




# City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> <i>Olisa Enrico-Johnson</i>		
<b>Board/Commission Name:</b> <i>Seattle Arts Commission</i>		<b>Position Title:</b> <i>Member</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Appointment</b> OR <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Reappointment</b>		<b>City Council Confirmation required?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Appointing Authority:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Council <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		<b>Term of Position: *</b> 1/1/2022 <b>to</b> 12/31/2023  <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> West Seattle	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98116	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Background:</b> <p>Olisa Enrico (Johnson) earned a BFA in performance in 2007, Magna Cum Laude and an MFA in Theater Pedagogy, 2010 with a dual focus in Acting/Directing and Voice/Speech from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is a certified master teacher in the methodologies Ritual Poetic Drama within the African Continuum and Archetypes for the Actor. Olisa works with students of all ages and stages and believes that artists and art are vital to the state of education and should be incorporated into all areas of learning. She is co-founder of Griot Girlz, a not for profit organization that uplifts the stories of Black Womxn. She is a board member of The Conciliation Project, an antiracist theater company that uses dramatic work to start open and honest dialogues about racism in America in order to repair it's damaging legacy. Her business, Praxis Essentials llc. offers professional development, curriculum development and theater infused workshops. As a lifelong performer Olisa "Spyc-E" Enrico reveals humanity through theatre and music. As an educator and facilitator, she incorporates principles of community and shared responsibility.</p>		
<b>Authorizing Signature (original signature):</b>  <b>Date Signed (appointed):</b> 4/1/2022		<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> <i>Tammy Morales</i> <i>Council Member, Seattle City Council</i>

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

Performing Artist/Word Smith  
Educator: Youth Empowerment  
Curriculum Design

Arts Administration  
Master Facilitation  
Professional Development

[www.griotgirlz.org](http://www.griotgirlz.org)  
[www.olisaenrico.com](http://www.olisaenrico.com)  
[www.praxisessentials.com](http://www.praxisessentials.com)

### Professional Statement

A lifetime of experience as a performing artist of music, poetry and theater and over a decade spent as a teacher of all ages and stages has given me the insight needed to see various types of projects though from inception to completion. Time spent in the facilitation of courageous conversations around race and social justice has given me awareness and respect for diverse cultures, experiences and perspectives.

### Education

#### Virginia Commonwealth University

##### **Masters of Fine Arts:**

*May 2010*

**Concentration:** Theatre Pedagogy

**Dual Focus:** Performance // Voice and Speech

<http://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/etd/2113/>

##### **Bachelors of Fine Arts**

*December 2007*

*Magna Cum Laude Graduate*

**Major Concentration:** Performance

**Minor Concentration:** African American Studies

##### **Specialized areas of study:** <sup>\*certified</sup>

The Use of Ritual Poetic Drama

Within the African Continuum\*

Devised Works with marginalized groups.

Directing

Emotional Mapping

Archetypes for the Actor/Singer\*

OxyRhythms- Breath/Body/Voice\*

Shakespeare/Classical Texts with Music

International Phonetic Alphabet

### Certifications

2019	<b>Secondary ELA Teachers Certification</b>	Northwest Education Development OSPI
2010	<b>Ritual Poetic Drama Within the African Continuum</b>	Dr. Tawnya Pettiford-Wates
2010	<b>OxyRhythms</b>	Janet Rodgers
2010	<b>Archetypes for the Actor</b>	Janet Rodgers & Frankie Armstrong



**Arts Administration**

Present	<b>Executive and Artistic Director</b>	Griot Girlz
Present	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	Praxis Essentials
Present	<b>Co-Director of Arts Education</b>	Arts Corps
2004-Present	<b>Board Member</b>	The Conciliation Lab

