



CITY HALL • ONE CITY HALL PLAZA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

Office of the Mayor
Honorable Sheng Thao

(510) 238-3141
FAX (510) 238-4731
TDD (510) 238-3254

Letter of Appointment

February 20, 2024

Dear President Bas and members of the City Council:

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

Cultural Affairs Commission

Candi Martinez, to serve a three-year term on the Cultural Affairs Commission beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026, filling the seat previously held by Shannon Price.

Mandolyn Ludlum, to serve a three-year term on the Cultural Affairs Commission beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026 filling a vacant seat previously held by Richard Raya.

Olaywa Austin, to serve a three-year term on the Cultural Affairs Commission beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026, filling the seat previously held by Theo Aytchan Williams.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheng Thao".

Mayor Sheng Thao

Profile

Candi J Martinez
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

[Redacted]
Email Address

[Redacted]
Street Address

[Redacted]
Suite or Apt

[Redacted]
City

[Redacted]
State

[Redacted]
Postal Code

What City Council district do you live in?

District 4

[Redacted]
Primary Phone

[Redacted]
Alternate Phone

Self
Employer

Event Producer, Grant Writer
Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Cultural Affairs Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us how your qualifications and participation will relate to the requested board and/or commission's mission.

Greetings, My name is Candi Martinez (she / her). I am an Afro-Indigenous Xicana organizer with an excellent history of community advocacy, fostering equity and uplifting the arts. I have been a resident of Oakland for over 20 years and in the Bay Area for over 30 years and am proud of my contributions to supporting cultural arts through event production, curation, marketing and grant writing.

Please submit your resume or curriculum vitae. You may upload a document. (A Word format is preferred.) Alternatively, you may paste the text of your resume in the field provided below.

[Candi_Martinez_RESUME.pdf](#)
Upload a Resume

Please paste the text of your resume or curriculum vitae below.

Please click the acknowledgement below.

Service on City of Oakland boards, commissions, and committees may require filings of the FPPC's Statements of Economic Interest (Form 700). Upon appointment and determination of filing status, I will comply with all filing obligations.

I Agree *



Candi Martinez

SHE / HER / HERS

I AM PASSIONATE ABOUT EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO HEAL FROM THE HARMFUL IMPACTS OF CAPITALISM AND SYSTEMIC RACISM THROUGH ARTS, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, EDUCATION, JOY AND BELONGING. I AM DEDICATED TO EQUITY, ACCESS AND INTERSECTIONALITY IN ALL ASPECTS OF MY WORK.

CONTACT



Ohlone / Chocheño Territory
Oakland, CA

SKILLS:

PROGRAMMING
FUNDRAISING
OPERATIONS
MARKETING

HUMAN RELATIONS
FACILITATION
COMMUNITY BUILDING
CULTURAL STRATEGIST
EXCELLENT LISTENER
EMPATHETIC

APPLICATIONS:

GOOGLE SUITE
MSOFFICE SUITE
PHOTOSHOP
MAILCHIMP
EVENTBRITE
WORDPRESS
CANVA
ASANA
ZOOM
SQUARESITE

DIGITAL MEDIA
CONSTANT CONTACT

LANGUAGES:

HAWAIIAN: INTERMEDIATE
SPANISH: INTERMEDIATE
ASL : BEGINNINER

WORK EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

East Bay Meditation Center, Oakland, CA
January 2015 - November 2022

Served as Co-Director of Organization within a Shared Leadership Model. Held tenure as the Chief of the Ethics, Reconciliation & Restoration Council. Directed Programming, Marketing, Outreach & Fundraising with a commitment to Disability Justice. Human Relations, Payroll, Graphic Design, Finances & Operations. Stewarded Community Through a Social Justice & Mindfulness Lens.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY & PRODUCTION

Spread Love Media, Oakland, CA
January 2011 - Present

Provide a full suite of Fundraising, Grant Writing, Programming, Production, Curation, Digital Media Strategy and Marketing services to a variety of clients with an emphasis on uplifting non-profit organizations, cultural arts and social justice causes. Dedicated to enhancing and creating equity in communities, creatively securing resources through grant writing, sponsorship development and community partnerships.

