



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Obadiah Stephens-Terry		
Board/Commission Name: Cultural Space Agency Public Development Authority		Position Title: Member
<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:		Term of Position: * 1/1/2025 to 12/31/2027 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Serving remaining term of a vacant position
Residential Neighborhood: West Seattle	Zip Code: 98126	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
<p>Obadiah is a multidisciplinary artist, educator, and community builder based in Seattle. With a background in filmmaking, performance, and youth arts education, Obadiah creates spaces where storytelling becomes a tool for empowerment and social change. He has worked with local theaters, schools, and nonprofits to guide young people through creative exploration and amplify underrepresented voices. Rooted in collaboration with cultural awareness, Obadiah is committed to using art as a catalyst for community connection, equity, and transformation across Seattle's diverse neighborhoods.</p>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): November 10th, 2025		Appointing Signatory: Mayor Bruce Harrell Mayor of Seattle

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

Obadiah Stephens-Terry

WORK EXPERIENCE

Rudy's Barbershop

April 2025 | Present

Licensed Barber and Stylist

Seattle, WA

- Rudy's Barbershop is a Seattle-based chain of barbershops known for its casual, retro-hip aesthetic and focus on community. Founded in 1993, it's grown from a single location to multiple shops.
- Given creative agency over clientele's image and confidence.
- Scheduling and facilitation of clientele's goals.
- Executing a shared vision utilizing professional experience.

Reel Youth Film Camp

Aug 2021 | May 2025

Co-Founder & Creative Director

Seattle, WA

- Co-operative organization delivering industry-standard filmmaking education to BIPOC children.
- Oversees curriculum development, instruction, and organizational partnerships.
 - Served over 350 families and students in the first year.
- Manages and preserves positive relationships and partnerships.
- Designs and maintains high-quality student experiences.
- Established and elevated the program's cultural experience.
- Educator in the arts since 2017.

Professional Actor

Feb 2018 | Present

"Obadiah Freeman"

PNW

- Maintains and manages multiple creative partnerships.
 - 1000's of on-set hours maintaining and developing inter-departmental relationships.
- Designs and facilitates stakeholder schedules while developing and preserving professional relationships.

Seattle Office of Civil Rights

July 2018– July 2019

Protected Class Actor

Seattle, WA

- Created objective reports on treatment in workplaces and housing environments.
- Scheduled and facilitated meetings with the Office of Civil Rights.

VH1 / FOX Entertainment

Nov. 2015 – Jul. 2017

Assistant Director / Set Production Assistant

USA & British West Indies

- Designed, managed, and facilitated schedules for up to 150 crew members.
- Served as point of contact for crew safety and welfare.
- Demonstrated high proficiency in adapting to a range of on-set challenges.

EDUCATION

Columbia College Chicago

2014

Cinema Arts & Science with a concentration in Producing

Chicago, IL

CERTIFICATIONS, SKILLS & INTERESTS

- **Certifications:** Flagging, Forklift, First aid, 2-wheel vehicle endorsement, and Evergreen Beauty College stylist.
- **Skills:** Strategic Planning; Strategic Partnerships; Contract Negotiations; Crowdfunding; Copywriting; Improvisation; Adaptability; Solution Finding.
- **Interests:** Sustainability; Community Development; Equitable Politics; Traveling; Positive Relationships; Reddit; Dad jokes.

Cultural Space Agency Public Development Authority

6-18 Members: Pursuant to the *Charter of the Cultural Space Agency*, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 3-year terms:

- 0 City Council-appointed
- 6-18 Mayor-appointed
- 0 Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify):

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
3	F	2	1	Member	M. Angela Castañeda	1/1/25	12/31/27	1	Mayor
6	F	N/A	2	Member	Lesley Bain	1/1/25	12/31/27	1	Mayor
6	M	6	3	Member	Nick Ronan	1/1/25	12/31/27	1	Mayor
2	M	3	4	Member	Aaron Nathaniel Carr	1/1/25	12/31/27	1	Mayor
2	M	1	5	Member	Obadiah Stephens-Terry	1/1/25	12/31/27	1	Mayor
8	F	4	6	Member	Gülgün Kayim	1/1/25	12/31/27	1	Mayor
			7	Member	Ching-In Chen	12/1/22	12/1/25	1	Mayor
			8	Member	Christiana Obey Sumner	12/1/22	12/1/25	1	Mayor
			9	Member	Gladys Ly-Au Young	12/1/22	12/1/25	1	Mayor
			10	Member	Ixtli Whitehawk	12/1/22	12/1/25	1	Mayor
6	M	3	11	Member	Michael Seiwerath	1/1/26	12/31/28	2	Mayor
2	F	2	12	Member	Afua Kouyate	1/1/26	12/31/28	2	Mayor
9	F	2	13	Member	Nyema Clark	1/1/26	12/31/28	2	Mayor
			14	Member		1/1/24	12/31/26		Mayor
			15	Member		1/1/24	12/31/26		Mayor
			16	Member		1/1/24	12/31/26		Mayor
			17	Member		1/1/24	12/31/26		Mayor
			18	Member		1/1/24	12/31/26		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	4	5				3	1			3		1	1
Council													
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.