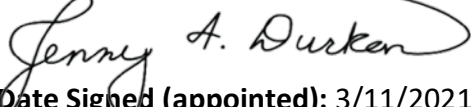




City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: Eleanor Cename		
Board/Commission Name: Seattle Youth Commission		Position Title: Commissioner
<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: * 9/1/2020 to 8/31/2022 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
Residential Neighborhood: Bryant	Zip Code: 98105	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: Instead of me writing about them, I have chosen to let their words speak for themselves: "I want to become a member of the Seattle Youth Commission because I understand how important young people's voices are, and I am dedicated to uplifting them. I've been incredibly fortunate to have worked with TeenTix, a local, non-profit organization that provides five-dollar tickets to teens for the arts and supports two teen leadership programs: the New Guard and the Press Corps. Through my experience working in the TeenTix Press Corps as both a writer and editor, I have learned just how valuable young people's voices are in the community. However, teen's voices, particularly young people of color and young women, have historically been marginalized. From our opinions on art, to the issues that we are passionate about, our ideas are valuable. It is so important that young people's voices are listened to and are given power because teens are impacted by the decisions that those in power are making. The Seattle Youth Commission is a sincerely impactful way for teens to represent the voices of other Seattle teens in local government and I want to join because I am aware of the need for teens to be listened to and their voices amplified, and I am eager to listen to my peers."		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): 3/11/2021	Appointing Signatory: Jenny A. Durkan Mayor of Seattle	

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

#31

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Tuesday, October 27, 2020 8:15:48 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, November 04, 2020 4:55:26 PM
Time Spent: Over a week

Page 2: 2020-21 Application

Q1

Name

Eleanor Cename

Q2

Please provide your contact information.

Street Address	[REDACTED]
City, State	Seattle
Zip Code	[REDACTED]
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Email Address	[REDACTED]

Q3

What is your age?

16

Q4

Tell us where you go to school.

School Name	The Downtown School
Grade Level	11th

Q5

Why do you want to become a member of the Seattle Youth Commission?

I want to become a member of the Seattle Youth Commission because I understand how important young people's voices are, and I am dedicated to uplifting them. I've been incredibly fortunate to have worked with TeenTix, a local, non-profit organization that provides five dollar tickets to teens for the arts and supports two teen leadership programs: the New Guard and the Press Corps. Through my experience working in the TeenTix Press Corps as both a writer and editor, I have learned just how valuable young people's voices are in the community. However, teen's voices, particularly young people of color and young women, have historically been marginalized. From our opinions on art, to the issues that we are passionate about, our ideas are valuable. It is so important that young people's voices are listened to and are given power because teens are impacted by the decisions that those in power are making. The Seattle Youth Commission is a sincerely impactful way for teens to represent the voices of other Seattle teens in local government and I want to join because I am aware of the need for teens to be listened to and their voices amplified and I am eager to listen to my peers.

Q6

What are the issues in your community that you are passionate about and why?

What are the issues in your community that you are passionate about and why?

One issue that I am passionate about addressing is the global environmental crisis via a local lense. Our city borders one of the most unique ecosystems in the world —the Salish Sea— which is facing significant yet solvable environmental issues, the most poignant of which is the near extinction of the Southern Resident Orcas. In 1995, there were an estimated 98 Southern Residents, and now, there are only 74 remaining.

This issue is so important to me for the simple reason that the Southern Residents are culturally and ecologically significant where we live. The Southern Residents are particularly meaningful to the Indigenous People. Local tribes have, in fact, been advocates in the protection of the Southern Residents. The Lummi Indigenous People, whose word for orca means relative beneath the waves, have notably advocated for the release and rehabilitation of a captive orca and member of the L pod named Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut, although her stage name is Lolita.

Ecologically, the Southern Residents are also indicators of the health of the Salish Sea. Since they are top predators and feed exclusively on salmon, when they face malnutrition and have elevated levels of mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls, those statistics are vital to indicate the overall health of the ecosystem. And certainly their malnutrition directly correlates to the diminished salmon population which is also an endangered one in Puget Sound.

Seattleites do not have a right to be complicit in the extinction of a species and in doing so, cause further destruction to the culture of indigenous people whose land our city has been built on. As a young person, I worry that the Southern Residents will go extinct and the health of the Salish Sea will continue to worsen during my lifetime. But I am also empowered by the knowledge that the problems facing the Salish Sea and the Southern Residents are solvable and addressable by local government, including encouraging boats to go slower thus reducing their noise pollution and partnering with local indigenous governments to educate the public about the significance of the Southern Residents.

Q7

What do you hope to gain from this experience?

I sincerely hope to gain a great deal from this experience, given the honor, but above all else, I hope to learn. Since being on the Seattle Youth Commission involves communicating with local government officials and other Seattle Youth Commission, I would have so many opportunities to learn about my city through passionate and driven individuals and work with those people to create concrete projects that positively impact the city and the city's young people.