SELECT CLIENT LIST:

YouthSpeaks, People's Kitchen Collective, Laurel District Association, Dimond Improvement Association, Montclair Business District, Prescott Circus Theater, Embodiment Project / Intersection for the Arts, Girls in Tech.

CO-DIRECTOR

Laurel Street Fair World Music Festival Oakland, CA
January 2015 - Present

Co-Producer, Chief Publicist, Cultural Strategist, Entertainment Coordinator and Principal Grant Writer. Direct Marketing & Outreach, Serve as Artist Liaison and Cultural Steward to ensure equity and visibility for communities of color practicing traditional art forms.

REFERENCES PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.

Profile

Mandolyn

First Name

Ludlum

Last Name

Middle Initial

[Redacted]

Email Address

[Redacted]

Street Address

[Redacted]

Suite or Apt

[Redacted]

City

[Redacted]

State

[Redacted]

Postal Code

What City Council district do you live in?

District 4

[Redacted]

Primary Phone

[Redacted]

Alternate Phone

Self

Employer

Owner/Artist/Educator

Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Cultural Affairs Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us how your qualifications and participation will relate to the requested board and/or commission's mission.

In these challenging economic and political times, arts and culture remain critical for healing, defining, imagining, creating, and strengthening the City of Oakland and our diverse communities. My myriad of experiences and qualifications make me uniquely qualified to participate as part of the Cultural Affairs Commission, and I am excited at the prospect of being able to contribute to the ongoing arts and culture work in Oakland. I have been involved with the arts and culture for most of my 49 years as an artist, culture creator, culture keeper, advocate, educator, educationalist, mentor, researcher, and business owner. I am most publicly known as a GRAMMY-nominated hip hop artist named Mystic, who explores and centers healing, community, social justice, and the power and beauty of our local and global communities within my music. I was recently inducted into the Bay Area Hip Hop Archives and also honored with a proclamation by Mayor Sheng Thao as one of a group of women artists who have contributed to hip hop culture in Oakland and beyond. Having released an album that year, I remain an active artist and run my own record label here in Oakland. Additionally, I am a Governor on the San Francisco Chapter Recording Academy Board and served last year as a co-chair of the Advocacy Committee. I also sit on the board of Diversify The Stage, which works nationally to diversify who works behind the lights in the music industry. As an educator, educationalist, mentor, advocate, and published researcher on equity in education in connection with policymaking and a researcher on the use of culturally relevant arts education, I am deeply interested in access to the arts and arts education, public art, who and what is recognized and valorized within the creation of culture and arts policy, and the power of arts and culture in connection with social justice and democracy. I have developed and implemented arts curricula and deeply researched policy concerning the arts. I am currently part of the continuing Arts and Humanities Justice Coalition that worked with Congresswoman Barbara Lee's office to craft the Advancing Equity Through the Arts and Humanities Act to address systemic racism through arts and increase equity in funding for organizations and individuals who do this critical work through the arts. This policy work opened up powerful opportunities to advocate for arts and culture funding and artists' rights with Californians for The Arts and the Recording Academy on state and federal levels. I understand Oakland has competing demands in various areas throughout the budget. I also appreciate how complex it can be to navigate various stakeholders. Having the opportunity to use the plethora of knowledge and experiences I have, I can add a valuable voice to the Cultural Affairs Commission to educate and advise local government and the community on affairs pertaining to our city's arts and culture. I am also open to learning what I do not know and working with existing members of the Commission for the most significant benefit of our communities. My love of community and my strengths in research, collective work, advocacy, and a deep understanding of policymaking and public policy will allow me to make valuable additions to the already great work that has been happening. As a Black woman whose life has been guided by and saved by being a participant in the arts and creating culture, I am an emphatic believer that funding and public opportunities for artists and the creation of public and community arts and culture should be available to the most economically vulnerable communities and the most underserved populations and identities. I celebrate the Commission's work, and it would be my honor to be selected for one of the available spaces. I advocate for serving others, and I would love to have the opportunity to serve in this advisory capacity for and with the people of Oakland. Even with the challenges, we are in an exciting time in Oakland in terms of creating a sustainable future and seeking and reimaging new solutions. We can rise to our collective challenges while supporting a thriving arts and culture scene in our city—it is critical to who we are and want to be.

