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Letter of Nomination

March 17, 2014

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

Dear President Reid and members of the City Council:

Pursuant to City Charter section 601, the Mayor, hereby appoints the following persons as members of the following Board or Commission, subject to the City Council's confirmation:

**YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**Rebecca Dharmapa**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that began July 1, 2012 and will end June 31, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Edward Gray.

**Takai Ginwright**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that will begin July 1, 2012 and will end June 30, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Eric Gant.

**Mahlik Smith**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term as the Mayor's appointee that will begin July 1, 2012 and will end June 30, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Donte Pharr.

**Jamila Coleman**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that will begin July 1, 2013 and will end June 30, 2015 as the District 1 appointee, filling the seat previously held by Bahar Ostedan.

**Eleanor Good**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that will begin November 1, 2012 and will end on October 31, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Lilly Tahmesebi .

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,  
Jean Quan  
Mayor

# Rebecca Dharmapalan

## Summary

1. Committed to medicine as a career.
2. Interested in welfare of children and the ethics of medicine in society.  
<http://www.indiawest.com/news/108-blog-The-Power-of-A-Youthful-Melody--Rebecca-Dharmapalan.html>
3. Passionate about music, singing, and piano.

## Education

Sep 2011 - Present

### **Oakland School for the Arts**

Downtown Oakland

10-12 grade

Rebecca attends Oakland School for the Arts in Downtown Oakland. She is a Vocal and Instrumental Music major.

Sep 2010 - May 11

### **Head Royce School**

Oakland, California 9 grade

## Volunteer Service

Nov 2012 - Present

### **Volunteer at Oakland Children's Hospital**

Oakland, California Children's Hospital Oakland Grade 11

4 Hours/Week

Total Hours: 70

Rebecca volunteers at the Children's Hospital in Oakland where she had received medical care as a child. She works with young patients during their care and recovery at the hospital.

May 2011 - Present

### **Children's Hospital Benefit Concert- Notes and Words**

Oakland, California

Children's Hospital Oakland

Rebecca opened Notes and Words concert with her rendition of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mllj1uSucmbo>

## **Extracurricular Activities**

Mar 2013 - Present

**Authoring a Children's book - "Hand in Hand"**

10 Hrs/Week

Rebecca is currently writing a children's picture book on the global empowerment of girls through education.

Jan 2002 – Present

Rebecca has played piano for 12 years. She focuses on classical piano, as well as contemporary songs. She recently completed all three movements of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata.

Jan 2003-2009

San Francisco Girls Choir Intermediate and Piedmont Choir Advanced. Currently working with a private voice coach.

## **Awards/Certificates**

Feb 2013

**Grand Prize winner of the Girls Impact the World Film Festival**

Grade 11

Rebecca and her partner won Grand Prize at the Girls Impact the World film festival at Harvard University for her documentary "International Boulevard," focused on Commercially Sexually Exploited Minors in Oakland, California. The film festival featured entries from around the world, judged by Nobel Laureates and internationally recognized leaders. [International Boulevard a documentary](#) ; [Oakland Local Article](#) ; [Forbes Article](#)

Jan 2013

**First Place Winner at American Protégé International Vocal Competition.**

Grade 11

First place winner at American Protégé in the genre of Musical Theater. Again performing at Carnegie Hall. "American Protégé is designed for young musicians, actors, singers and dancers on the path to a successful career."

<http://postnewsgroup.com/blog/2013/04/06/sisters-rebecca-rachel-dharmapalan-perform-carnegie-hall/>

Jun 2013

**Second Place Winner at American Protégé International Vocal Competition.**

Grade 12

Second place winner at American Protégé in the genre of Opera. Rebecca will have the honor of performing at Carnegie Hall. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfbjsM-219A>

Feb 2013

**First place winner of The American Fine Arts Festival**

Grade 11

Rebecca won first place for vocal music at the American Fine Arts Festival. She performed her winning Jazz piece along with an opera solo at Carnegie Hall. "The American Fine Arts Festival (AFAF) was established in 2003 by Vladimir Agilin with the objective of promoting musical education and fostering the study and understanding of classical music." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jjLiw78rnjU>

## **Skills/Academic Achievement**

Sep 2011- Present

### **National Honors Society**

Rebecca has been in NHS from her sophomore year till now.

"The National Honor Society (NHS) is a recognition program for high school students in grades 10 through 12 in the United States and in several other countries. NHS honors those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character."

