

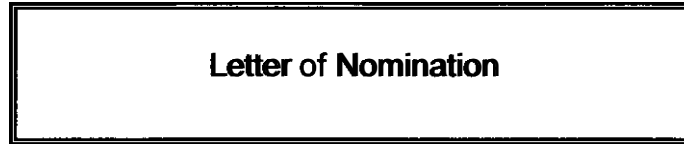
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CITY OF OAKLAND



2004 MAR -4 AM 11:55  
1 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA . 3RD FLOOR • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

Office of the Mayor  
Jerry Brown  
Mayor



(510)238-3141  
FAX: (510)238-4731  
TDD: (510)839-6451

March 16, 2004

The Honorable City Council  
One City Hall Plaza, Second Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Councilmembers:

Upon nomination of the Mayor, the following persons are hereby appointed as members of the following Board or Commission:

**Commission on Persons with Disabilities**

Safi wa Nairobi, Mayoral appointment to serve the term beginning September 3, 2003 and ending September 2, 2006, filling a current vacancy.

Victoria Burns, Mayoral appointment to serve the term beginning September 3, 2003 and ending September 2, 2006 filling a current vacancy.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me

Sincerely,

  
**JERRY BROWN**  
Mayor

21  
**CRA/COUNCIL**  
**MAR 16 2004**

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**RESOLUTION APPOINTING SAFI WA NAIROBI AND VICTORIA BURNS AS MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 9968 C.M.S. creates the Commission on Persons with Disabilities, whose members are nominated by the Mayor and approved by the City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 11864 C.M.S. specifies that members of the Commission on Persons with Disabilities are to serve three year terms, which are to be staggered so that some appointments will expire every year, and appointments to fill a term of office are only to be for the remainder of that term; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that by the nomination of the Mayor, the following individuals are hereby appointed to the term set forth below:

Safi wa Nairobi, Mayoral appointment to serve the term beginning September 3, 2003 and ending September 2, 2006, filling an existing vacancy;

Victoria Burns, Mayoral appointment to serve the term beginning September 2, 2003 and ending September 2, 2006 filling an existing vacancy.

**IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,**

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**AYES-** BRUNNER, WAN, NADEL, QUAN, BROOKS, REID, CHANG, AND  
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

**NOES-**

**ABSENT-**

**ABSTENTION-**

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CEDA FLOYD  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California

21  
**CRA/COUNCIL**  
**MAR 16 2004**

Safi wa Nairobi  
Independent Photographer/Journalist  
MAR -3 PM 1:11

31 August 2003

Paul Belkin  
Office of the Mayor  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
1 Frank Ogawa Building  
Oakland 94612 CA

RE: MAYORS COMMISSION ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITY-CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Dear Mr. Paul Belkin,

I am a visually challenged artist residing in Oakland for the past 8 1/2 years.

As a practicing artist with a permanent disability, I have first hand experience with--and knowledge of--accessibility and inclusion challenges. Also, having recently facilitated an Art Day workshop for artists with disabilities (Insights 2003), I am more keenly aware of the numerous concerns artists with disabilities encounter.

Thus, I hereby submit a request for consideration to serve the Mayor's Commission on Persons With Disability as a representative on the Cultural Arts Advisory Committee.

Accordingly, attached is a copy of my current resume.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, do contact me at your convenience.

Please note that the Fairmount Avenue address in El Cerrito is a mailing address and any written correspondence should be directed there; my residence in Oakland is (and has been since Decembre 1994) 348 Haddon Road, No. 3 in 94606.

Regards,

Safi wa Nairobi

P. S. I initially learned about the Cultural Arts Advisory Committee at the Mayor's Office on Disability through Oakland Main Library ADA Coordinator Lynn Cutler. I have also spoken at length with Linda Texiero. SwN...

cc: Christine Calabrese, City ADA Coordinator

21  
CRA/COUNCIL  
MAR 16 2004

Safi wa Nairobi ♦

Objective: Serve Oakland Mayor's Commission on Person's With Disability's Cultural Arts Advisory Committee for at least one year.