Please submit your resume or curriculum vitae. You may upload a document. (A Word format is preferred.) Alternatively, you may paste the text of your resume in the field provided below.

[Mandolyn Mystic Ludlum Resume Sep 2023.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

Please paste the text of your resume or curriculum vitae below.

Please click the acknowledgement below.

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I Agree *

MANDOLYN “MYSTIC” LUDLUM



Education

University of Oxford, MSc, Education (Comparative and International); Research area: the use of culturally relevant arts education by elementary school educators of color with students of color (October 2019, High Merit)

University of California, Berkeley, B.A., Interdisciplinary Studies; Research areas: international education, poverty and inequality, public policy, and post-Apartheid curriculum reforms (December 2015, Highest Distinctions and Highest Honors)

University of Cape Town (Study abroad, spring semester 2015)

Employment

Beautiful Soundworks

Founder (2021-present)

Duties: Oversee all elements of this record label, including the release of albums, artwork, metadata management, production of music videos, public relations, and social media content

Mystic

GRAMMY-nominated hip hop artist (1996 – present)

Duties: Write and perform musical compositions for movies, soundtracks, and commercial releases. Present motivational and poetry workshops, as well as performances, for youth impacted by poverty or violence. Use performances and platforms to raise funds and advocate for children and youth programs. Topics incorporate health/self-esteem issues, mind/body connections, social justice, and human rights

Hip Hop Caucus

Program Manager for Think 100% Films Division (January 2021 – September 2021)

Duties: Develop organizing strategies that maximize the reach and impact of films; build strategic alliances with organizations and communities; Collaborate and coordinate across HHC departments roll-outs, campaigns, and projects research and measure the impact of films in connection with organizing campaigns; manage vendors for production and post-production partners; oversee film festivals and associated organizing campaigns; assist with grant deliverables; assist with special projects as requested by the Executive Director

Project Manager for Think 100% Films Division (August 2020 – October 2020)

Duties: Coordinate the post-production process for films, which includes managing the flow of editing, motion graphics, color correction, legal, and various other participants in the post-production process

Redwood Day

X-Care Kindergarten Staff and Lower School Substitute, K-5th (February 2018 – June 2018; October 2019 – January 2021)

2019-2021 Duties: Lead teacher for kindergarten program; design and facilitate arts, science, and cultural programming for kindergarten and first grade; provide outdoor activity and supervision support; mentor other teachers with culturally relevant and arts programming development; point of contact for parents

2018 Duties: Design and facilitate programming for K-5th (with an emphasis on K-2nd); provide outdoor activity and supervision support; work with the kindergarten team, and assist with supervision of students as needed

The People's Conservatory

Executive Assistant (September 2019 – May 2020)

Duties: Assist with general office responsibilities, organizational procedure development, accounts payable and

receivable, communications, funding development, grant deliverables, teaching artists' office needs, and day-to-day demands and special projects as determined by the Executive Director

Roses in Concrete Community School

Substitute Teacher, K-6th (September 2017 – June 2018)

Lunch Monitor (January 2018 – June 2018)

Duties: Prepare and serve breakfast and lunch, account for students and food components served through the use of the My Mealtime cafeteria program, prepare snacks, and be of general support to the well-being of students during mealtimes

Universal Music Group

e-Commerce and Mobile Operations (April 2008 – July 2013)

