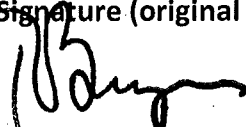




City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Blaine Aweke</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Seattle Youth Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>City Council District #5</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Date Appointed: <i>9/1/2017</i>	Term of Position: * <i>9/1/2017</i> to <i>8/31/2019</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Northgate</i>	Zip Code: <i>98125</i>	Contact Phone No.: <i>N/A</i>
Background: <i>Blaine is an 11th grader at Shorecrest High School. She wants to see change and be a part of the process in making change happen. She wants to be a voice to frequently underrepresented groups in politics: youth, people of color, immigrants, and women. Blaine is passionate about civil rights, the environment, and the growing homelessness crisis Seattle is facing. She has a background consisting of historically marginalized groups. She hopes to impact her community in a positive way by learning how change occurs, building new relationships, and engaging with those in Seattle. She is from a family of Ethiopian immigrants who escaped a brutal communist regime. She was the first in her family to be born in the United States. Traveling back and forth between Ethiopia and the US allows her to formulate a perspective on the world that is unique but also wide enough to relate to many people.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): 	Appointing Signatory: <i>Tim Burgess</i> <i>Seattle City Council</i>	

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



**Seattle
Neighborhoods**
SEATTLE YOUTH COMMISSION

Seattle Youth Commission 2017-18 Application

Contact Information:

Name	Blaine Aweke
Street Address	[REDACTED]
City and Zip Code	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
E-Mail Address	[REDACTED]
School	Shorecrest High School
Grade	11th
Age	16

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

It's simple: as a citizen, I want to see change and be a part of the process of making it happen (through discussion with Seattle leaders and the input I can give). I understand the importance of exposing young people to the world of local politics; once my generation reaches adulthood, we will be the ones voting on the policies that exemplify the precise change I want to produce as a member of the Seattle Youth Commission. To not only say, "I want to make a positive change in my community" but to put those words into action is exactly why I want to be a member of the Seattle Youth Commission. In politics, our leaders often make decisions affecting specific groups of people without considering inviting those they are impacting. However, as a member, I will be a voice to frequently underrepresented groups in politics: the youth, people of color, immigrants, and women.

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

I am incredibly passionate about civil rights, the environment, and the growing homelessness crisis Seattle is facing. My passion for civil rights stems from the fact that I have a background consisting of historically marginalized groups. Therefore, I have first hand experience in not being given the same treatment as some of my peers. I am an avid supporter in preventing police brutality, raising awareness about rape culture, and giving youth from low income and struggling immigrant families the access to a variety of opportunities that will help them succeed in life. Additionally, I am passionate about keeping the planet healthy. Without a healthy environment, we have nothing. We, as a community, need to take every possible measure to make sure Seattle is doing its best to be environmentally friendly. Lastly, I am very aware of the growing homelessness crisis Seattle is facing. This goes hand in hand with gentrification and lack of affordable housing I have seen. We cannot thrive as a community until we fix these issues.

What do you hope to gain from this experience?

Working as a member of the Seattle Youth Commission I hope to impact my community in a positive way by learning how change occurs, building new relationships, and engaging with those in my city. As stated previously, I feel strongly about being a voice for change. Being on the Seattle Youth Commission would give me the opportunity to explore the depths of my passion for creating change. I also want to learn how change occurs and the Seattle Youth Commission is a unique opportunity to get first hand experience on how the policy you create impacts people. Furthermore, being on the Seattle Youth Commission will allow me to build relationships with my leaders and other youth within the program, bridging the ever so present gap between political leaders and citizens. Finally, I want to engage more deeply with those in my community. The people of Seattle are diverse in many ways and I want to cultivate more connection between myself and the community as a part of my experience. These are some of the highlights I hope to gain from the experience of being a member of the Seattle Youth Commission.

What do you think makes your perspective unique to others?

I am black. I am woman. I am from a family of Ethiopian immigrants who escaped a brutal communist regime. I am the first in my family to be born in the United States. These combined make my experience unique to the majority who surround me. This unique perspective has been wonderful but can be frustrating because I know what it means and feels like to be underrepresented due to my background and identity, especially in politics. In addition, moving around from low income to middle class neighborhoods gives me a unique take on what the community in Seattle is like. I was also a shy kid so I know what it feels like to not think your voice matters. I can relate to and encourage those who are afraid to speak up even though I grew up to be more outspoken in my teen years. Lastly, traveling back and forth from Ethiopia and the States gives me a rare take on the functionality of communities as I compare two very distinct ways of living and government. All these come together to formulate a perspective on the world that is unique but also wide enough to relate to many people.

SYC interviews will be scheduled for August 7 & 9 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm. Which of these days are you available? *There will be an opportunity to join interview via Skype.

- Monday, August 7
- Wednesday, August 9

Additional comments:

I was experiencing some trouble formatting the text into the space provided and saving the pdf with text. It kept coming out with a gray filter and I eventually saved it as a photo. I hope my answers are shown clearly. Thank you for reading my application.

References

Please include the name, phone number and email of two adult and one youth reference who we can talk with about your background and experiences.

Reference #1

Name	Meseret Tiemelisan
Phone	[REDACTED]
E-Mail	[REDACTED]

Reference #2

Name	Aychiluhem Aweke
Phone	[REDACTED]
E-Mail	[REDACTED]

Reference #3

Name	Nasra Ali
Phone	[REDACTED]
E-Mail	[REDACTED]

Seattle Youth Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to Ordinance 123251, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 7 City Council-appointed
- 8 Mayor-appointed

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
6	M	4	1.	At-Large Member	Gavin Fortenberry	9/1/17	8/31/19	1	Mayor
9	F	3	2.	At-Large Member	Ziah Daily	9/1/17	8/31/19	2	Mayor
2	F	2	3.	City Council District #2	Aliya Adan	9/1/17	8/31/19	1	Council
1	F	4	4.	At-Large Member	Deepthi Chandra	9/1/17	8/31/19	1	Mayor
9	M	4	5.	City Council District #4	Carter Sylvia	9/1/16	8/31/18	1	Council
1	F	5	6.	At-Large Member	Catherine Zhu	9/1/16	8/31/18	1	Mayor
6	T	6	7.	City Council District #6	James Mounts	9/1/16	8/31/18	1	Mayor
1	F	6	8.	At-Large Member	Dhani Srinivasan	9/1/16	8/31/18	1	Mayor
6	F	5	9.	At-Large Member	Dylan Clauson	9/1/17	8/31/19	1	Council
6	M	1	10.	At-Large Member	Ben Fryer	9/1/17	8/31/19	1	Council
2	F	5	11.	City Council District #5	Blaine Aweke	9/1/17	8/31/19	1	Council
			12.	City Council District #7		9/1/16	8/31/18		Council
3	F	5	13.	City Council District #1	Clarissa Perez	9/1/16	8/31/18	1	Council
2	F	2	14.	At-Large Member	Victoria Johnson	9/1/16	8/31/18	1	Mayor
2	F	3	15.	City Council District #3	Leila Adams	9/1/16	8/31/18	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9)

	Men	Women	Transgender	Unknown / Other	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	1	6	1		3	2				2			1
Council	2	4				2	1			2			1
Other													
TOTAL	3	10	1		3	4	1			4			1

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.