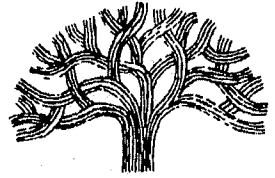


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CITY OF OAKLAND



CITY HALL • 1 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA, 3rd FLOOR • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

Office of the Mayor
Honorable Libby Schaaf
Mayor

(510) 238-3141
Fax (510) 238-4731

Letter of Appointment

September 20, 2017

The Honorable City Council
One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Second Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear President Reid and members of the City Council:

Pursuant to City Charter Section 601, the Mayor has re-appointed and appointed the following persons as members of the following board or commission, subject to City Council confirmation:

Youth Advisory Commission

Esmeralda Cortez to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Darrell Edwards Jr. to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Ivan Garcia to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Giovanni Hernandez to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Maxwell Stern to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Buna Poeng to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Davone Riddick to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Sepideh Kiumarsi to serve as Youth Commissioner for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Ericson Amaya Bonilla to serve as Peer Advisor for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

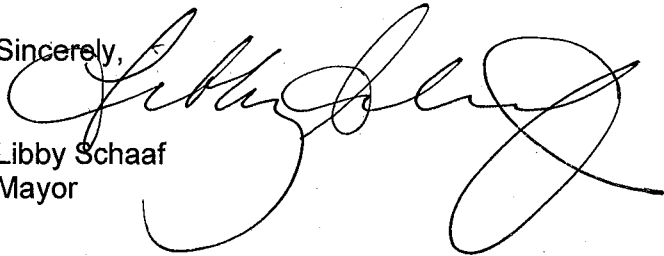
Daren Barron to serve as Peer Advisor for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Grecia Jaqueline Palma to serve as Peer Advisor for a two-year term on the Youth Advisory Commission beginning September 11, 2017 and ending September 10, 2019;

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Libby Schaaf
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Libby Schaaf", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned to the right of the typed name and title.

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Esmeralda Cortez

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EXPERIENCE

UC Berkeley's Scholarship Association Berkeley, CA

Outreach Intern, Aug 2016 - 2017

- Engaged students to pursue higher education.
- Conducted research from partnering high schools to prepare for presentations.

Ignite Oakland, CA

Fundraiser and Social Officer; Social Media Intern, Aug 2011- Aug 2016

- Delivered weekly plan that provided political and civil education to expose women into political leadership.
- Helped young women learn and practice skills to make change in their community.

Women Empowered Oakland, CA

Founder and Facilitator, Apr 2012 - 2014

- Founded this program to help middle-school girls with their self-esteem, relationships and body image.
- Designed curriculum to meet once a week, to have activities and an open space to talk about life as a young women from East Oakland.

HIGHSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Bay Area Urban Debate League Oakland, CA

Varsity Debater, Aug 2012 - 2014

Student Government Oakland, CA

Vice President of 11th grade and Vice President of Student Body, Aug 2012 - 2014

Build Oakland, CA

Chief Financial Officer of Start Up: Mac-Pack, Aug 2010 - 2014

Global Glimpse Oakland, CA

Global Citizen doing community service for three weeks in the Dominican Republic, Summer 2013

AWARDS

- 2013 IGNITE's Fems with Fervor award
- 2013 Bay Area Urban Debate League's 10th place speaker of the year
- Class of 2014 Community Service Award: Pay it Forward
- Cal Leadership Scholarship Award 2014
- High School Honor Roll 2010-2014

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Bachelor of Social Welfare - In Progress

Lionel Wilson College Preparatory Academy

Middle and High School, 2007-2014

July 2, 2017

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission
150 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4211
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mayor Schaaf and City Council,

I was born and raised in East Oakland, specifically Brookfield Village. When I was eleven years old my oldest brother, Hernan Cortez, was killed two minuets away from our home. I grew up with panic disorder and depression because of the multiple homicides and deaths that happened after my brother's murder. In Middle School, I was one of the girls who had the most staff intervention. I was constantly suspended to the point where I was going to get expelled. The turning point in my life was at the end of 9th grade. The reason why I went to the first session of many after school programs was not because I wanted to join them, but because they would offer free food. In addition to the free food, I would do anything to not go to my broken household.

Now that I am in College, the problems that my community face have become more apparent. For example, although all of my graduating class was accepted into college, less than half are attending. Even if we attend, we are under prepared for the academic work. In regards to middle schools, the teachers seem unaware of how to deal with troublesome students. Especially in middle school, I know that the student-teacher relationship needs work. Also the staff to staff relationships need help. For example, my high school principle had to let go of the best physics teacher. This was a highly looked up to teacher and as a result the students protested and were highly upset. Not to mention all the social issues that are currently happening on a national level. Police brutality, the lack of a proper health care bill, the political climate we are in. Even though these are a national level issues, they are so close to home. Oakland is not immune to these social issues, but we can be a leader in how we tackle these issues.

Although a cover letter can only begin to explain some of the issues youth face its only the tip of the iceberg. The Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission will create a gate way for me to be able to advocate for the youth in my community; as I still communicate and work with middle and high school ages in Oakland. The commission will allow for me to create a platform for the students and young adults to have their voices heard. It takes a village to raise a youth from Oakland and help them prosper. I believe this Commission will do just that with my insights. I have been through middle school and high school in Oakland. Now I am a Latina from East Oakland attending UC Berkeley and the problems aren't going away, they are becoming more real. My end goal is to become a politician and be a servant to my community because they deserve the best.

