




City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Pauline Adonis		
Board/Commission Name: Seattle Youth Commission		Position Title: Commissioner
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <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: * 9/1/2021 to 8/31/2023 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
Residential Neighborhood: Mount Baker	Zip Code: 98144	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: <p>I want to become a member of the Seattle Youth Commission because everyday I am devoted to serving my community. Growing up in South Seattle, I have always been invested in the evolving landscape of the area. I love seeing the changes in my community, but I strongly believe there are many issues that have yet to be addressed, and I'm optimistic that we'll be able to solve these problems. What caught my eye about being a member of the Seattle Youth Commission was the chance to connect my youth peers to city officials. For many youth historically, and in South Seattle especially, our voices are often not given enough weight in city policies and regulations that directly impact us. Being a member of the Seattle Youth Commission presents me with a unique, yet important role in helping to represent BIPOC youth voices in a society where our concerns are swept to the margins, which is a privilege I would be grateful to have. Another thing that spoke to me about being a commissioner was the opportunity to apply my various skills and knowledge to critical discussions around issues that impact my community.</p> <p>From the critical thinking skills I developed through being on my school's mock trial team, to my extensive personal knowledge of South Seattle and the International Districts rich, resilience- filled history, I'm excited to further develop these skills, and share my input regarding issues that my friends, family, neighbors, and fellow community members face on a daily-basis. Finally, I'm interested in the fact that being a Seattle Youth Commissioner will present me with a one-of-a-kind learning opportunity. I love learning and my curiosity is fueled by exploring the world around me. I'm beyond excited to see my personal growth as a commissioner alongside fellow Seattle youth, and make a positive difference in my city while doing so.</p>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): 3/16/2022	Appointing Signatory: <i>Bruce A. Harrell</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>	

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

#11

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 1:07:59 PM
Last Modified: Monday, June 28, 2021 3:43:01 PM
Time Spent: Over a day

Page 2: 2021-22 Application

Q1

Name

Pauline Adonis

Q2

Please provide your contact information.

Street Address

[REDACTED]

City, State

[REDACTED]

Zip Code

[REDACTED]

Phone Number

[REDACTED]

Email Address

[REDACTED]

Q3

What is your age?

16

Q4

Tell us where you go to school.

School Name

Franklin High School

Grade Level

Rising junior (11)

Q5

Why do you want to become a member of the Seattle Youth Commission?

I want to become a member of the Seattle Youth Commission because everyday I am devoted to serving my community. Growing up in South Seattle, I have always been invested in the evolving landscape of the area. I love seeing the changes in my community, but I strongly believe there are many issues that have yet to be addressed, and I'm optimistic that we'll be able to solve these problems. What caught my eye about being a member of the Seattle Youth Commission was the chance to connect my youth peers to city officials. For many youth historically, and in South Seattle especially, our voices are often not given enough weight in city policies and regulations that directly impact us. Being a member of the Seattle Youth Commission presents me with a unique, yet important role in helping to represent BIPOC youth voices in a society where our concerns are swept to the margins, which is a privilege I would be grateful to have. Another thing that spoke to me about being a commissioner was the opportunity to apply my various skills and knowledge to critical discussions around issues that impact my community. From the critical thinking skills I developed through being on my school's mock trial team, to my extensive personal knowledge of South Seattle and the International Districts rich, resilience-filled history, I'm excited to further develop these skills, and share my input regarding issues that my friends, family, neighbors, and fellow community members face on a daily-basis. Finally, I'm interested in the fact that being a Seattle Youth Commissioner will present me with a one-of-a-kind learning opportunity. I love learning and my curiosity is fueled by exploring the world around me. I'm beyond excited to see my personal growth as a commissioner alongside fellow Seattle youth, and make a positive difference in my city while doing so.

Q6

What are the issues in your community that you are passionate about and why?

One issue in my community that I am passionate about, and have been unlearning, relearning, working, and fighting against is water pollution and indigenous land sovereignty. Being a child of Filipino Immigrants, I never would have anticipated the similarities between our histories, which makes me even more motivated to fight this important issue. Although I am not of Duwamish nor Coast Salish ancestry, I believe it is vital that we protect our natural land and native environmental conservation practices for future generations of our city. Our youth are the inheritors of our land, and we deserve the right to enjoy Seattle's flora and fauna as previous generations had. This year, I was lucky to be in one of InterimCDA's Wilderness Inner-City Leadership Development programs where we learned about this very issue. It was mind-boggling to learn the damaging extent to which our city has manipulated the Duwamish River in particular - to the point where it's unsafe for people to continue practicing their water-centered culture that they've been engaged in for many millennium. It's a common saying that "water is life," and that definitely holds true for our native peoples. When you learn about the river's history, it makes you question why aren't more people invested in this critical issue, which is another thing that motivates me to fight against it.

