



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Tia Yazzie</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Indigenous Advisory Council</i>	Position Title: <i>Member</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment <i>OR</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment	City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Term of Position: * 8/1/2025 to 7/31/2027 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
Residential Neighborhood: <i>District 4</i>	Zip Code: 98115	Contact Phone No.: 

**Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.*

Background:

Yá'át'ééh. Shi éí Tia Noelle Yazzie yinishyé. Honágháahnii nishl̄j. Tódich'íí'nii bashishchiin. Honágháahnii dashicheii. Mq'ii deeshgiizhinii dashinalí. Shi éí Tséhootsóóí déé' naashá. Ákót'éego diné asdzáán nishl̄j.

Tia Yazzie (she/her) is from the Navajo Reservation located in Arizona. She is from the One-Who-Walks-Around clan, born for the Bitter-Water clan. Her maternal grandparent's clan is One-Who-Walks-Around and her paternal grandparent's clan is Coyote Pass. Tia comes from a multi-generational household and is one of six siblings. Tia was blessed with becoming an Auntie at the early age of 10 years old with the birth of her nephew Michon, however, Tia held many caretaking roles before this as she is the eldest daughter of her family. To this day, Tia embraces this responsibility without hesitation and loves being a protector, caretaker, and advocate for all her relatives, community, land, and our more-than-human kin.

Tia obtained her Bachelor of Arts from Dartmouth College in Native American Studies and Psychology in 2019. Upon graduation, Tia held various positions serving the urban Native American community in Salt Lake City, UT at the Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake and the Salt Lake City School District. Tia recently graduated from the University of Washington with a Master of Social Work (MSW) and specialized in clinical mental health while also obtaining a graduate certificate in American Indian/Indigenous Studies. Tia advocates for and centers Indigenous epistemologies, knowledge systems, frameworks, stars, dreams, stories, and culture in her work and daily life, and believes that these are vital, valid, and important pathways for intergenerational healing and the futurity of our Indigenous communities.

Outside of work and school, Tia is an avid basketball player and enjoys watching, playing, and coaching basketball (Go Phoenix Suns!). Tia also loves beading, sewing, adding to her sneaker collection, creating Apple or Spotify playlists, sharing memes, and visiting her grandparents.

Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): July 1st, 2025	Appointing Signatory: Bruce A. Harrell Mayor of Seattle
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Tia Yazzie

EDUCATION

University of Washington – Seattle, WA <i>Master of Social Work (MSW), Clinical Therapy</i> <i>American Indian Studies Graduate Certificate Program</i>	09/2021 – 06/2023
Dartmouth College – Hanover, NH <i>Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology & Native American Studies</i>	09/2015 – 06/2019
Institute for American Indian Arts (IAIA) – Santa Fe, NM <i>Dartmouth Native American Studies Domestic Study Program</i>	08/2017 – 11/2017
Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) – Taylorsville, UT <i>Non-matriculated student</i>	08/2014 – 08/2020

AWARDS & HONORS

University of Washington Excellence in Social Impact Scholarship – University of Washington	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Indian Health Service (IHS) Scholarship	Fall 2021 – Spring 2023
University of Washington Excellence in Social Impact Scholarship – University of Washington	Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
University of Washington Master of Social Work Fellowship – University of Washington	Spring 2022
Citation Award in course ANTH 049 – Environment, Culture, and Sustainability – Dartmouth College	Spring 2019
Chief Manuelito Scholarship – Navajo Nation, Arizona	Fall 2015 – Spring 2019
Forest Lake Chapter House Scholarship – Forest Lake, Arizona	Fall 2015 – Spring 2019

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services (HIFS) – Seattle, WA <i>Abundance Auntie, The Nest GBI Program</i>	06/2023 – Present
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- The Nest GBI Program is a guaranteed basic income pilot project that provides no-strings attached monthly payments of \$1,250 to Indigenous pregnant people until their child's third birthday. The Abundance Auntie is the case manager, social worker, and community organizer for the program and for the 150 enrolled clients/relatives, while at the same time collaborating, working with, and supporting the Nest Program Manager, Nest Storytelling Program Manager, and Data Sovereignty & Evaluation Program Manager.
- The Abundance Auntie connects with eligible participants and families and supports them through the enrollment phase with outreach, engagement, onboarding, case management, and referrals, while at the same time providing important benefits counseling and planning, working with the disbursement system to ensure all enrolled participants are in the system, and following up every 6-months with each client/relative.
- Co-developed the *IndigeMoney* Financial Empowerment Training and Curriculum with Nest Program Manager. The purpose of *IndigeMoney* is to enable community members to realize their traditional values by learning financial skills that will help each person make informed financial decisions for themselves, their family and their community.
- The Abundance Auntie also coordinates and communicates with all HIFS programming and program managers for the purpose of coordinating client/relative care and to ensure high-quality, culturally empowering care for each client/relative. The Abundance Auntie provides and supports additional tasks/events aligned with HIFS mission and values.

