



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Chris Curia		
Board/Commission Name: Seattle LGBTQ Commission		Position Title: Member
<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 type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Seattle LGBTQ Commission</i>	Date Appointed:	Term of Position: * 11/1/2023 to 10/31/2025 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Pioneer Square</i>	Zip Code: <i>98104</i>	Contact Phone No.:
Background: <i>Chris Curia, MA, LMHCA (he/they) is a Seattle-based mental health counselor. Chris holds two degrees in counseling psychology and community development from The Seattle School, a small, psychoanalytic graduate institution based downtown, where Chris works as an Instructional Assistant. Chris' graduate research addressed mental health disparities through trauma-informed, community-centered care initiatives and proposed innovative partnerships between private and public sectors. As a commissioner, he plans to recommend policies and legislation in partnership with public officials to make Seattle more equitable for his clients and those who will never have access to equitable mental healthcare or sufficient social services. He looks forward to lending his clinical training and field experience to the public sector in his ability to listen, provide constructive feedback, and facilitate thoughtful decision-making towards actionable outcomes.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): 12-17-24		Appointing Signatory: <i>Brett Pepowski,</i> <i>Seattle LGBTQ Co-chair</i>

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

Chris Curia (he/they), MA, LMHCA

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Statement

Community leader, mental health counselor, and researcher gaining experience in Washington mental healthcare by providing equitable, person-centered, queer-informed, relationally-driven therapeutic care.

Professional Experience

Mental Health Counselor

Pacific Mental Health • 2022-present

Earned direct client contact hours in a ten-month internship, including supervision and group consultation, according to licensure requirements outlined by The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology following Washington State Department of Health requirements. Transitioned into a full-time position based at the Pioneer Square clinic.

Barista

Cloud City Coffee • 2021–2023

Pilgrim Coffeehouse • January 2021–December 2021

Rotated shifts between register and cash flow, kitchen operations, lobby oversight, and preparing espresso drinks. Managed online customer service.

Missional Community Intern

Bellevue First United Methodist Church (FUMCB) • 2021-2022

Catalyzed deeper exploration of FUMCB's vision and values by providing opportunities for deeper community fellowship and engagement. Oversight of Spiritual Formation via curating an online video catalog throughout a year-long internship. FUMCB is a historic, progressive, open-and-affirming faith community in downtown Bellevue, WA.

Director of Youth Ministries

Fairway Church • 2017–2020

Oversight of student ministries in a faith community in greater Grand Rapids, Michigan. Led an outreach ministry chapter at a public high school. Provided care and training for students, families, and volunteer leaders. Developed regular content for youth gatherings, teachings, and community events and participated in community leadership. Coordinated efforts to minimize carbon footprint.

Education

M.A. Counseling Psychology (MACP)

M.A. Community Development (MATC-CD)

The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology • 2020–present

MACP Graduation: June 2023; MATC-CD Anticipated Graduation: June 2024

Relevant Coursework: Psychopathology: Assessment, Appraisal, Diagnosis; Social & Cultural Diversities; God, Gender, & Sexuality; Therapy: Interpersonal Theory and the Practice of Therapy; Theories of Change; Critical Social Theory; Collaborative Community Development.

Research: Feminism and sociopolitical conservatism; ACT therapy and mindfulness fostering psychological flexibility; accountable leadership in communal fragmentation; spirituality and psychodynamic theory; Internal Family Systems and queer theory; achieving mental health equity among marginalized population through liberation and community psychological frameworks.

B.A. Film & Media

Calvin University • 2013-2017

Concentrations: Ministry Leadership, Spanish

Additional Experience

Documentary Filmmaker

Jubileo (2020) • City of Light Films

Crowdfunded and produced an award-winning documentary.

Student Leadership

Student Council, Engaging TSS • 2021-2023

Participated in and facilitated various student groups and student-led initiatives at The Seattle School. Promoted institutional change through community organizing, dialogical facilitation, and policymaking to prioritize learning equity among underrepresented students.

DoBetterYoungLife Regional Council

Young Life Western Great Lakes Region • 2020

Served on a team of current and former Young Life staff formed to guide a regional response to the national DoBetterYoungLife movement. Developed and compiled results for a staff survey administered to help staff and volunteers engage in conversations around religion and sexuality.

Ethics and Religion Talk

The Rapidian • 2019–2020

Published a weekly column on ethics and religion from a multi-faith perspective on a panel of nine faith leaders representing various religious traditions in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Climate Witness Partner

Christian Reformed Church of North America (CRC) • 2019–2020

Generated awareness about climate change and energy stewardship through advocacy and education as a Climate Witness Partner. Met with local faith leaders and elected officials in a conservative political climate to advocate for sustainable environmental policies and practices.

Seattle Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Commission January 2025

Members: Pursuant to *SMC 3.14.920*, *all* members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms, except the Get Engaged member who will serve a 1-year term pursuant to SMC 3.51.

- 8 City Council-appointed
- 9 Mayor-appointed

Roster: 4 Other Appointing Authority-appointed: Commission-appointed

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
		4	1.	Member	Jessa Gavrielle Davis	5/1/23	4/30/25	1	City Council
			2.	Member	VACANT	5/1/23	4/30/25	1	Mayor
		3	3.	Member	Ry Armstrong	5/1/23	4/30/25	1	City Council
		7	4.	Member	VACANT	5/1/23	4/30/25	1	Mayor
		3	5.	Member	Jeremy Erdman	5/1/23	4/30/25	1	City Council
			6.	Member	VACANT	11/1/23	10/31/25	1	Mayor
			7.	Member	Kody Allen	11/1/23	10/31/25	1	Commission
		6	8.	Member	Steven Pray	11/1/23	10/31/25	2	Mayor
		4	9.	Member	Maha Roy	5/1/24	4/30/26	1	City Council
			10.	Member	Jason Self	5/1/24	4/30/26	1	Mayor
		5	11.	Member	Theresa Smith	5/1/24	4/30/26	1	City Council
		3	12.	Member	Brett Pepowski	5/1/24	4/30/26	2	Mayor
		3	13.	Member	Landon Labosky	11/1/24	10/31/26	1	City Council
			14.	Member	Barry Fuentes	11/1/24	10/31/26	1	Mayor
		5	15.	Member	Christina Pizaña	11/1/23	10/31/25	1	City Council
			16.	Get Engaged	Scott Beck	9/1/24	8/31/25	1	Mayor
			17.	Member	Ashley E. Ford	5/1/24	4/30/26	1	City Council
			18.	Member	VACANT	11/1/23	10/31/25	1	Mayor
			19.	Member	Chris Curia	11/1/23	10/31/25	1	Commission
		3	20.	Member	Andrew Ashiofu	5/1/24	4/30/26	2	Commission
		7	21.	Member	Amari Leach	5/1/24	4/30/26	1	Commission

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

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

Key:

- *D List the corresponding Diversity Chart number (1 through 9)
- **G List gender, M = Male, F = Female, T = Transgender, U = Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.