Sincerely,

Esmeralda Cortez

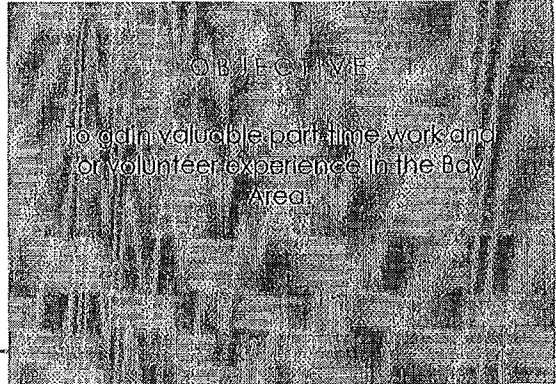
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DARRELL EDWARDS, JR.

SKILLS

- Computer programming
- Collaborating with others
- Interfacing with the public
- Playing Basketball and Golf



EXPERIENCE

Genius | Hidden Genius |

Spring 2016 to Summer 2017

Participant in an 18-month program that teaches leadership, entrepreneurship and computer programming to high school students. Earn a stipend for project completion and level of participation.

Teacher's Assistant | College Preparatory School |

Summer 2015

Teacher's Assistant at Partner's Academic Summer Program at College Preparatory School, Oakland, CA, from Summer 2015. Worked with middle school students, with accountability for up to 20 students at a time. Worked 9 am to 4 pm daily for six weeks. Role was volunteer at the time, but is now a paid position.

EDUCATION

High School Diploma in Progress | Class of 2018 | Bentley School, Lafayette, CA

Junior year coursework included honors history and English, advanced placement computer science, pre-calculus, biology and Spanish 3.
GPA = 3.3



Darrell_Edwards@
Bentleystudent.net

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE OR LEADERSHIP

A Better Chance Scholar

Participate in leadership development and focused skill building programs to prepare for college and to assume leadership roles in society. Program focuses on people of color in independent schools.

Bentley Ambassador

Represent my school with prospective students, parents and visitors by providing tours, guidance and responding to questions about Bentley.

Darrell Edwards, Jr.

July 11, 2017

Mayor Libby Schaaf
City of Oakland
Youth Leadership and Development Department
150 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4211
Oakland, CA, 94612

Dear Mayor Libby Schaaf
City of Oakland
Youth Leadership and Development Department
150 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4211
Oakland, CA, 94612:

I would like to serve on the Oakland Youth Commission. The city of Oakland has been named many things. It has made or topped the list for most cultural diversity, happiest place to live, coolest, most exciting city, best city of basketball fans, fastest growing cities, greenest city, best for tech entrepreneurs, most LGBT-friendly, worst cities to raise a family, and the most dangerous. How can one city be named so many different, awesome rankings, and be among the most dangerous cities in our country or one of the worst cities to raise a family in the Bay Area? Oakland is full of contradiction, contrast, potential and promise. Oakland is my home. I would like to see it on top of the positive lists, and be eliminated entirely from the negative ones. I have lived in Oakland my entire life, and I am proud to call Oakland my home. Over my 17 years in this dynamic city, I have witnessed an abundance of the good aspects and elements of Oakland first hand. Some of the good I have witnessed is the racial and ethnic diversity and tolerance for other perspectives, ideas, lifestyles and points of view. The other major good thing about Oakland is the sense of the connection and the close-knit communities that make up this town.

While Oakland is a great place to live, like everything in life and society, there is room for improvement. I believe I have great ideas that could make Oakland even better for all its residents and visitors. For instance, I believe there is not enough greenery or places in downtown Oakland to sit and enjoy nature. The common symbol of Oakland is a tree. I suggest developing more parks and places for people to sit and relax downtown or near downtown. Oakland needs safe and modern sports facilities and playgrounds. I play organized basketball, but often must go out to Walnut Creek or Concord or some other far suburb for tournaments and indoor practices. We don't have the kind

of parks that we should, given our great weather to allow kids to play basketball and hone their skills in their own city. The other ideas I have relate to science, technology, engineering, art and innovation. Oakland needs to find a way to prepare its young people for the jobs and opportunities of the future. As tech companies relocate to Oakland, or as start-up's spring up in Oakland, we need to be creative about partnerships that benefit the community through schools, private charitable organizations, special events and internships. The potential is great, and we need to find a way to assure that the young people of Oakland have an opportunity to participate in meaningful ways. If the youth are left behind educationally and economically, the city will not reach its full potential.

I believe I have a lot to offer as a potential youth commissioner. One of my major strengths is that I can meet people halfway and comprise. I can also connect with and relate to all types of people. I would bring these abilities to the youth commission. In addition, I would seek the diverse perspectives of the people I know personally when thinking about how to create solutions to issues and maximize opportunities in Oakland. I have friends of all races. I have friends that attend Oakland public school, Catholic schools, and independent schools. I am exposed to community leaders in the churches I attend including Allen Temple and Beebe Memorial. I truly believe that the quality of ideas, solutions and decisions improves by getting broad input and multiple perspectives. I welcome the opportunity to bring 'all of me' to this important role.