Summary: I have been sharing the visual voice as a means of creative expression well over a decade. Despite legal blindness due to an hereditary, degenerative eye disorder, I began formal photography training while studying environmental economics. Publications since 1995 include three magazines: FORWARD (Seattle WA), The Reggae Review (San Francisco CA), and Dub Missive (Orlando FL). I work traditionally as well as experimentally, printing all my work. Currently, I serve as Visual Artist-in-Residence at Prescott-Joseph Centre for Community Enhancement, Oakland, CA, teaching free photography classes to underserved youth.

Professional Affiliations ♦ National Association of Women Artists (member) ♦ California Lawyers for the Arts (member) ♦ Berkeley Art Association (member) ♦ ProArts (member) ♦ The Very Special Arts (member artist) ♦

Professional Experience:

Upcoming Exhibitions

- *Art of Disability* State Building, Oakland CA; opening 22 September 2003.
- Art of Triumph Bonner David Gallery; Phoenix, AZ; opening 18 September 2003.
- Art on the *Hill*; Expressions of Triumph Kansas City MO; opening 4 September 2003.
- Florida Gold Coral Springs Museum; Coral Springs FL; opening 3 September 2003.
- The Blues Prescott-Joseph Centre for Community Enhancement; Oakland CA; September 2003.

Select Exhibitions

- *Insights* 2003 San Francisco Art Commission Gallery; San Francisco CA; ongoing.
- Rhythm, *Colour and Harmony* New York NY; 16 June through 16 July 2003.
- National *Juried* Show Farmington Museum; Farmington NM; 17 May to 15 June 2003.
- Acquisitions Exhibition Viewpoint Gallery; Schenectady NY; 15 May to 30 December 2003.
- Passionate Focus Thompson Centre; Chicago IL; 1 May to 31 May 2003.
- *40<sup>th</sup> International* Exhibition Sister Kenny Institute; Minneapolis MN; 24 April to 26 May 2003.
- *ArtFirst!* Medical Centre @ Princeton; Princeton NJ; 6 April to 18 May 2003.
- A Woman's Work Prescott-Joseph Centre, Oakland CA; 29 March to 6 April 2003.
- Faces of Women Las Vegas Arts Council, Las Vegas NV; 21 March to 18 April 2003.
- Structure by Lens Studio 2 Gallery, Austin TX; 1 to 29 March 2003.
- Jazz: Visual *Improvisations* Target Gallery, Alexandria VA; 2 to 23 February 2003.
- Art *Ability* Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital, Malvern PA; 17 November 2002 to 5 January 2003.
- *National Photography* Competition Texas Art Museum, Port Arthur TX; 1 to 27 November 2002.
- Oklahoma: Centerfold Leslie Powell Gallery, Lawton OK; 9 November to 12 December 2002 and University of Science and Arts Gallery, Chickasha OK; January through February 2003.
- Echoes & *Visions V Sea* Country Community Centre, Laguna Niguel CA; November 2002.
- By Her Hand Cornell Museum, Delray Beach FL; 11 November 2002..
- *ABD17* Design Gallery, Long Beach CA; 22 July to 13 August 2002.
- America Second City, Long Beach CA; 4 to 26 July 2002.
- Annual *Juried* Show South Arkansas Art Centre, El Dorado AR; 1 to 30 July 2002.
- Heart to Heart Ruth Brennan Gallery; Rapid City SD; 8 February to 1 April 2002.
- Celebrating The African *Diaspora* University of Creation Spirituality; Oakland CA; January 2002.
- 10. Grace *International* Photographic *Colour* Salon Hong Kong; November 2001.

continued.

Safi wa Nairobi ♦

- 10. *Hasselblad* Super Circuit Linz, Austria; 4 October to 30 November 2001

Installations • From the Inside Out Prescott-Joseph Center for Community Enhancement, Oakland CA; June 2003.  
• *Picturing* Identity: Northern Asia and *Southern* Mexico Wurster Hall, University of California at Berkeley; May 1996.

