




City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Afua Kouyate		
Board/Commission Name: Cultural Space Agency Public Development Authority		Position Title: Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input checked="" 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: * 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2028 <input type="checkbox"/> Serving remaining term of a vacant position
Residential Neighborhood: Rainier Valley	Zip Code: 98118	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: <p>Afua Kouyate, born and raised in the Central District, has spent the last 50 years building a ministry of African American and Native African folkloric culture. Some of her earliest memories are Learning and performing African Arts and Culture within the community of teaching artists, while studying at Black Arts West Theatre, along with the Black Panther Party's community work, including community breakfasts, political rallies, and celebrations. She has spearheaded and expanded opportunities for cultural engagement and cultural preservation for developing movement artists of all ages ever since.</p> <p>In 1986 she co-founded the Adefua African Music & Dance Company, an intergenerational performance company that provides cultural entertainment to the general public and then, in 1994, ADEFUA Cultural Education Workshop (ACEW), as a nonprofit organization that is central to youth and families with surrounding Seattle communities. Adefua Company is known nationally for their gregarious rhythms rooted in African tribal and European court dances presenting traditional West African music, dancing, and song.</p>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): November 10th, 2025		Appointing Signatory: Bruce A. Harrell Mayor of Seattle

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

Afua Kouyaté

Community Centered Arts and Cultural Systems Consultant

Executive Director and Instructing Artist of Adefua Cultural Education Workshop. Co-founder of the Adefua African Music & Dance Company, Providing cultural entertainment and education to local and national communities – Community educator - Public and Private school educator - Cultural innovator, teaching music, song, history and dance to students of all ages including Seniors Citizens. Therapeutic Health service Providers - Family-based shared activities in education, community, cultural development and human services - Engaging Youth and Families to cultural arts. The most recent visionary for the Rainier Valley Creative District.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associated Recreation Council, Seattle, WA – **02/2016 to 12/2019**
Specialized Instructor – Teaching Arts & Culture Citywide within various Enrichment programs.

Therapeutic Health Services, Seattle, WA – **01/2014 – 12/2016**
MIDD Wraparound Facilitator and Parent Partner, assisting families who are receiving Multi-System involvement within King County.

Community Psychiatric Clinic, Lake City Way NE **2009 – 2013**
Parent Partner/ Parent Advocate

Registered Therapeutic Counselor - Washington State # 020701 RC00041673 - 2000-2008

Licensed Therapeutic Foster Parent - Washington State #56H-114022-FH - 1993 - 2011

Independent Case-Aide / Respite Provider - 1998-2007

Executive Board Secretary; Sundiata African Association Cultural Association - 2005-2011

Kutt N' Up Parent Group Committee/Youth Advisor - 2004 - Present

Cultural Arts Specialist - Seattle Public Schools, African American Academy School - 1989-2002

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Antioch University Seattle **2014**
BA, Cultural Arts Leadership, Emphasizing Therapeutic Engagement

State of Washington - Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery's **2010**
In- Home Placement / Foster Parent mandated Training

South Seattle Community College - Associate of Applied Science Degree **2002**
Occupational Teacher/Trainer Education, Certificate of Achievement
State of Washington, Career & Technical Education Certificate #403907R

REFERENCES Furnished Upon Request

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.