Lastly, I am looking toward my future as I consider this commitment. I want to pursue computer programming as well as business in college and professionally. The connections to business and community leaders could be helpful for me in the future. This program also provides the skills needed to be successful in business specifically such as public speaking, the art of negotiation and compromise, collaboration and working with others including peers and superiors. I know that being on this youth commission represents a significant commitment. I am a rising senior in high school. I understand the importance of making and meeting important commitments. I am excited about this opportunity to give back and to improve my community, while at the same time learning and applying useful skills. I would be honored to serve on this commission.

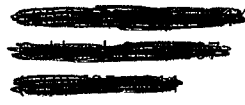
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Edwards Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Darrell Edwards, Jr. - "DJ" Edwards

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IVAN GARCIA



Ivan.Nathan.Garcia@gmail.com

My objective is to provide my community with the right morals, skills, and support to be motivated and successful to make a positive impact in the real world.

WORK

- September 2013, Susan G Komen Breast Cancer Marathon, Volunteer
- December 2016, 8th Grade class video to Mr. Trump, Director and Producer
- March 2017, Annual OUSD Middle School Ethnic Studies Conference, MC
- February-May 2017, 2nd & 3rd Grade Weekly Anti Bullying Club, Facilitator
- March 2017, Middle School Spring Dance, Organizer
- 2016-2017 School Year, Student Council, Member
- 2016-2017 School Year, All City Council, Member
- April-May 2017, Youth Hiring Panel for OUSD's new Superintendent, Participant
- May 2017, End of the year Yearbook Video for Melrose Leadership Academy, Director and Producer
- Currently, West Oakland Farm Park, Biweekly Volunteer
- Currently, Litterati, Global Ambassador and Youth Recruiter

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Head-Royce School, Oakland, CA

Freshman, Fall 2017

Melrose Leadership Academy, Oakland, CA

- 8th Grade, 2016 - 2017
- 7th Grade, 2015 - 2016
- 6th Grade, 2014 - 2015

Horseman Elementary, Oakland, CA

- 5th Grade, 2013 - 2014
- 4th Grade, 2012 - 2013

Maxwell Park Elementary, Oakland, CA

- 3rd Grade, 2011 - 2012
- 2nd Grade, 2010 - 2011
- 1st Grade, 2009 - 2010
- Kindergarten, 2008 - 2009

SKILLS

- Achiever
- Persistency
- Positivity
- Public Speaking
- Self Motivator
- Solution Oriented
- Team Player (with all age groups)
- Time Management

AWARDS

- 2014-2015 School Year, OUSD Latino Student Honor Roll
- 2015-2016 School Year, OUSD Latino Student Honor Roll
- 2016-2017 School Year, OUSD Latino Student Honor Roll

REFERENCES

- Aurora Lopez** - OUSD, Adult Ally
(510) 390. 3004
- Steffany Loeb** - 8th Grade Math and Science Teacher
(510) 789. 7184
- Marisa Villegas** - 6th and 8th Grade Humanities Teacher
(510) 393. 9898

IVAN GARCIA

Ivan.Nathan.Garcia@gmail.com

July 22, 2017

Mayor Schaaf
150 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Suite 4211
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Oakland Youth Advisory Commission

Dear Mayor Schaaf,

As a highly self motivated and committed student with strong communication and social skills, I believe that I can be part of changing my community for the better by joining the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission (OYAC). I have attached my resume to provide a summary of my background history and qualifications for your review.

My ability to influence others has allowed me to be placed in numerous leadership roles for various scenarios in my community, which has flourished my drive to succeed. My involvement in the following scenarios has given me the drive to pursue roles in which I can give back to my community and become a role model: At Melrose Leadership Academy, I had the opportunity to facilitate a 2nd and 3rd Grade Anti Bullying Club. As an over achiever, I managed to direct and produce several school videos to share among my community. Through a mixture of ongoing projects I was able to establish relationships with my peers, parents, school and Oakland Unified School District staff members; all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

The struggle to have our voices heard is one of the biggest problems today's youth faces. Fortunately, I was able to participate on OUSD's Youth Hiring Panel for the new Superintendent, where my voice was taken into account knowing that this will have an immediate impact on everyone in OUSD. Additionally, I was one of the few youth attendees at the NACRJ Conference, where I learned new Restorative Justice practices, and had the ability to speak on important problem areas, as well as give my personal feedback with RJ in Oakland. Joining the OYAC would allow me to give youth continuous opportunities to be able to speak up in order for the community to hear them loud and clear.

Recently, my drive to pursue roles in which I can give back to my community and become a role model, has brought me to work with Litterati. I network and promote the app to help our communities become litter free and I look for young people who feel as passionate as I do when it comes to saving our planet. I recruit young people so that they too can be agents of change and become leaders in their communities.

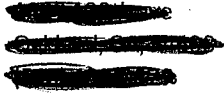
Thank you for taking the time to review my qualifications for this makes me extremely excited. With that said, I would welcome an opportunity to meet with you to discuss my qualifications and candidacy in further detail. Again, thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ivan Garcia

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Giovanni Hernandez



giovanni.ndez@gmail.com

Experience

June 2014 - August 2016

San Leandro Public Library, San Leandro, CA- Volunteer

- Organized books and other material.
- Engaged students in literacy activities.
- Supervised summer enrichment activities..

February 2015 - September 22016

Saint Louis Bertrand Catholic Church, Oakland , CA - Volunteer

- Participated in fundraising events.
- Attended a religious seminar.
- Participated in religious events.