**Consultation; Committees; Cohorts; Rosters**

Present	<b>BASE: Building Art Space Equitably</b>	City of Seattle: Office of Arts and Culture
Present	<b>4 Culture Artist/Activist Digital Resource Hub</b>	King County 4Culture
Present	<b>4 Culture Cultural Education Task Force</b>	King County 4 Culture
Present	<b>ITAC Knowledge Sharing &amp; Digital Learning Advisory Committee</b>	International Teaching Artist Collaborative/Creative Generation
Present	<b>Touring Artist Roster</b>	King County 4Culture
Present	<b>Creative Advantage Teaching Artist Roster</b>	City of Seattle Creative Advantage
2020	<b>Residency Steering Committee</b>	The Residency Seattle: Youth Development through Hip Hop
2019	<b>H2Oxo Movement Consultant</b>	Tessa Hays Nordin
2019	<b>Mentoring the Hustle</b>	Museum of Pop Culture
2019	<b>Grant Review Panel Member</b> Neighborhood and Community Arts Program and Arts in the Park	Seattle Office of Arts and Culture
2019	<b>Grant Review Panel Member</b> Arts in Education grants	Washington State Arts Commission

**Professional/Organizational Memberships**

2003 – Present	<b>Board Member</b>	The Conciliation Project
2007 – 2010	<b>Executive Board</b>	The Conciliation Project
2008 – 2010	<b>Member/ Secretary</b>	GOGS: Guild of Graduate Students
2007 –2010	<b>Treasurer</b>	GOGS: Guild of Graduate Students
2009 – Present	<b>Member</b>	Voice and Speech Trainers Assoc
2006 – Present	<b>Member</b>	Southeastern Theatre Network
2010 - Present	<b>Member</b>	Black Theatre Network

**Professional/Organizational Grants**

2021	<b>Griot Girlz: Community Move n Groove</b>	Seattle Parks and Recreation: Welcome Back Seattle Grant
2020	<b>Griot Girlz: Arts in the Park</b>	City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture/Seattle Parks and Recreation
2020	<b>Griot Girlz: Community Move n Groove</b>	Seattle Parks and Recreation: Get Moving Grant Program
2020/2021	<b>Griot Girlz: Spring Break Performance Intensive</b>	City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture: Youth Arts Grant Program
2019	<b>Griot Girlz: Community Move n Groove</b>	Seattle Parks and Recreation: Get Moving Grant Program
2018	<b>Griot Girlz: Community 4Culture Grant</b>	King County 4Culture
2015-2020	<b>Griot Girlz: From Africa to America</b>	City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture: Youth Arts Grant Program

**Curriculum Design and Development**

2021	<b>Griot Girlz</b> Design pedagogical framework for the Spring Break performing arts intensive	Griot Girlz
2020	<b>South End Stories</b> Designing a culturally responsive unit for high school English language arts with a focus on Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry	SES/the Intiman
2019	<b>The Residency</b> Youth Development Through Hip Hop	The Residency Seattle
2013	<b>Curriculum Development- Summer Performance Program Ages 6-12 and Ages 13-19</b>	Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, Seattle, WA

**Artist Residencies**

Spring 2020	<b>African Diaspora Exploration Residency</b> Celebrate and explore the concept of diaspora and identity with the 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade students	Maple Elementary
10/2018-12-2019	<b>Artist in Residence</b> Develop programming to enhance the arts in Tukwila	City of Tukwila

**Publication**

2020	Re-imagining personal and organizational polices as sources of radical change: perspectives from a teaching artist, organization, and city	<a href="#"><u>Arts Education Policy Review</u></a>
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**Professional/Organizational Awards**

2010	<b>Clyde Vinson Memorial Scholarship</b> *Runner up/Special Award	Voice and Speech Trainers Association
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**Educational Awards, Honors and Recognitions**

Scholarships/Awards

Honors/Recognitions

2010 VCU Theatre- Graduate, Theatre for Excellence Award  
 2010 Spring Graduate School Thesis Assistantship  
 2009-2010 Commonwealth Art Award  
 2009-2010 Alice Cabell Horsely Parker Scholarship Award  
 2008-2009 Graduate School Scholarship  
 2008-2009 Commonwealth Art Award  
 2008 Black History in the Making Award  
 Theatre VCU Alumnae Scholarship  
 Dean's International Study Grant  
 VCU Dining Services Multicultural Scholarship Award

Dean's List  
 Presidential Award on Community Multicultural Enrichment  
 Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society  
 Tau Sigma National Transfer Honour Society  
 Golden Key International Honors Society  
 VCU Nominee:  
 Phi Kappa Phi Lauren A Woods Graduate Scholarship  
 VCU Theatre Nominee:  
 Irene Ryan Award competition.