University of Washington's American Indian Studies Department – Seattle, WA	11/2021 – Present
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Living Breath of wəłəbʔaltxʷ Indigenous Foods Symposium Coordinator and Committee Member

- Collaborated closely with the Living Breath planning committee, sponsors, local tribal communities, speakers, and key stakeholders to develop and coordinate the 2022 - 2024 Living Breath Symposiums, while at the same time supervising one Graduate student as an administrative assistant, and managing event technology, presenter recruitment and support, participant registration and food preparation.
- Co-developed and coordinated the first UW student study abroad trip to New Zealand under the Mellon Grant along with supporting and overseeing 3 students during the 10-day international trip.
- Created visual and written promotional materials for social media platform sites such as YouTube, Facebook, MailChimp, and Instagram while also managing and updating website content and materials.
- Co-developed and co-created a 10-year report of the symposium that was promoted via online and social media and distributed to key stakeholders, sponsors, and UW staff and departments that highlight the growth of the symposium, breakdown of speakers, and the importance of the symposium for the community and Native staff and students at UW.

Hummingbird Indigenous Family Services (HIFS) – Seattle, WA <i>HIFS Social Work Practicum Student</i>	08/2022 – 06/2023
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- Successfully completed the Indigenous Doula training, Perinatal Washington Indigenous Lactation Counselor training, and John Hopkin's Family Spirit training to provide holistic perinatal and family health services rooted in Indigenous frameworks and knowledge.
- Co-developed and co-facilitated a 6-week perinatal and postnatal mental health support group for pregnant persons and caregivers of children aged 0 – 18 months old in King County that centered and utilized Indigenous frameworks and promoted cultural interventions such as beading and cedar rose making as valid healing methodologies.
- Completed 720 hours of supervised clinical social work from Fall 2022 to Spring 2023.

Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake's Sacred Paths Family Program – Salt Lake City, UT	06/2019 – 08/2022
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Seasonal Youth and Cultural Educator

- Co-developed summer youth program, which included field trips, cultural camps, and workshops held at on-site and off-site locations throughout the Wasatch Valley, and a culturally based curriculum for youth to engage in daily with UICSL staff and youth counselors.
- Supervised 20 – 25 Native youth aged 10 – 18 years-old while at the same time providing cultural mentorship and education with UICSL staff and youth counselors.

University of Washington School of Law's Tribal Court Public Defense Clinic – Seattle, WA

09/2021 – 05/2022

Tulalip Tribal Court Advocate, 2021 – 2022 Social Work Practicum Placement

- Held responsible for direct client representation and advocacy, case management from arraignment to resolution, factual investigation, tribal legal analysis, and ensuring the health and wellness of clients while at the same time maintaining collaborative relationships and partnerships with the Tulalip community, Tulalip Tribal courtship, and local American Indian/Alaska Native organizations and community groups.
- Successfully passed the Tulalip Bar Exam to advocate and provide social work and legal assistance on behalf of Tulalip and AIAN clients of the Tulalip Tribal Court.

Salt Lake City School District's Education Equity and Student Support – Salt Lake City, UT

11/2019 – 07/2021

Title VI American Indian Education Program Coordinator

- Fostered and advocated for on-going development and improvement of District educational enrichment experiences and opportunities for Native American/Alaska Native students, while at the same time establishing collaborative relationships/partnerships with local AI/AN community groups & federally recognized tribes, families, and organizations for the purpose of engaging support and providing opportunities for AI/AN students.
- Managed grant budget allocation and expenditures and other financial resources for the purpose of ensuring fiscal and grant compliance and effective use of resources.
- Coordinated in-person and virtual events for AIAN students, youth, and families throughout the Wasatch Valley that focused on Indigenous mental health and wellbeing, college and career readiness, cultural enrichment and empowerment, language revitalization, food sovereignty, and community building.