June 23-25, 2017

Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project, UC Berkeley - Student

- learned about the Chicano/ Latino culture.
- Gained strong leadership skills.
- Understand the value of higher education & education in general.

June 2017- Present

Office of AssemblyMember Rob Bonta, - Intern

- Constituent service, answering calls.
- Researching bills and other information.
- Learning valuable information about legislative process.

Education

MONTH 2013 - August 2015

Bancroft Middle School, San Leandro, CA

I attended Bancroft Middle School from the seventh grade, to the eighth grade.

August 2015 - Present

San leandro High School, San Leandro, CA

I am currently attending San Leandro High School.

Interest

I am interested in

- Politics.
- Public empowerment.
- Improving education and Public needs/rights.
- Understanding the legislative process.
- Helping my community.

My name is Giovanni Hernandez I am an incoming junior at San Leandro High School. I live in a neighborhood of Oakland. At a young age I moved to Sacramento and lived there for seven years, but then moved back to Oakland, and surprisingly to the same neighborhood. Oakland has always been home to me and that means a lot to me. I am the proud son of two parents who have always told me, to never be greedy, to never forget about others, and that we should always help people..

In my community some issues we face is illegal dumping and abandoned cars, which I believe is under public safety. On our street there are two elementary schools, so this means that during the school year families are walking down the street going to and back from school. Several times when I walk down my street, 100th ave, I see used injection needles, and I do not even have to think of what those are used for. I see abandoned cars filled with garbage and are used as homes for people, and use these cars for illegal recreational activities, and I find this not just weird, I find this disgusting and very frustrating. The fact that I do not attend school in Oakland is sad, but when I moved back, I felt that OUSD was not a good district, I remember some Oakland middle schools, seeing them reminded me of prisons for some reason, and I chose to go to the San Leandro District. I recently met somebody who lives in Oakland, and I asked them if they go to Oakland Schools, and they said no, because they felt there is less opportunity within OUSD. I know I did not go to school at Oakland, I still feel these schools to be part of me because I am part of Oakland. I want to help the youth find opportunities that will help these students get to best education, and one day be able to get accepted to great colleges and universities.

To address these issues I would work with the Oakland Promise, OUSD and schools individually to provide empowerment programs that would help student have a voice in their community, which will let them be great leaders and boost their chances of having a great education. I want to help fix and create programs that focus on helping students rather than taking their money which will help them know valuable skills that will help them be great leaders and a higher chance of graduating. These programs will not just benefit OUSD but most importantly the youth. Another issue that should be addressed is crime and drugs. Oakland's youth has become victims of illegal drugs which is ruining their lives and this city, and I do not want to see more lives be taken away, we should be the generation to take action against gun and drug violence. We should work with organizations like the National Institute on Drug Abuse, Oakland Police, churches, and directly with communities. I want to join the Youth Commission to make change, change that will help my city reach new levels and be the best it can be.

My goals for the future involve addressing public issues that threaten Oakland's citizens I want to go to a university and study political science, so I can come back and give back to Oakland.

Maxwell S. Stern

Age: 14
Grade: Incoming 9th Grader

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maxwellstern24@yahoo.com

Education

Thornhill Elementary School

August 2008 - June 2014

Montera Middle School

August 2014 - June 2017

Skyline High School

August 2017 - Present

Experience

OUSD Superintendent Selection Process

April 2017 - June 2017

Provided student input and recommendation to the Board of Education on the selection of a new superintendent.

Invited by the OUSD Board of Education to participate in the interview process.

Student Body President - Montera Middle School

October 2016 - June 2017

Organized school-wide events.

Established agenda and facilitated bi-weekly student council meetings.

Collaborated with parents, teachers and students to plan successful student events.

AC Transit - OUSD Negotiations

April 2017 - May 2017

Advocated for the continuation of bus services to OUSD schools.

Interviewed on KPIX.

Successfully brought attention to the issue to peers, teachers and parents thru social media and school posters.

Addressed AC Transit at all public meetings.

Interests

- Politics
- Journalism
- Law
- Public Education
- Youth Advocacy
- Public Service

Honors

- 2017 Recipient of prestigious Service Award by OUSD Board Director, Nina Senn at Montera Middle School.

**Founder & Chief Editor of School Newspaper -
Montera Middle School**

January 2017 - May 2017

Established student-run school newspaper.

Organized weekly meetings and bi-weekly deliveries.

Organized Teach-In Event

November 2016

After the results of the 2016 Presidential Election, planned and successfully executed a teach-in, rally event on campus as opportunity and platform for students to voice their opinions, thoughts and fears.

Invited Superintendent Antwan Wilson, Nina Senn and other administrative staff to speak to students and hosted an open-mic for students.

Recognized and quoted in local media.

Published Article in *The Montclarion*

September 2016

Submitted opinion article on the reputations of Oakland public schools which was later published in *the Montclarion*.

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Buna Poeng

EDUCATION

Oakland High School, Oakland, CA

Expected Graduation: 2018

Major:

HONORS & AFFILIATIONS

buildOn: (3/15-Present) buildOn's goal is, "To break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy through service and education." I volunteer on a weekly basis during the school year doing various service projects throughout the Bay Area. I was also a participant on a 12 day trip to Haiti (Summer 2017) to build a school in a village. I have accumulated over 200+ hours of service.

