



# City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> <i>Meral Kandymova</i>		
<b>Board/Commission Name:</b> <i>Seattle Center Advisory Commission</i>		<b>Position Title:</b> <i>Get Engaged Member</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Appointment</b> OR <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<b>Term of Position: *</b> 9/1/2024 to 8/31/2025  <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> <i>Renton</i>	<b>Zip Code:</b> <i>98057</i>	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Background:</b> <i>Meral is a first-generation immigrant from Turkmenistan, who came to the United States in August 2022. After her arrival in Seattle, she started her studies at Seattle Central College at Capitol Hill as a Political Science major. Her passion for the U.S. government and sincerity in her service to her community is clear. She believes that if she wants to become a successful politician whom our community trusts, she needs to make serving them a priority! She has two years of experience working with the Foreign Diplomatic Corp of Turkmenistan and advocating for her community at the United Nations House of Ashgabat. Meral's top priorities are advocating for minorities and making sure that their voices are heard! Moreover, she considers this opportunity to be a great start for her political career!</i>		
<b>Authorizing Signature (original signature):</b>  <b>Date Signed (appointed):</b> 08/09/2024	<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> <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.

# MERAL KANDYMOVA

## CONTACT



## AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Queen Elizabeth's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2021 - Bronze Award
- She - Hero Essay competition 2021 - Gold Award, American Councils in Turkmenistan
- "English Palooza" - best speaker 2021, American Councils in Turkmenistan
- Pyeongchang Peace Forum's Semi-Finalist
- "Dean's List" at Seattle Central College for 3.5 GPA and higher

## EDUCATION

Certificate of Secondary Education (High School Diploma)

### Secondary School N 60

2011 - 2022

Associate's of Arts (Political Science Program)

### Seattle Central College

2022 - now

## LANGUAGES

English	◆◆◆◆◆	C1 / Advanced
Russian	◆◆◆◆◆	C2 / Native
Turkmen	◆◆◆◆◆	C2 / Native
German	◆◆◆◆◆	A2 / Elementary
Chinese	◆◆◆◆◆	A1 / Basics
French	◆◆◆◆◆	A1 / Basics

## SHADOWING EXPERIENCE

### Representative Steve Bergquist, February 2023

- State Legislature in Olympia
- Attended:

- 1) Caucus meeting
- 2) House Committees
- 3) Meetings with college and universities' representatives
- 4) House Session

### Public Defender Ami Nguyen, June 2023

- King County Correctional Facility
- Attended:

- 1) Court Hearings

### Congressman Adam Smith's DO staff, July 2023

- Congressman Smith's District Office
- Observed:

- 1) Public Policy meetings
- 2) Officers' job responsibilities

### Senior Prosecuting Attorney Philip Sanchez,

August 2023

- King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office - Seattle Economic Crimes Unit
- Observed:

- 1) Court hearings
- 2) Job duties and criminal cases

## PROFILE

Interdisciplinary young leader with strong multilingual verbal and written communication skills and analytical thinking. I am experienced in team leadership, focused on climate change, education and gender equality.

## EXPERIENCE

### Youth Advisory Council, Congressman Adam Smith's District Office, 2023 - now

- Researching and working on student and youth oriented issues
- Drafting a memos containing legislative recommendations for Congressman

### Public Policy Intern, NAMI Office in Washington

- Analyzing bills on mental health issues
- Presenting prospective corrections and bills for the legislative session

### Student Leadership at Seattle Central College, 2022 - now

- "Student Advocacy" Committee member
- "Issues and Concerns" Committee member

### Embassy of Japan, 2022

- Volunteer for cultural exchange week from Japanese diplomatic corp's side

### Embassy of United States of America and American Center, 2022

- Member of U.S. Department of State's delegation's convoy during the diplomatic visit as a youth Ambassador
- "Technovation Girls" program's alumna and Senior division winner
- Volunteer in STEM and Cultural exchange events

### USAID, 2022

- Completed certified seminar by USAID, Eurasia Foundation and International Organization for Migration
- "End Human Traffic" day volunteer

### Embassy of France and French Institute in Turkmenistan, 2021-2022

- One of youth Ambassadors for promoting the role of French language on a diplomatic-political venue
- "Tables Roundes" debates and negotiations about the importance of women in political sphere and French language

### European Union Delegation to Turkmenistan, 2021 - 2022

- Member of Ambassador's activists and leaders list
- Peacebuilding and climate change prevention activist and EU Embassy's agenda's supporter

### British Embassy in Ashgabat, 2021 - 2022

- Active participant and supporter in eco-campaigns, COP26 and COP27
- Member of Ambassador's youth leaders list

### UN Women CSW66 Forum, 2022

- Conducted a Regional Consultation on climate change prevention with human rights emphasis
- Moderator during the Forum
- Completed training based on basic studies about the United Nations and CSW Forum

### Y-PEER Turkmenistan, 2020-2022

- Member of Coordinating Committee, promote healthy lifestyle. Founded initiative called "The week of culture" and conducted a series of workshops based on UNESCO - Turkmenistan partnerships

### UN Women Generation Equality Forum, 2021

- Contribute to the creation of a safe youth - friendly space which unites gender activists, young leaders and UN Women

### UNFPA International Online Seminars Series, 2021

- "Peace, Trust, Youth - towards the full realization potential of adolescents and youth" - active participants

### Regional Forum for Youth Organizations of Central Asian Countries and Afghanistan by "Spotlight" initiative, 2021

- Contributed to implement an "Alliance of Central Asian Youth Centers" for supporting gender equality

### World Conference on Human Rights, 2021

- Actively participated and gained experience in political sphere
- President of Uzbekistan, Central Asian countries' and Afghanistan's government

# Seattle Center Advisory Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to Ordinances 91885 and 108936, 3-year terms; 1 Member pursuant to Ordinance 121568, 1-year term; all members subject to City Council confirmation:

- 16 Mayor- appointed

## Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
1	M	7	1.	Member	Koichi Kobayashi	9/29/22	9/28/25	2	Mayor
-	F	2	2.	Member	Joy R. Shigaki	9/29/22	9/28/25	1	Mayor
6	M	7	3.	Member	Michael George	9/29/22	9/28/25	2	Mayor
6	M	7	4.	Chair	Mark F. Dederer	9/29/22	9/28/25	5	Mayor
6	F	6	5.	Member	Jana Lamon	9/29/22	9/28/25	3	Mayor
6	M	7	6.	Member	John Olensky	9/29/20	9/28/23	1	Mayor
6	F	6	7.	Member	Sarah C. Rich	9/29/20	9/28/23	4	Mayor
6	F	1	8.	Member	Stacey E. Hutchison	9/29/20	9/28/23	1	Mayor
6	M	4	9.	Member	Eric Berlinberg	9/29/20	9/28/23	1	Mayor
6	F	7	10.	Vice Chair	Holly Golden	9/29/20	9/28/23	4	Mayor
2	M	4	11.	Member	Matthew Mead	9/29/21	9/28/24	1	Mayor
-	F	2	12.	Member	Kamala Saxton	9/29/21	9/28/24	1	Mayor
7	F	2	13.	Member	Lara Mae D. Chollette	9/29/21	9/28/24	1	Mayor
6	M	N/A	14.	Member	Will Ludlam	9/29/21	9/28/24	4	Mayor
3	F	2	15.	Member	Gloria Connors	9/29/21	9/28/24	4	Mayor
8	F	N/A	16.	Get Engaged Member	Meral Kandymova	9/1/24	8/31/25	2	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	7	9			1	1	1			9	1		
Council													
Other											1	1	
Total	7	9			1	1	1			9		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.*