May 2012

### **10<sup>th</sup> Grade Point Average (4.04)**

English II Honors [A]; Spanish I [-A]; Algebra II: [A]; U.S. History [A]; Biology [A]; Music Theory [-A]

### **11<sup>th</sup> Grade Point Average (3.96)**

AP English III [-A]; Spanish II [+B]; Chemistry [A]; TA Freshman English; Pre Calculus [-A]; Music Theory II [A]

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes**

AP Psychology; AP Govn; Econ Honors; Gender Studies and Medicine; AP Calculus; AP English; Theory III.

## **Leadership**

### **Founder of Oakland Youth for Democracy - September 2012**

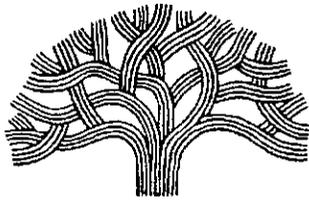
Rebecca is the founder of Oakland Youth for Democracy. to build a coalition of politically conscious young adults and mobilize youth involvement in the upcoming election. displays my dedication to politics and how I think its important for young kids to get involved for our future. <http://postnewsgroup.com/blog/2012/10/12/high-school-students-organize-for-obama/>

### **Oakland Youth Commission - July 2013**

Rebecca is a member of Oakland Youth Commission and serves as a voice for youth by advising the City Council on key policy issues affecting youth. The Commission meets with civic leaders to advocate for youth needs.

### **Student Leadership - Sep 2010 – Present**

Rebecca was in student leadership throughout her 9th, 10th, and 11th grade years. She took the roll as class representative every year. She is currently the Diversity Chair for her school.



# General Application

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

## General Information

Name:	<u>TAKELI GINSWRIGHT</u>		
Address:	_____		
City:	State:	Zip:	
Telephone:	_____		
Cell phone:	_____		
Email:	_____		
School:	<u>Oakland School for the Arts</u>	Year:	<u>2015</u>
Date of Birth:	_____		

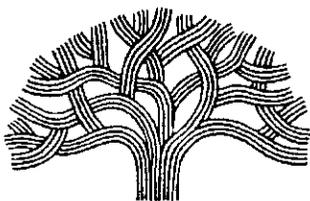
## References

(References can be your teachers, an employer, a school staff member, a community member, a religious leader, etc. The references cannot be a member of your family)

	Reference	Relationship	Phone #
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____

## Emergency Contact Information

Parents/Guardians Print Name:	<u>SHAWN GINSWRIGHT</u>
Phone number(s):	_____
Alternative Contact Name:	<u>NEERA GINSWRIGHT</u>
Phone number(s):	_____



# Commitment Statement

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

## Time Commitment (May be subject to revision)

General Meetings (4-6 hours a month)

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month

Meetings are from 5-7PM and Optional Dinner is from 4-5PM

Committee Meetings (2-4 hours a month)

Set-up according to members' availability

Misc. Work for the Commission (2+ hours a month minimum)

➤ Attend community meetings, complete research, various committee tasks, etc.

Attend a 2 to 4-day mandatory retreat

Attend quarterly 1-day mandatory weekend trainings

\*\*\*\*\*

I, TAKAI (print name), understand the purpose and function of the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. If accepted, I am prepared to fulfill the commitment that is asked of all members. I have discussed the time commitment with my parents or legal guardian, teachers and school administration, sport coaches and other activity directors, employer, and all others who may be affected by my involvement in the Commission. I can make a serious time commitment given my responsibilities.

Signature of Applicant

Date:

10-14-13

I, the parent/legal guardian/significant adult for Takai Forswright understand the purpose and function of the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. I support her/him in this commitment, and give permission for full participation in all activities and responsibilities pertaining to the duties of a commissioner.

Signature of Adult, if under 18

Date:

10-14-13

# Mahlík Smith

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**Objective** I'm interested in the youth leaders commission program

**Education** [ 2013-2014 ] McClymonds high school Oakland , Ca

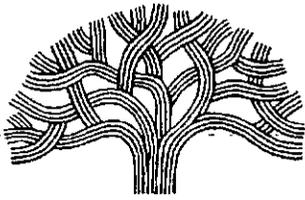
**Interests and activities** Sports

**Volunteer experience** Olivet Outreach program

**References** Teachers , ministers , and coaches

**Extracurricular activities** Basketball , Baseball

**Summary of qualifications** [ 2013 , every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday ]Olivet institutional Outreach program  
**Server and volunteer service**