Coro Exploring Leadership: (6/13/16-8/5/16) Participating as a youth fellow in this 8 week selective program. Coro trains ethical, diverse individuals throughout the country to be leaders in their community. Logic Study of Oakland and Community Action Project on Police Accountability are the two biggest projects done by my cohort that summer. Coro has a very large network and I now carry on as an alumnus.

Global Glimpse: (6/10/17-6/24/17) Global Glimpse brings youth on 2 week trips to Ecuador, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic. The goal is to come back as more aware global citizens and have learned about a whole new culture. I now carry on as a GG ambassador to share my experience with others, and also encourage them to take a trip of a lifetime!

AVID: (8/15-Present) AVID stands for "Achievement Via Individual Determination." AVID helps students succeed in high school and prepare them for the next step in their lives after high school. An AVID class sticks together throughout high school, having the same class and teacher every year. I am an AVID Ambassador at my school, speaking on behalf of the program and encouraging freshmen to take the class.

PROFESSIONAL & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Bladium Sports and Fitness Club, Alameda, CA

1/16-Present

Lil Kickers Coach, Day Care Staff, Camp Counselor, Party and Events Staff

- I work the Lil Kickers department as a coach running 50 minute soccer classes for kids 18 months-8 years old. As a day care attendant I watch kids who's parents are working out in a area specifically for kids. As a camp counselor (mostly during summer) I'm in charge of a group of kids, leading them in fun engaging activities (such as rock climbing) around the gym. As a party and events staff, I lead the birthday party I'm assigned to, making sure the customers have everything they need while keeping a fun a safe environment for them.

SKILLS

Patience: I am very patient with people and things. Working with kids, in particular, requires a high amount of patience. I do not snap and can keep a calm demeanor in stressful situations.

Adaptability: I believe I am very good at adapting to my environment. I observe the things around me and get a good feel for what is happening.

Buna Poeng

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Oakland City Council
1 Frank H Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612
September 5th, 2017

Dear Mayor Schaaf and Oakland City Council,

My name is Buna Poeng, 17 years old, and currently in my last year of high school at Oakland High School. I was born in San Francisco, and moved to Oakland when I was 7 years old. Even though I wasn't born here, Oakland holds a special place in my heart and is the only place I consider home. Whenever I picture myself settling down in the future, the question of "where" never seemed to come up as I knew it would be here. Hopefully, in the near future, I'll be raising my own family in one of the most beautiful and diverse cities in the country.

When I was younger, I wanted to be an artist, architect, basketball player, soldier, and so much more. Though there was one career that always came into my mind during those phases: being a teacher. That idea came into fruition from the constant observation of my teachers, not just from the things they taught, but the way they taught and how they carried themselves. It took a while to get there, but I finally decided an educator would be the career for me during my junior year (last year). When I tell people of my plans for the future, I get nothing but shocked faces and even criticism. I can see why, as who in their righteous mind would spend 12+ years in school then come back to it? For some people that's crazy, but for me, I can't see myself anywhere else. A problem I notice within the kids at my school, is the motivation to succeed is not there and school is just place they have to attend everyday. The students at my school do not take advantage of the opportunity at hand: a free education and stepping stone to success. Of course many students go through things outside of school that can make it hard for them to work in the classroom, and that is a very sensitive issue to tackle. I've seen teachers at school come on a bit too hard on students at times, either because of not getting something done due to a lack of resources (ex. no printer at home), illiteracy, and sometimes not understanding something deemed "simple." A teacher, with the right attitude, can touch a student's heart and be not only their teacher, but another person that cares deeply about their well being.

Something that I believe is an issue amongst our youth, is students not taking advantage of the resources of this community. There are so many empowering programs in Oakland that offer so much, and I want to find a way to get students to sign up, even if it's just trying it out for a day. EBAYC, buildOn, AYPAL, Girls Inc, Youth Uprising, Girl's Inc, are just a few names.

Though sometimes these organizations have a hard time spreading the word, or maybe the parents of students do not understand what's being offered due to language barriers or thinking money will be involved. A lot of things are easier said than done, and this happens to be one of them. This is one of the reasons I would like to be part of the OYAC. I'm not the most knowledgeable on the things going around in Oakland, and this is something I would like to change. I want to expand my network and be able to make a change not from just writing about it, but actually taking action. I see the OYAC as a learning and growing opportunity, an opportunity to speak on behalf of my peers. Being apart of a group that can make change, I would want nothing more.

Sincerely, Buna Poeng

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DAVONE RIDDICK

[REDACTED] / davoneriddick510@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE

Fresh Start Café

Summer 2017

2500 Fairmont Drive
San Leandro, CA 94578

- Prepare food
- Assist customers with product selection and queries
- Operate cash register
- Managed shelf stocking and pricing activities

Kevin Grant Foundation

Spring & Summer 2017

P.O. Box 184
San Leandro, CA 94577

- Performed custodial duties & activities
- Supervised children during structured play time
- Maintained and ensured a safe environment
- Attend and participate in staff meetings and trainings

Habit Burger

3121 Crow Canyon Pl
San Ramon, CA 94583

Spring & Summer 2016

- Greet guests and patrons personally
- Present menus and take orders
- Relay orders to the kitchen and ensure all orders are filled in a timely and accurate fashion
- Maintain clean and organized tables and work area
- Manage event related work including setting up tables and maintaining both exterior and interior of the restaurant

EDUCATION

Camp Sweeney Education Center, Graduate, Class of 2017

Del Amigo High School, Fall 2015 – Winter 2016

Berkeley High School, Fall 2013 – Spring 2015

Ile Omode Elementary/Middle School, Fall of 2005 – Spring 2013

VOLUNTEER WORK

Camp Sweeney Freedom School, Scholar Leader

Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Davone Riddick II and I was born in Berkeley and raised in Oakland. I attended both elementary and middle school in East Oakland and attended Berkeley High, after moving back to Berkeley. I have always been active in my community. Since the age of seven I began playing community basketball, football, and ran track & field. I got my first real job when I was sixteen. I worked as a cashier at a burger place for seven months and learned the importance of customer service, hospitality, and diligence.