Awards • Puffin Foundation Award to help produce From the Inside Out •; The Puffin Foundation; Teaneck NJ • Purchase Award: *Guitin' It*: Mr. John Lee; Sister Kenny Institute; Minneapolis MN; May 2003 • Second Prize in Photography at Sister Kenny Institute for (*Guitin' It*: Mr. John Lee); May 2003 • Purchase Award: Keys to my Heart: Eric Reid; Affleboro Museum; Affleboro MA; February 2003 • Visual Artist-in-Residence, Blue Mountain NY; October 2002 • Patron Award for *I Still* Have A Dream; Gastonia NC; September 2002 • Purchase Award: Keys to my Heart: Eric Reid (permanent collection); Viewpoint Gallery, Schenectady NY; July 2002 • First Prize in Photography at Sister Kenny International Exhibition (for Keys to my Heart: Eric Reid); May 2002 • Marion de Souza Mendes Award in Photography (for *I Still* Have A Dream: Taps); May 2002 • Individual Artist Service Award Grant to help produce *From* the *Inside Out* City of Oakland, Craft & Cultural Arts Department, Office of the Mayor; Spring 2003 • Purchase Award: Keys to my Head: Eric Reid (permanent collection); Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital, Philadelphia PA; January 2002 • Individual Artist Service Award Grant to facilitate *Youthspeak: The* Visual Voice City of Oakland, Craft & Cultural Arts Department, Office of the Mayor; January 2002

Education • Bachelor of Science, Political Economy of Natural Resources. University of California, Berkeley. 1998.

References • Mimi Chakarova, Lecturer  
Graduate School of Journalism  
140 Northgate Hall  
University of California at Berkeley  
Berkeley 94720 CA  
510.643.3273

- Don Lane  
Don Lane Photographs  
245 Addison Street  
San Francisco 94131 CA  
415.337.1770

- Lewis Watts, Assistant Professor  
Elena Baskin Visual Arts Studios, Room E 104  
University of California at Santa Cruz  
1156 High Street  
Santa Cruz 95064 CA  
831.459.2272

21  
CRA/COUNCIL  
MAR 16 2004

**Victoria L. Burns**

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2004 MAR -3 PM 1:11

Objective: To pursue a career in the fields of Orientation & Mobility and Rehabilitation Teaching of blind and visually impaired individuals.

Professional Experience: Orientation & Mobility Specialist / Rehabilitation Teacher May 2002 –present  
Lions Center for the Visually Impaired Pittsburg, CA  
Lions Center for the Blind, Oakland, CA  
o Worked with client population aged 18-95 with varying visual impairments  
o Provided basic to advanced orientation and mobility instruction  
o Provided daily living skills instruction  
o Provided Braille instruction  
o Prepared and implemented lessons for clients in group and individual settings  
o Performed functional vision, daily living skills, & orientation & mobility assessments  
o Provided ADA /visual impairment trainings to BART and other organizations

Orientation & Mobility Specialist / Rehabilitation Teacher Intern August 2001-May 2002  
Lions Center for the Visually Impaired, Pittsburg, CA  
Lions Center for the Blind, Oakland, CA  
o Prepared and implemented lessons for clients in group and individual settings  
o Provided orientation & mobility, daily living skills, and Braille Instruction  
o Performed functional vision, daily living skills, & orientation & mobility assessments  
o Observed O&M specialists / Rehabilitation Teachers during lessons

Related Experience: Mayor's Commission on Persons with Disabilities, City of Oakland January 2002 –present  
Transportation and Mobility Committee  
o Provided consultation regarding accessible pedestrian signals  
o Provided consultation regarding detectable warnings

Conference Attendance  
o International Mobility Conference, South Africa April 2003  
o CA Orientation & Mobility Specialists, Costa Mesa, CA November 2002  
o International AER Conference, Toronto, Canada July 2002  
o CTEVH, Irvine, CA March 2002  
o IAER, Illinois February 2001

Education: Northern Illinois University May 2002  
Master of Science in Special Education  
Concentrations in Orientation & Mobility; Rehabilitation Teaching

University of California, Irvine June 2002  
Bachelor of Arts in French

Professional Membership: Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired July 2000 – present  
California Association of Orientation & Mobility Specialists March 2002 –present

Volunteer Experience: Puppy Raiser. Guide Dogs for the Blind Inc. Dec. 1989-Mar 2002  
Certified Leader, Guide Dogs for the Blind. Inc. Sept 1998-Mar. 2002  
President. AER Chapter at Northern Illinois University August 2000-July 2001

21  
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MAR 16 2004