Integration Specialist

Duties: Metadata review, management, and tracking across various global systems; liaison for Associated Labels; preparing digital releases for Associated Labels; and special projects as needed for the Director and Assistant Director

Service

Oakland Roots Sports Club, Community Advisory Board member (2023 - present)

Western States Arts Federation, California Delegate, Arts Leadership and Advocacy Seminar (2023)

Arts and Humanities Justice Coalition member and co-author of HR 7627, *Advancing Equity through Arts & Humanities Act* (2022 – present)

Eisenhower Foundation and Universal Hip Hop Museum, panelist, *1968 Kerner Commission and Healing Our Divided Society, Our Fifty-Year Update of the Kerner Commission* (September 2022)

Music Forward, scholarship reader and industry expert (2021- present)

Recording Academy, SF Chapter Board Advisor, Governor, previous Co-Chair of Advocacy Committee (2021 – present)

GRAMMY U, mentor (2021 – present)

Diversify The Stage, Board member and mentor (2020 – present)

2020 Conference, administration, youth empowerment and capacity building facilitator (2018, 2019)

Hip Hop Caucus, organizer, representative, Bay Area Leadership Coordinator (2007 – 2021)

Roses in Concrete Community School, classroom and front office support (2015 – 2017)

#SchoolsNotPrisons, performing artist and co-facilitator of youth roundtables (2016)

Students' Health and Welfare Centers Organization, math, literacy, and arts facilitator (Spring 2015, South Africa)

Haiti Support Project, Ambassador of Hope for Haiti (2012 – present)

Young Empowered Women, youth mentor, and arts facilitator (2012 – 2013)

Research

Equity and Education: An Exploration of International Policymaking (Published 2016)

<https://doi.org/10.5070/B3291030058>

Skills and Talents

- Child and youth development and leadership
- Culturally relevant and social justice arts curriculum design
- Classroom management
- Project administration and management
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Qualitative research

Profile

Olaywa _____ K _____ Austin _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

Email Address

Street Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

What City Council district do you live in?

None Selected

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Oakland Black Pride _____
Employer

Chief Executive Officer _____
Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Cultural Affairs Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us how your qualifications and participation will relate to the requested board and/or commission's mission.

I am a retired U.S. Air Force Medical Technician, Business Owner and an Oakland native with a demonstrated history of cultivating environments and supporting platforms that are dedicated to improving the lives of Black people, Youth and LGBTQ communities through cultural education, design and social innovation. I served a Tour of Duty during Desert Storm/Desert Shield; after returning to California, became a Case Manager for Mather, a former Air Force based converted into a Community Campus for Employment and Rehabilitative Transitional Housing Program. I sought nuanced solutions to reach my clients and incorporated Creative Arts programming and Career Development in my case management work with addicts, HIV/HEPc individuals and formerly incarcerated. Mather was awarded the Best Transitional Housing Program in the Nation, by President Bill Clinton. Mingling the Arts with my work to reach marginalized communities awakened my entrepreneurial spirit. In 2016 I founded TRiBE Oakland a Performing Arts Incubator in West Oakland's Dogtown neighborhood. TRiBE Oakland was quickly embraced by the community, becoming a safe space for gathering and local artistic expression. TRiBE Oakland was nominated for an Oakland Indie Award its first year in business In 2020, I founded Oakland Black Pride, which launched the first Black Pride Festival in the City and channels resources to Black people who self-identify as LGBTQIA in Oakland and the Regional Bay Area.

Please submit your resume or curriculum vitae. You may upload a document. (A Word format is preferred.) Alternatively, you may paste the text of your resume in the field provided below.

Please paste the text of your resume or curriculum vitae below.