Another issue in my community that I am passionate about is BIPOC food justice. Growing up, I always saw food as a given, and I even saw it as a key to emotional-security. But even the thought of the fact that some people who I interact with on a daily basis don't have regular access to nutritious food was enough to get me invested in the issue. Like water, I strongly believe that food is life - not only is it a form of sustaining your body, but it's a way of storytelling, retaining your culture, and even love. Eating good food should be a given, but unfortunately, for many this isn't a reality, which is why I'm so invested in this issue.

I'm also passionate about advanced-learning inequities in Seattle Public Schools. While attending Washington Middle School, a "Highly Capable" pathway school, I often found myself, as well as my peers comparing our intelligence and our potential to the white-majority Highly Capable Cohort. I always viewed the HC Pathway as Seattle Schools' excuse to further segregate our classrooms. This should go without saying, but this segregation is extremely damaging to all students in the system, and unfortunately it works at achieving its goal to further perpetrate white supremacy within the school system.

Q7

What do you hope to gain from this experience?

Simply put, I hope to learn. Learn about issues from different youth perspectives, how to be an active citizen, how to effectively communicate my ideas, learn more about my city's history, and learn how to grow as a person. I also hope to teach others about my own experiences and help them learn as well. Again, as a BIPOC youth, I've never had the opportunity to have my story and experiences heard from city leaders, and I hope this is the opportunity where I not only get to share my own thoughts, but also help represent the thousands of other BIPOC Seattle Youth who share the same sentiment. I also hope to gain connections with fellow Seattle change-makers and form lifelong connections to somehow change the world for the better someday.

Q8

What do you think makes your perspective unique to others?

I think my artistic approach to problem-solving makes my perspective unique to others. Growing up, I've always been a quiet person who's found an outlet for personal expression through different forms of art. In our society, we've normalized analytical approaches, but we often don't shed enough light on the power of non-verbal expression. We don't always remember spoken words, but it's easier to reflect on the feelings that art can leave us with. I think the same way when it comes to activism and standing up for justice - I've always been passionate in creating work that communicates a message, yet penetrates to create meaningful memories alongside that. I think my approach is an asset in creating sustainable change that quantitative approaches don't always achieve. It allows me to think creatively about situations and look at them in different lenses which I think is important in change that is also equitable.

Q9

The City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative advances racial equity in city government and the community. What are your ideas about applying race and social justice principles as a Seattle Youth Commissioner?

An idea I have about applying social justice principles as a Seattle Youth Commissioner is to have relevant conversations regarding race, how we personally benefit from white supremacy, and what we can do to fight against it. It definitely is not a new or innovative idea, but it's one that is proven to work. In these conversations, it's important to give space for non-white voices to share their individual experiences that have been historically repressed by our society - and it's also important to compensate these people for sharing their experiences and allowing us to learn from them. Another idea I have about applying social justice principles as a Seattle Youth Commissioner is to actively seek out a diverse set of voices and ideas. Although the Seattle Youth Commission is a group of 15 people, that doesn't mean the extent to which these conversations take place stops there. Seattle's youth population is not a monolith - everyone has a different story, perspective, opinion, and it's damaging to cherry-pick which people we want to listen to, which is why it's important that we include as many people in our conversations as possible.

Page 3: Interviews

Q10

Yes

Seattle Youth Commission interviews will be scheduled in July. Will you be able to attend a phone or virtual interview during this time?

Page 4: References

Q11

Reference #1

Name	De Pham
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]

Q12

Reference #2

Name	David Lee
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]

Q13

Reference #3

Name	Dev Vasquez
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]

Seattle Youth Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to Ordinance 125029, 15 members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 7 City Council- Appointed
- 8 Mayoral- Appointed

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
3/4	F	3	1.	Member At-Large	Tatiwyat Buck	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	Mayor
9	F	5	2.	Member At-Large	Ahana Roy	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	Mayor
1	F	2	3.	District #2	Phi Tran	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	City Council
1	F	2	4.	Member At-Large	Pauline Adonis	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	Mayor
1	F	5	5.	District #4	Katherine Kang	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	2	City Council
9	F	5	6.	Member At-Large	Nyla Moxley	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	Mayor
6	F	5	7.	District #6	Eleanor Cename	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	1	Mayor
6/8	F	4	8.	Member At-Large	Joelle Vedovatti	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	Mayor
1	M	5	9.	Member At-Large	Julian Chong	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	City Council
1	M	1	10.	Member At-Large	Kevin Jackson Hu	9/01/2021	8/31/2022	2	City Council
9	F	5	11.	District #5	Samara Wijesekera	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	City Council
2	F	5	12.	District #7	Kayla Haile	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	City Council
3	M	2	13.	District #1	Diego Escame-Hedger	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	City Council
6	F	4	14.	Member At-Large	Caroline Carter	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	Mayor
2	M	2	15.	District #3	Lincoln Hilliard Wilmore	9/01/2021	8/31/2023	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

					(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	Male	Female	Transgender	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	1	7			0	1	1	1		3		1	2
Council	3	4			4	1	1	0		0		0	1
Other													
Total													

Key:

*D List the corresponding Diversity Chart number (1 through 9)

**G List gender, M= Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, NB= Non-Binary O= Other U= Unknown

RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.