



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Mariana C. Martinez</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Seattle Arts Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>Member</i>
<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: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	Term of Position: * 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2027 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>	
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Capitol Hill</i>	Zip Code: 98122	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: <i>Mariana joined Centro Cultural Mexicano in April of 2025 where she serves as Executive Director leading the organization with strategic vision, driving fundraising, operations, and community partnerships to amplify impact and ensure long-term sustainability. With a multi-sector experience, Mariana has dedicated over two decades to leading organizations and creating positive change. She remains committed to closing the disparity gap of disenfranchised groups locally, nationally and globally, and to do so she has focused on issues around social justice, racial equity, diversity, inclusion, and welcoming policies and immigration. Two important aspects of her work have been her experience in local government advancing inclusive policies, community advocacy, and her experience with nonprofits (driving transformative arts and cultural initiatives, leading large-scale civic engagement initiatives helping nonprofit organizations create more equitable and representative communities; citizen diplomacy; mobilizing the Latino vote, and helping develop emerging Latino leaders for congressional opportunities).</i> <i>Mariana believes on the principle that communities are stronger when their voices are heard and valued, they have access to resources and information, and they are civically engaged. She works to drive lasting, systemic, and sustainable change.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature): <i>Katie B. Wilson</i>	Appointing Signatory: <i>Katie B. Wilson</i> <i>Mayor</i>	
Date Signed (appointed): 03/24/2026		

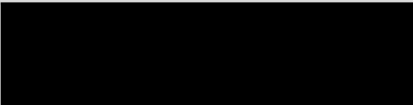
*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.



SUMMARY

Demonstrated experience in the private and non profit sectors, including philanthropy, municipal national and international government

CONTACT



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Centro Cultural Mexicano | April 2025- Present

Provide strategic leadership while guiding fundraising, operations, and community partnerships to support the organization's mission and long-term sustainability

CHIEF OF STAFF

Accountability Lab | August 2023- March 2025

Supported three Co-CEOs on eco-system building, working cross-functionally on good governance, accountability, anti-corruption, advocacy, and open government issues globally.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Mi Familia Vota | March 2022- December 2022

Cyclical position.

Oversaw the organization's workflow strategy of all essential business processes in all 7 states (AZ, CA, NV, CO, TX, GA & FL).

DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute | June 2021- March 2022

Directed all strategy development efforts as well as all Executive Office activities. Managed strategic partnerships. Served as Board of Directors & Advisory Council Liaison. Launched special projects.

DIRECTOR OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES

Michigan Nonprofit Association | November 2020 - June 2021

Grant funded position.

Led & executed statewide initiatives.

CHIEF OF STAFF

Council Member Raquel Castañeda-López | Sep 2016 - Nov 2020

Oversaw all teams, planned and directed all strategy efforts, as well as all administrative, HR, financial and operational activities. Led the Immigration Task Force (ITF) and the Detroit Indigenous Peoples Alliance (DIPA) initiatives.

ASSISTANT TO VP, CHIEF PROGRAM & STRATEGY OFFICER

The Kresge Foundation | July 2014 - Sep 2016

Supported the VP of programs as well as the Executive Office coordinating projects that cut across foundation programs.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Global Ties Detroit | Feb 2014 - July 2014

Managed all aspects of the international exchange programs on behalf of U.S. Department of State & USAID.

DIRECTRICE ADJOINTE (DEPUTY DIRECTOR)

Igesa | August 2009 - August 2011

Igesa (Institution de Gestion Social des Armées) a non-profit organization created specifically to service the Ministry of Defense, Justice and Interior of France. Oversaw the HQ properties in Paris, France: Voltaire & Raspail.

MARIANA C. MARTINEZ

CONTACT



EDUCATION

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Oakland University | 2012 - 2014

B.A. PSYCHOLOGY

Western Connecticut State University | 2000 - 2005

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM (ISEP)

Universidade de Vigo, Spain | Feb - June 2005

FRENCH LANGUAGE

L'Alliance Française l'Île de France | July - Dec 2006

La Sorbonne Cours de Civilisation Française | Feb - May 2007

Association Philotechnique de Boulogne-Billancourt Paris |
Sep 2006 - Sep 2007



HONORS

PI ALPHA ALPHA

United States National Association of Schools of Public Affairs
and Administration.