The main issue I see in my community is unemployed youth because many of the issues that people face are related to the lack of money and resources. Myself for example, in December of 2016 a friend of mine was in financial trouble because she had to leave her art college to care for her ill older sister. She had taken out a lot of student loans in order to pay for school, and was left with that debt after leaving school. We were involved in a robbery in an attempt to get money to help her pay back her loans. I was sentenced to four months in juvenile hall and nine months at Camp Wilmont Sweeney. If those of us involved in the robbery had jobs and a stable source of income, we most likely would not have been tempted to get the money illegally.

I think I could help be a part of the solution through participation on the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission by being the voice of youth who have had similar experiences with the juvenile justice system. I could represent the needs of my peers and youth from similar backgrounds. I could help advise the leaders of our city by pin pointing the things that are not working through the eyes of youth. I could also offer solutions and new strategies for improving the way youth are supported in our city.

I want to see my city become a model for cities around the world of how to support young people to maximize their potential and reach their goals. I personally have plans to attend junior college and transfer to Yale. I want to major in sociology and use my degree to become a high school counselor and football coach.

I would greatly appreciate if I was afforded the opportunity to be a member of OYAC. Hopefully, together we can make a difference in Oakland.

Sincerely,

Davone Riddick

17 OCT -4 PM 3:11

Sepideh Kiumarsi

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Aiming to assist in internal improvements throughout the city of Oakland by understanding the needs of Oakland's youth and by working with a team to create and implement policies that prove to be beneficial.

Skills

- Strong Work Ethic
- Adaptability
- Time Management
- Coordination
- Leadership
- Social Perceptiveness
- Negotiation

Academics

American Indian Public High School-
Oakland, CA
August 2015- Present

- Have maintained a 4.0 unweighted average
- Taken 6 AP classes (World History, United States History, United States Government, Physics, Calculus and English Language and Composition) and plan on taking 4 more AP classes
- Actively take on a leadership role in school activities such as the annual art show

Laney Community College- Oakland, CA
Summer 2016-Present

- Passed 5 community college courses that I am going to transfer to my four year college education. I am currently taking 2 more courses.

Experience

American Indian Model Schools- Assistant
June 2016- July 2016

American Indian Model Schools- Physics
Tutor
August 2016- February 2017

Downtown Berkeley YMCA- Volunteer
January 2014- December 2014

Downtown Berkeley YMCA- Lifeguard 1
October 2016- Present

Honors and Awards

Dean's List
AMC (American Mathematics Competition)
8- 1st Place
DoSomething Scholarship Winner
April Student Of the Month

Languages

English Farsi

Interests

Government | Sustainable | Development |
Gardening | Community Outreach | Writing |

Dear Mayor Schaaf,

Throughout my life, I have accumulated different perspectives which I believe are of great value to the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. As an immigrant, I have a first hand account of what it means to be at a disadvantage and to face discrimination. But I also know that the possibilities are endless, especially in an enterprising town like Oakland. More importantly, I know that Oakland would not be the town it is right now without diversity and a strong network of support that comes from its residents and city-goers. As a student, I know the importance of grasping opportunities and helping others reach their potential as well. I have helped organize several school events, such as the AIMS Annual Art Show, that not only fundraises for school events but also forms a bond between parents and the school.

There are so many students, in my school alone, who are incredibly talented but instead of employing their talents to the benefit Oakland, they often form bad habits. Therefore, we should create an initiative aimed to deploying students to work in the community- helping students stay out of trouble and gain experience while at the same time bettering the community and improving the city's relationship with the people. Art students can, for example, beautify Oakland's walls, students interested in the environment can conserve the parks, and the list goes on and on. Nevertheless, Oakland is a dynamic city that requires an effort on everyone's part and I believe that there is so much untapped potential that can be utilized the benefit the community.

So while I may not reside within Oakland's city limits, the city and its people have graciously welcomed me with open arms and have helped me grow as a person. I would only like to return the favor.

Cordially,
Sepideh Kiumarsi

08/10/2017

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Ericson Arturo Amaya Bonilla, but I am usually referred as "E" to my students, mentors, professors, co workers and friends. I am from Oakland California. The same city that makes headlines of the housing market increasing at an exponential rate, but poverty stains the concrete so vivid it can be seen from the corner of 85th and International. The same city that experience budget cuts for Oakland School Unified School District (OUSD), but Urban Shield was given federal funds a week later to continue its militarized first response tactical team. The same city where youth no older than 10 must be cautious of police presence because wearing black t shirt and blue jeans signifies danger towards our freedom. The same city that raids leave bigger scars to the children who witness their parents being dragged at 4am from the comfort of their home but those images will forever be engraved even if your parent was innocent. The same city where affordable housing is kept at a minimal, but condominiums will soon grow tall as the number of families that are forced to leave Oakland due to its cost of living increasing. Yes, I am from Oakland. A city so beautiful that represents more than a home but a sanctuary. However, with the numerous issues that are knocking at our front doors leaves minimal progress to be made for residents that just want to thrive instead of survive especially when policies are not pushed in their favor.