About Me: An Oakland native and cultural strategist with a demonstrated history of cultivating environments, developing platforms that are dedicated to improving the lives of Black people and LGBTQ+ communities, through cultural education, design thinking, and social innovation. Contact: [REDACTED]

Practical Experience:

Oakland Black Pride - Founder / CEO 2020 - Present Oakland Black Pride is a nonprofit organization which curates programs and services for the LGBTQOC communities of Oakland and the Regional Bay Area. Our tailored approach seeks nuanced solutions to service the needs of some of the most marginalized members of the LGBTQ+ community. TRiBE Oakland - Founder / Program Director 2016 - 2020 TRiBE Oakland was a Performance Arts Incubator located in the West Oakland, Dogtown neighborhood. Quickly recognized by the community as a safe space for gathering and local artistic expression, TRiBE Oakland was nominated for an Oakland Indie Award its first year in business. Volunteer Experience: The People's Kitchen, Oakland, CA GROW Organization, SF Bay Area AIDS Housing Alliance, Sacramento, CA

Please click the acknowledgement below.

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I Agree *



OLAYWA K. AUSTIN

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

Oakland Black Pride - Founder / CEO

2020 - Present

Oakland Black Pride is a nonprofit organization which curates programs and services for the LGBTQOC communities of Oakland and the Regional Bay Area. Our tailored approach seeks nuanced solutions to service the needs of some of the most marginalized members of the LGBTQ+ community.

TRiBE Oakland - Founder / Program Dir.

2016 - 2020

TRiBE Oakland was a Performance Arts Incubator located in the West Oakland, Dogtown neighborhood. Quickly recognized by the community as a safe space for gathering and local artistic expression, TRiBE Oakland was nominated for an Oakland Indie Award its first year in business.

VOLUNTEER

The People's Kitchen, Oakland, CA

GROW Organization, SF Bay Area

AIDS Housing Alliance, Sacramento, CA

ABOUT ME

An Oakland native and cultural strategist with a demonstrated history of cultivating environments, developing platforms that are dedicated to improving the lives of Black people and LGBTQ+ communities, through cultural education, design thinking, and social innovation.

EDUCATION

Holy Names High School

Oakland, CA

University of Oklahoma

Norman, OK

U.S. Air Force Tech School

Sheppard Air Force Base

Wichita Falls, TX

CONTACT

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

LANGUAGES

English



Spanish



French



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY


CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR SHENG THAO

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS OF CANDI MARTINEZ, MANDOLYN LUDLUM, AND OLAYWA AUSTIN TO THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

WHEREAS, Section 601 of the City Charter provides that members of City boards and commissions shall be appointed by the Mayor subject to confirmation by the affirmative vote of five members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 11323 C.M.S., amended by Ordinance Nos. 11778 C.M.S. and 13561 C.M.S., establishes the Cultural Affairs Commission as a professionally qualified citizen committee responsible for advising the City regarding all matters affecting arts and cultural development in the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 13561 C.M.S. provides that all terms shall commence on October 1 and end on September 30, and for the initial appointment only, four members shall be appointed for a three-year term, four members shall be appointed for a two-year term, and three members shall be appointed for a one-year term, and thereafter, all appointments shall be for three years; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 13561 C.M.S. provides that no person shall be appointed to serve as a member of the Cultural Affairs Commission for more than two consecutive three-year terms plus any initial term of less than two years; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Mayor Sheng Thao has appointed Candi Martinez, Mandolyn Ludlum, and Olaywa Austin to serve on the Cultural Affairs Commission; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That pursuant to City Charter section 601, the City Council hereby confirms the Mayor’s appointments of:

Candi Martinez, to serve a three-year term on the Cultural Affairs Commission beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026, filling the seat previously held by Shannon Price.

Mandolyn Ludlum, to serve a three-year term on the Cultural Affairs Commission beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026 filling a vacant seat previously held by Richard Raya.

Olaywa Austin, to serve a three-year term on the Cultural Affairs Commission beginning October 1, 2023 and ending September 30, 2026, filling the seat previously held by Theo Aytchan Williams.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, JENKINS, KALB, KAPLAN, RAMACHANDRAN, REID, AND
PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

3329326v2/MJM

ATTEST: _____

ASHA REED
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California