Oakland University Chapter



VOLUNTEER WORK

ALUMI COUNCIL MEMBER

Cultural Vistas | March 2020 - Present

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEMBER

WAMU 88.5 American University Radio | January 2024 - Present



LANGUAGES

English | Spanish | French



FELLOWSHIPS & EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

Welcoming Communities Transatlantic Exchange | 2017

Delegate

Exchange program for leaders from the U.S and Germany to
share best practices and innovative approaches to integration.
Cities visited in Germany: Düsseldorf, Freiburg and Berlin.

Next Generation Latino Philanthropy Leaders | 2015

Fellow

Hispanics in Philanthropy



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

The Rule of Law & Anti-Corruption Center | 2024

Anti-Corruption in the Americas
San Jose, Costa Rica

Western Connecticut State University | 2021

Hispanic Heritage Month Keynote speaker
Danbury, CT, USA

Detroit Free Press Film Festival | 2020

Crisis, Activism and Resilience: Telling Detroit Stories
Detroit, MI, USA

National Immigration Integration Conference (NIIC) | 2019

Welcoming Policies at City, Region, And State Levels
Detroit, MI, USA

University of Chicago

School of Social Service Administration | 2019

Right to the City: Are Municipal ID's the Key to Urban
Inclusion?
Chicago, IL, USA

Welcoming Interactive &

Welcoming Economies Conference | 2019

Detroit Our City Initiative
Pittsburgh, PA, USA

The future of Welcoming Communities Conference | 2018

Engaging the Community, Enhancing Communication and
Participation
Berlin, Germany



MEDIA COVERAGE & ARTICLES

NPR Spanish, ¿Que Onda Michigan?

[La Redistribución de Distritos Electorales en Michigan](#)

7 News WXYZ

[Inside MI redistricting with Sue Hammersmith, Nancy Wang & Mariana Martinez](#)

Deadline Detroit, Craig Fahle Podcast

[Michigan nonprofits work to educate citizens on redistricting.](#)

NPR

[State's new Redistricting Commission anticipates delay in receiving Census data](#)

Central Michigan University

[Census data delay could affect redistricting in Michigan](#)

VALUES

- Accountability
- Work Ethic
- Adaptability
- Integrity
- Perseverance



Seattle Arts Commission Roster

16 Members: Pursuant to ordinance 121006, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms (Get-Engaged member serves a 1-year term):

- 7 City Council-appointed
- 7 Mayor-appointed
- 1 Commission-appointed
- 1 Get-Engaged

(Roster as of 3/26/2026)

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
2	M	2	1.	At-Large	Ed King	01/01/25	12/31/26	1 st	City Council
6	F	7	2.	At-Large	Megan Kiskaddon	01/01/26	12/31/27	2 nd	City Council
3	F	1	3.	At-Large	Vanessa Villalobos	01/01/25	12/31/26	3 rd	City Council
3	F	1	4.	At-Large	Linda Chavez-Lowry	01/01/26	12/31/27	2 nd	City Council
6	M	5	5.	At-Large	Ricky Graboski	01/01/26	12/31/27	3 rd	City Council
3	F	6	6.	At-Large	Diana Garcia (Dhyana)	01/01/26	12/31/27	2 nd	City Council
6	F	5	7.	At-Large	Kate Nagle-Caraluzzo	01/01/25	12/31/26	1 st	City Council
4	F	N/A	8.	At-Large	Yolanda Spencer	01/01/26	12/31/27	2 nd	Commission
2	F	7	9.	At-Large	Tera Beach	01/01/26	12/31/27	1 st	Mayor
2 & 9	F	1	10.	At-Large	Avery Barnes	01/01/26	12/31/27	2 nd	Mayor
6	F	3	11.	At-Large	Anne Shukla	01/01/26	12/31/27	1 st	Mayor
3	F	3	12.	At-Large	Mariana C. Martinez	01/01/26	12/31/27	1 st	Mayor
1	O	2	13.	At-Large	Ray Yang	01/01/26	12/31/27	1 st	Mayor
1	F	N/A	14.	At-Large	Yoon Kang-O'Higgins	01/01/26	12/31/27	2 nd	Mayor
1, 4, & 6	F&O	7	15.	At-Large	Jo Mikesell	01/01/25	12/31/26	1 st	Mayor
6	M		16.	Get-Engaged	Jack Nash	09/01/25	08/31/26	One	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)				
	Men	Women	Transgender	Other/Unknown	Asian	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian/Alaska Native	Other (Specification Optional)	Caucasian/Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	1	6		2	3	2	1	1		3			1
Council	2	5				1	3			3			
Other		1						1					
Total	3	12		1	3	3	4	2		6			1

Key:

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