It's time for a change by allowing more youth to lead the conversation of what is right for the city. Numerous conversation will need to take place in order to start the change to continue, but neglecting these numerous issues that are occurring would not do anything. My background consist of being a student mentor for high school students from Metwest, Coliseum College Prep

Academy, and San Francisco International High School ever since I graduated in 2015. Ageism is a topic that others use to challenge my value and what I will bring to other sites not just for Oakland Youth Advisory Commission (OYAC) because I recently graduated high school and currently continuing my education through college but at the same time I am mentor for students that were a couple months younger than me. However, my work experience beats these odds any day and that age is not a key component especially when the impacts I made for my former students was essential in their success. I can not take all the credit because every member in their community played an essential role but finding their identity, self healing, activism and political awareness workshops is what I work with them to define their capacity of understanding and my ability as a mentor. My experience in hearing them speak to me of what matters especially in their community is essential and when I step in OYAC I am not just bringing my opinions but their too.

I highly believe my experiences from police abuse, domestic violence, witness prison pipelines enforced on others, addiction, deaths, poverty, limited affordable housing, food deserts, community violence, and much more have played a role in bringing me to learn what my community lacks in providing. My community has seen me flourish into the rose I am today but why not put my experience onto the table to start pushing more policies towards our benefit in a legislative platform. I do not have all the answers but with the right emphasis on my involvement I will participate in writing a better narrative for my city. For too long we experience policies that are not in the next generation favor because just being from Oakland is not enough you have to live it. A community can not be helped if we are not putting them first and when I say that I

mean youth because we are not the future we are the present. Thank you for your time and consideration of my application for OYAC.

Sincerely,

E

Daren "DJ" Barron

17 OCT -4 PM 3:11

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
daren.barron2@gmail.com

August 1, 2017

Mayor Schaaf and City Council,

I was born in Columbus, Ohio but raised in the wonderful city of Oakland, CA. I attend Merritt College with a major of Business Administration and plan to graduate fall of 2018 obtaining my associates degree. Soon after; I would like to transfer to a UC, double majoring in Business and in Production with a minor of Theatrical Arts. I have worked for World Conquerors Church for several years starting off as the set-up and set-down crew working my way up to "Director of Video Production."

Youth in my community mostly struggle with physical or cyber bullying. Often I see young people wanting to hurt themselves or thinking of committing suicide because they don't "fit in." Its sad to see this kind of abuse happening in my generation; and I cant help but wonder what we can do 'the people of Oakland' to help prevent this from coming into our schools and community.

I would be a great addition in the Youth Commission. In this generation as a young man I strive for excellence. I was raised in a way of believing that 10 minutes early is being early, 5 minutes early is on time, and on time is late. Everything I place my hands on are done to the best of my ability and more. As a young man seeing my father as an example I've learned to only want excellence for myself.

I am interested in the Youth Commission because I believe they can make a difference in our city. I grew up helping the city of oakland by volunteering at food banks, feeding the homeless, and serving turkey dinners at the women shelter, just to name a few. I enjoy seeing young people unified attempting to make a difference, and I would enjoy nothing more than being apart of an extraordinary team.

Sincerely,

Daren "DJ" Barron

Grecia Palma

17 OCT -4 PM 3:12

Contact: [REDACTED] | Email: [REDACTED]

Objective

To obtain a challenging position in a non-profit environment where my experience and academic resource will add value to an organization.

Core Qualifications

- Bilingual
- Spanish/English
- Data Entry
- Public Speaking
- Event planning and organization
- Peer Advisor
- Outreach and community engagement

Employment Experience

After School Team Leader | June 2017 - July 2017

EBAYC Frick Middle School | Oakland, CA

- Support and supervise a learning team of up to 20 middle school students.
- Prepare to facilitate English and Mathematics homework completion. Provide instruction in enrichment culinary arts class.
- Participate in monthly parent/teacher/students meeting.
- Analyze students attendance, discipline, and academic progress data.

After School Team Leader | August 2016 - June 2017

EBAYC Edna Brewer Middle School | Oakland, CA

- Support and supervise a learning team of up to 20 middle school students.
- Prepare to facilitate English and Mathematics homework completion. Provide instruction in enrichment culinary arts class.
- Participate in monthly parent/teacher/students meeting.
- Analyze students attendance, discipline, and academic progress data.

YMCA of the Central Bay Area | June 2016 - August 2015

DAY CAMP LEADER | Berkeley, CA

- Implement, supervise, instructs and participates in daily activities scheduled for program participants.
- Assist with development, preparation and organization of art and crafts activities, special events and activities within the program area.
- Responsible for the safety and supervision of participants at all times, Assist in the social, mental, and emotional development of the children using values clarification techniques.

After School Team Leader | December 2015 - June 2016

EBAYC Roosevelt Middle School | Oakland, CA

- Support and supervise a learning team of up to 20 middle school students.
- Prepare to facilitate English and Mathematics homework completion. Provide instruction in enrichment culinary arts class.
- Participate in monthly parent/teacher/students meeting.
- Analyze students attendance, discipline, and academic progress data.