Also, I am very interested in politics, government, and the type of civic responsibility that young people can engage in and I think this would be a fantastic opportunity to work with government officials and be exposed to the type of problem solving that community leaders use. One of the most important things that community leaders do is bring people together and I would love to work with community leaders to create that kind of community and change. I saw in the description of the Seattle Youth Commission, that Youth Commissioners will "Plan an annual event (or several events) that connects youth to local government and topics they care about." Certainly this even encompasses much of what I hope to gain by participating in the Seattle Youth Commission: working with other passionate teens on addressing relevant issues that in themselves impact young people, and building community by engaging the Seattle youth and our local government.

Q8

What do you think makes your perspective unique to others?

One thing that I am proud of that has given me a distinct perspective is my relationship with art. I have been involved in theater since I was eleven years old, have worked for local art organization, TeenTix, and also started my school's Art Club. These experiences have taught me how art can impart the type of compassion, empathy, and perspective-taking that joins people together. Art is a human process and it is a fundamental and ancient way that humans have told stories and communicated effectively with each other. My passion for art has given me a distinct perspective because it has taught me why storytelling is an invaluable way to lead and connect with people, it has taught me my own blindspots has helped me change my mind, and has also helped me develop my ability to take perspective and consider other people's opinions even when they are different from my own or never occurred to me because of my life experiences.

Q9

The City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative advances racial equity in city government and the community. What are your ideas about applying race and social justice principles as a Seattle Youth Commissioner?

I am honored to be a founding member of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Team at my school and organized my school's Women's Advocacy Club for two years and I have found understanding issues of race and social justice through an intersectional lense to be powerful ways for people of different backgrounds to connect and empathize with each other. For instance, and I mentioned this in a previous answer, but in Seattle, environmental justice and justice for indigenous people are intrinsically linked. The land on which Seattle was built was stolen and when we harm the environment we are disrespecting the land that truly belongs to local indigenous people. I've found that a powerful way to consider and apply racial and social justice principles is to engage with a text or listen to a podcast that discusses a racial and social justice principal and then discuss that idea. This is such a powerful way for leadership communities to apply racial and social justice principles because individuals can draw their own conclusions, then learn about how others perceived the text which can help people understand their own blindspots. Then, at least on the Seattle Youth Commission, Commissioners could use what they learned from each other and apply those ideas of justice to how they "advise the Mayor, City Council and City departments on issues that impact youth in Seattle."

Q10

SYC interviews will be scheduled for October 12th and 13th. Which of these days are you available? *Interviews will be held on the phone or another virtual platform.

Monday, October 12th,

Tuesday, October 13th,

Additional Comments:

The application page indicated that interviews will take place November 9th and 10th instead of October 12th and 13th so I also wanted to communicate that I will be available on the 9th and 10th of November as well.

Page 4: References

Q11

Reference #1

Name

Lupe Fisch (adult)

Phone

██████████

Email

██

Q12

Reference #2

Name

Mariko Nagashima (adult)

Phone

██████████

Email

████████████████████

Q13

Reference #3

Name

Vivian Sohn (youth)

Phone

██████████

Email

██

Seattle Youth Commission

15 Members: Pursuant to Ordinance 125029, 15 members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 7 City Council- Appointed
- 8 Mayoral- Appointed

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
2	M	2	1.	Member At-Large	Abdiweli Abdi	9/01/2019	8/31/2021	2	Mayor
	F	5	2.	Member At-Large	Ahana Roy	9/01/2019	8/31/2021	1	Mayor
			3.	District #2	Vacant	9/01/2019	8/31/2021		City Council
	F	NA	4.	Member At-Large	Angelica Valenzuela	9/01/2019	8/31/2021	1	Mayor
	F	5	5.	District #4	Katherine Kang	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	2	City Council
	F	2	6.	Member At-Large	Edhil Haid	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	1	Mayor
	F	5	7.	District #6	Eleanor Cename	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	1	Mayor
	F	5	8.	Member At-Large	Elsa Assefa	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	1	Mayor
			9.	Member At-Large	Vacant	9/01/2019	8/31/2021		City Council
	M	1	10.	Member At-Large	Kevin Jackson Hu	9/01/2019	8/31/2021	1	City Council
	F	5	11.	District #5	Samara Wijesekera	9/01/2019	8/31/2021	1	City Council
			12.	District #7	Vacant	9/01/2019	8/31/2021		City Council
	M	2	13.	District #1	Diego Escame-Hedger	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	1	City Council
	F	6	14.	Member At-Large	Leah Scott	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	1	Mayor
	M	2	15.	District #3	Lincoln Hilliard Wilmore	9/01/2020	8/31/2022	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	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	2	6											
Council	2	2											
Other													
Total	3	9											

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.