. Mulan does it with grace and tenacity. Having been present to watch the interaction with our Oregon State Governor and First Lady at the Governor's Mansion and to witness how they are received at coronations when the ICC is presented, she is simply beloved.

What makes Mulan stand out as a nominee? Mulan is directly involved *today* with the very group that is set to guide our collective efforts: the Imperial Court Council. Mulan is present. Mulan is approachable. Mulan is kind. Mulan is dedicated. Mulan is here. Today. Now.

I will encapsulate this recommendation with this: when Mulan shared with me that she was accepting a position to work directly as a representative on the Imperial Court Council, I had some trepidation. The ICC was a distant group that I did not relate to. In my opinion, decisions and behaviors of those involved have not always been agreeable to an effective and higher standard of leadership. Through my friendship with Mulan, I have been encouraged to make the effort to change my opinion, having amazing conversations with fine, respectable representatives. Mulan was the catalyst for me to reexamine and reset. I honor that opportunity. Our collective 'we' needs that unique and delicate balance of leadership that is relatable, effective, and kind. Mulan exemplifies these gifts.

I stated to Mulan when she first joined the ICC: "I don't have faith in the ICC, but I have faith in you." Mulan opened a path for change. My opinion changed. We need leaders like Mulan to help guide our confidence back to the ICC. Mulan will be the catalyst that so many of us need and deserve to reinvest in what WE can accomplish. Mulan Rouge for Queen Mother II of the America's. Yes, please.

Respectfully,

The Lovely Stingray Slaughter Surreal
dan stults
Star Emperor 31 & 47
Imperial Sovereign Court of the Willamette Empire