**Design and Facilitation of Professional Development**

***Race, Social Justice, Inclusion, Equity, Diversity***

*Infused with theater-based practices these Interactive workshops allow participants the space to engage in active, inclusive and empathetic listening to inform courageous conversations in a brave and sacred space. Trust, truth and community are cultivated through individual and collective responsibility. These culturally responsive workshops are designed to break down barriers and build bridges.*

**THE ART OF LISTENING**

3-hour workshop in person (2019) and virtual (2020) designed to prepare a cohort to engage in a year of building valuable skills in organizational community strengthening and development. The art of listening is the first step in learning and growing together.

**Lead Facilitator**  
 LIBRARY SYSTEMS GOLD SERIES  
 University of WA. 2019, 2020

**USING EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE WORKPLACE**

Theater infused workshop that brings experiential learning and engaged momentum toward inclusivity in the workplace through the lens of Emotional Intelligence

**Lead Facilitator**  
 Evolve  
 Seattle, Washington. 2019

**RACISM AND DIVERSITY TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS**

# Seattle Arts Commission Roster

16 Members: Pursuant to ordinance 121006, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms (Get-Engaged member serves a 1-year term):

- 7 City Council-appointed
- 7 Mayor-appointed
- 1 Commission-appointed
- 1 Get-Engaged

*Roster as of 3/29/2022*

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
2	M	1	1.	At-Large	Yeggy Michael	01/01/22	12/31/23	2 <sup>nd</sup>	City Council
6	F	2	2.	At-Large	Danielle McClune	01/01/22	12/31/23	1 <sup>st</sup>	City Council
3	F	1	3.	At-Large	Vanessa Villalobos	01/01/21	12/31/22	1 <sup>st</sup>	City Council
9	F	1	4.	At-Large	Olisa Enrico-Johnson	01/01/22	12/31/23	1 <sup>st</sup>	City Council
6	M	5	5.	At-Large	Ricky Graboski	01/01/22	12/31/23	1 <sup>st</sup>	City Council
5	F	3	6.	At-Large	Chieko Phillips	01/01/22	12/31/23	3 <sup>rd</sup>	City Council
1	O	2	7.	At-Large	Vivian Hua	01/01/21	12/31/23	1 <sup>st</sup>	City Council
1	F	N/A	8.	At-Large	Sophia Fang	01/01/22	12/31/23	1 <sup>st</sup>	Commission
			9.	At-Large	vacant	01/01/22	12/31/23	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor
2	F	3	10.	At-Large	Ebony Arunga	01/01/21	12/31/22	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor
6	F	3	11.	At-Large	Kayla DeMonte	01/01/19	12/31/21	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor
2	M	1	12.	At-Large	James Miles	01/01/21	12/31/22	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mayor
6	F	2	13.	At-Large	Holly Jacobson	01/01/19	12/31/21	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor
9	F	3	14.	At-Large	Mikhael Mei Williams	01/01/21	12/31/22	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mayor
9	M	1	15.	At-Large	Rick Araluce	01/01/21	12/31/22	1 <sup>st</sup>	Mayor
			16.	Get-Engaged	vacant	09/01/21	08/31/22	One	Mayor

## SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)				
	Men	Women	Transgender	Other/Unknown	Asian	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Other (Specification Optional)	Caucasian / Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	2	5				2				5			3
Council	2	4		1	1	1	1		1				
Other		1			1								
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>3</b>