Dartmouth College Native American Studies Department – Santa Fe, New Mexico

08/2019 – 11/2019

Assistant to Professor, Student Mentor, Residential Assistant

- Provided support to head professor in three courses while at the same time overseeing and mentoring 14 undergraduate students during class hours. Additionally, assisted professor with lesson preparation, planning off-site excursions, and organizing community events for both Dartmouth and IAIA students and staff.
- Acted as a residential assistant during non-classroom times by facilitating and enhancing student's social, academic, cultural and personal adjustment and experience to Santa Fe, New Mexico and Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA). Additionally, enforced residence regulations and helped residents overcome any difficulties.

Dartmouth College Women's Basketball Team – Hanover, NH

11/2015 – 06/2019

Head Team Manager, Team Manager

- Assisted with the behind the scenes coordination of daily practices and game day activities while additionally assistant the coaching staff with all paperwork and daily tasks.
- Responsible for maintaining communication with head coaching staff, co-managers, and facilities management team to ensure practices and games ran smoothly.

Kawerak Inc. – Nome, AK

06/2018 – 08/2018

Intern, Youth Mentor

- Assisted the tribal attorney to help organize, review, and update ordinances, codes, constitutions for the 20 Native Alaskan Villages of the Bering Strait regions.
- Assisted the wellness and culture center employees with culture camps and other youth camps, while acting as a youth mentor to 10+ at-risk Native Alaskan youth. Additionally, worked with the Nome Youth Facility and facilitated talking circles and presentations to the youth.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Running Strong for American Indian Youth Organization – Washington, D.C.

03/2020 – 11/2021

Dreamstarter Grant Recipient 2020 – 2021

- Grant amount of \$10,000 was awarded to implement and create a Native youth mental health support group at the Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake located in Salt Lake City, UT. Collaborated with Running Strong staff, local non-profit organization, and mentor to develop and implement the project for Native youth struggling with mental health or behavioral health concerns, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Innovatively implemented a virtual Native youth support group through regular monthly meetings with activities centered around mental health and culture for students to engage in with a clinical therapist during the COVID-19 pandemic.

National Council of Urban Indian Health (NCUIH) – Washington D.C.

09/2020 – 08/2021

NCUIH Youth Advisory Council Member 2020 – 2021

- Worked alongside local Urban Indian Organization, 4 youth council members across the United States and NCUIH staff to promote peer-level awareness and support for AI/AN youth and young adults living in urban areas.
- Created social media campaigns that focus on promoting awareness of substance misuse, suicide prevention, and mental health among peers on a local and national level through the use of social media, online platforms, networking and conferences while at the same time strengthening advocacy-based policy skills, wellness skills, and peer-support and motivational-interviewing skills.

National Indian Health Board (NIHB) – Washington, D.C.

06/2018 – 07/2019

Health Policy Tribal Youth Fellow

- Worked alongside tribal leaders, policy specialists, and public health experts to develop feasible American Indian health policy solutions while at the same time educating Congressional leaders on important American Indian health issues and disparities during a year long tenure.
- Established team-building skills, Indigenous leadership skills, and public talking skills while leading advocacy efforts and advancing the overall health of my tribal community.
- Collaborated and communicated with 10 other tribal youth fellows, NIHB staff, and tribal leaders in a timely manner to ensure each meeting and event would be successful.