Program Assistant | March 2015 — December 2015

EBAYC at Dewey Academy | Oakland, CA

- Assist in the implementation of activities related to student recruitment and registration.
- Facilitate after school programs as needed, Participate in staff development meetings and activities.
- Provide planning and logistical support for special events, including students' showcases and town halls, and parent meetings.
- Responsible for providing day-to-day logistical support to the after school program, monitor students to ensure their physical and emotional safety.
- Student collection and data entry and supplies distribution.

Program Coordinator | April 2015 - June 2015

EBAYC at Dewey Academy | Oakland, CA

- Monitor students to ensure their physical and emotional safety.
- Assist in the implementation of activities related to student recruitment and registration.
- Student collection and data entry and supplies distribution.
- Provide planning and logistical support for special events, including students' showcases and town halls, and parent meetings.
- Facilitate after school programs as needed, Participate in staff development meetings and activities.
- Responsible for providing day-to-day logistical support to the after school program, monitor students to ensure their physical and emotional safety.

2ND AVE PROJECT | January 2015 - April 2016

Oakland Unified School District 2nd Ave Development

<https://2ndaveproject.wordpress.com>

- I participated on a school site and community committee- 2nd Ave. Project which
- recommended and ensured community engagement between the Oakland Unified School Board and the community regarding the future placement of Dewey Academy
- Co-create community values, priorities, and interests in alignment with the Strategic Plan – The Pathway to Excellence
- Use participatory planning methods to co-create renderings of the Educational Leadership Complex

Intern | Jan 2014 — June 2014

Project Reconnect | Oakland, CA

- Translated documents, conversations in English and Spanish.
- Researched Violence prevention strategies for parent's workshop

Intern | Sept 2013 — June 2014

OUSD Dewey Academy—Youth Action Team | Oakland, CA

- Responsible for organizing presentations.
- Conducted presentations for elementary students on violence prevention.
- Assisted coordinator in planning programs, organize materials and assist in overall project production.

Intern | Aug 2013 — June 2014

OUSD Dewey Academy—Leadership | Oakland, CA

- Organized, Planned school functions, including cultural events.

- Researched students code of conduct: Culture, Climate, and Safety on school campus.

Education

Dewey Academy | Oakland, CA

- High School Diploma, Class of 2014
- Paraprofessional/Instructional Assistant Examination
- American Red Cross Standard First Aid CPR/AED

References

Eve Delfin

(209)658-5897

eve.delfin@ousd.org

Brooklyn Williams

(510)928-4656

Msbrooklynwilliams@gmail.com

La Cole Martin

(510)712-5929

lmartin@peralta.edu

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Grecia Palma, but most people know me as Jackie. I came to the United States from Mexico when I was seven years old. I was raised in Atlanta, Georgia until the end of elementary school. By my freshman year in high school I had attended school in Nebraska, Utah, Denver and Kansas, before my family finally moved to Oakland. I attended Oakland High first until transferring to Skyline my sophomore year. By the end of my junior year I was headed to Dewey Academy due to having insufficient credits, and I graduated from Dewey in 2014. My family had to move around a lot because we were experiencing domestic violence due to drug addiction. This experience taught me that I have to break unhealthy cycles and take control of my own destiny. I cannot let negative past experiences determine my future, and it was at Dewey Academy that I learned that I have the power to change my mentality, attitude, and perspective on life. Through my involvement in Student Leadership, Youth Action Team, and a variety of other programs, I honed my natural leadership skills and made progress in my journey of self discovery.

Like me, all young people living in Oakland have a lot of challenges to face on a everyday basis. When it comes to school, I believe there is a disconnect between adults and youth. The disconnect between schools and students starts with the administration of schools not being able to identify with their students. The Oakland community also lacks awareness and trust of institutions and systems. This is due to a number of things, including unsolved crimes and the abuse of power by police. There is a long troubled history between policing and low income communities, and low income communities, and especially youth, are often targeted. Our community should become educated and have the knowledge of our rights and liberties. These rights should be respected and our liberties should not be violated.

The Youth Commission has a huge responsibility to represent the youth of Oakland and I feel like I can be the voice for underrepresented students. I want to give back to my community and make a change with education. I want to be able to advance their knowledge with things that are happening in society and also educate our families and my peers on the important things that we should be aware of. I believe education is very important for everyone to have, and the Youth Commission can help educate both adults and youth.

I think I would be a good addition to OYAC because while working with my peers and adult leaders at school, I exhibited a wide range of skills and abilities that benefited our school tremendously. My attention to detail, creative problem solving, and consistent follow through are just a few examples of my aptitudes. Most importantly, I feel a deep and sincere commitment to my community and the personal development of my peers. I am able to effectively communicate with youth, parents and other adults in our community. As a student leader, I formed meaningful relationships with my classmates and teachers who come from a diverse range of backgrounds, and proved that we all have more in common than we realize. Additionally, I have the ability to learn things quickly and adapt to changing conditions and environments. I care for others in ways that go above and beyond what most people would expect from a young person. I am able to relate to youth and their struggles, and at the same time serve as a positive role model who leads by example.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my application for Oakland Youth Advisory Commission.

Sincerely,

Grecia Palma