SOCIAL SERVICE EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP

<i>Collective Member of the Black-Indigenous Sovereignty Organization and Movement, San Francisco, CA</i>	05/2025 - Present
<i>Co-President of the Native Circle Alliance (NCA) Graduate Social Work Club, University of Washington – Seattle, WA</i>	01/2022 – 06/2023
<i>Panelist, 2022 National Conference of AIAN Injury and Violence Prevention – Washington D.C.</i>	07/28/2022
<i>Board Member, Indigenous Health and Wellness Connections (IHAWC) – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	01/2021 – 08/2021
<i>Board Member, Albuquerque Talent Development Academy Equity Board – Albuquerque, NM</i>	04/2020 – 08/2021
<i>Committee Member, Salt Lake City School District's Equity Committee – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	01/2021 – 07/2021
<i>Volunteer Coach, Girls on the Run for Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	03/20 – 05/2020; 05/2021 – 07/2021
<i>Volunteer, Rehoboth Christian High School – Rehoboth, New Mexico</i>	12/2018, 12/2019, 12/2020
<i>Volunteer, Salt Lake City Air Protectors Toys 4 Native Tots drive – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	08/16 – 08/18/2020
• Received and disinfected brand-new toys from donors. Additionally, compile inventory in order to distribute to Native American youth and families who have been affected by COVID-19 from surrounding Utah Tribal Nations.	
<i>Volunteer, NACA Mental Health Community Needs Assessment – Flagstaff, AZ</i>	10/01 – 11/01/2020
• Conducted community needs assessment to volunteer participants via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions. Community needs assessment intake will be used to help the Natives for Community Alliance (NACA) center to develop new, strategic mental health programs for Native Youth in Flagstaff, AZ community.	
<i>Volunteer, Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake City COVID-19 Firewood Relief Drive – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	09/14 – 09/17/2020
• Chopped, stacked and loaded firewood from local tree debris in order to deliver to Native American elders who have been affected by COVID-19 from surrounding Utah Tribal Nations.	
<i>Volunteer, University of Utah Department of Psychology Mental Health Focus Group Study – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	08/17/2020
• Provided insight as a Native Youth to University of Utah Department of Psychology team on mental health issues and disparities in the American Indian/Alaska Native community in Salt Lake City, Utah.	
<i>Volunteer, Urban Indian Center of Salt Lake City 1st Annual Two-Spirit Pow Wow – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	02/22/2020
<i>Volunteer, 3rd Annual Youth Behavioral and Wellness Conference of the UICSL – Salt Lake City, UT</i>	06/2019
<i>Co-President and Captain of Dartmouth Women's Club Basketball Team – Hanover, NH</i>	09/2018 – 06/2019
<i>President of the Dartmouth Epsilon Chapter for Alpha Pi Omega Sorority Inc. – Hanover, NH</i>	09/2018 – 06/2019

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Language:	Navajo – Beginner level	
Technical:	Excellent in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft OneNote, Canva, MailChimp, WordPress, & Google Applications	
Social Media:	Excellent in Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and TikTok	
Other:	Passed the Tulalip Bar Exam	2022
	BLS Certified by American Red Cross – Salt Lake City, UT	07/2022 – 07/2024
	Indigenous Lactation Counselor (LC) Certified by Camie Goldhammar (IBLC, LICSW)	2023 – 2025
	Family Spirit Home Visitor Certified by John Hopkins	2023
	Indigenous Full-Spectrum Doula Certified by Center of Indigenous Midwifery of Seattle, WA	2023
	OWEESTA Corporation - Financial Skills for Families: Financial Education Trainer	10/18/2024
	OWEESTA Corporation - Building Native Communities: Financial Coaching 1.0	02/21/2025
	Postpartum Support International - Advanced Perinatal Mental Health Psychotherapy Trained	02/28/2025

Indigenous Advisory Council

Nine Members: Pursuant to [Ordinance 126512](#), all members subject to City Council confirmation, one – and two-year terms for the initial round of appointments, two-year terms thereafter:

- 5 City Council-appointed
- 4 Mayor-appointed

Roster: *Updated 7/9/25

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
4	M		1	Tribal member-WA	Donny Stevenson	8/1/25	7/31/27	3	City Council
4	M		2	Tribal member-WA	Jay Mills	8/1/24	7/31/26	2	City Council
4	M		3	Tribal member-Any	Jeremy Takala	8/1/24	7/31/26	2	Mayor
4	F	D4	4	Indigenous Youth	Tia Yazzie	8/1/25	7/31/27	1	Mayor
4	F		5	Indigenous Elder	Suzanne Sailto	8/1/24	7/31/26	2	City Council
4	F		6	Urban Native Org	Esther Lucero	8/1/25	7/31/27	3	City Council
4	M		7	Urban Native Org	Derrick Belgarde	8/1/24	7/31/26	2	City Council
			8	Urban Native Org	VACANT	8/1/25	7/31/27		Mayor
4	F	D5	9	Urban Native Org	Jaci McCormack	8/1/24	7/31/26	2	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

(1) (2) (3) (4) (6) (7) (8)

	Male	Female	Transgender	NB/ 2S / U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern
Mayor	1	2						3			
Council	3	2						5			
Total	4	4						8			

Key:

- *D List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)
- **G List *gender*, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary 2S= Two Spirit U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.