# General Application

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

## General Information

Name:	<u>Mahlík Smith</u>		
Address:	_____		
City:	State:	Zip:	
Telephone:	_____		
Cell phone:	_____		
Email:	_____		
School:	<u>McClymonds</u>	Year:	<u>2015</u>
Date of Birth:	_____		

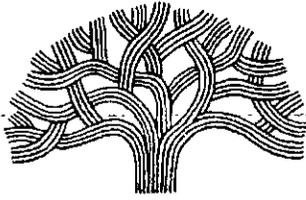
## References

(References can be your teachers, an employer, a school staff member, a community member, a religious leader, etc. The references cannot be a member of your family)

Reference	Relationship	Phone #
1. <u>Dr. Taylor</u>	<u>AP English teacher</u>	_____
2. <u>Ms Hamberlin</u>	<u>Principal</u>	_____

## Emergency Contact Information

Parents/Guardians Print Name:	<u>Terri A. Love</u>
Phone number(s):	_____
Alternative Contact Name:	<u>Jean Love</u>
Phone number(s):	_____



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2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month

Meetings are from 5-7PM and Optional Dinner is from 4-5PM

Committee Meetings (2-4 hours a month)

Set-up according to members' availability

Misc. Work for the Commission (2+ hours a month minimum)

➤ Attend community meetings, complete research, various committee tasks, etc.

Attend a 2 to 4-day mandatory retreat

Attend quarterly 1-day mandatory weekend trainings

\*\*\*\*\*

I, Manlik (print name), understand the purpose and function of the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. If accepted, I am prepared to fulfill the commitment that is asked of all members. I have discussed the time commitment with my parents or legal guardian, teachers and school administration, sport coaches and other activity directors, employer, and all others who may be affected by my involvement in the Commission. I can make a serious time commitment given my responsibilities.

Signature of Applicant

[Handwritten Signature]

Date: 10-2-13

I, the parent/legal guardian/significant adult for Manlik Sutt understand the purpose and function of the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. I support her/him in this commitment, and give permission for full participation in all activities and responsibilities pertaining to the duties of a commissioner.

Signature of Adult, if under 18

[Handwritten Signature]

Date: 10-2-13

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Mayor Jean Quan  
1 Frank Ogawa  
Oakland, CA 94607

Jamila Coleman

Dear Mayor Jean Quan and City Council Members:

My name is Jamila Coleman, I'm sixteen years of age and I will be attending Holly Names High school this fall as a senior.

I'm presently a member of the 100 Black Women Positive Steps Program, and the Second Vice-President for the Imani Youth Council for the (NAACP) National Advancement Association for Colored People. I recently had the pleasure in meeting Mayor Jean Quan when she attended the (NAACP) press release last month for Travon Martin.

I am interested in being a part of the legislative process and making a change because I believe many hands make great works. To address a few issues concerning our community and youth's: I feel that the youths in our community have a hard time focusing and staying in school due to outside influences, such as violence, drugs and lack of schools that offers them good education. I also feel that there is not enough youth involvement with in our community. If we are able to get more youths involved, we could help make a change within our society.

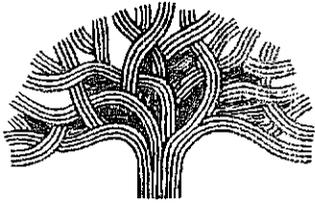
Being a part of the Junior Commission to me means; taking an oath, come up with resolutions, talking to public officials, expressing our concerns regarding youth issues and offering solutions to the conflicts in our community. My suggestions would be to propose more community meetings where we can discuss our concerns, and as a team, come up with solutions to overcome the issues that are present in Oakland.

I feel that I would be a great asset to the Junior Commission because I learned over the years how to interact well with people on all levels by speaking more than one language, I have learned how to make commitments and see them through, I have learned how to listen and follow other great leaders to developed good leadership skills, and I have learned how to stand and fight for people civil rights as the new Vice-President of the Imani Council of the Oakland (NAACP) Chapter.

My ultimate education and career goal is to attend a University to study law and become a FBI agent where I will take me oath seriously to protect and serve my community in which I live.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I'm looking forward to your favorable reply.

Sincerely,  
Jamila Coleman



# General Application

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

## General Information

Name:	Eleanor Good		
Address:	_____		
City:	State:	Zip:	
Telephone:	_____		
Cell phone:	_____		
Email:	_____		
School:	Holy Names High School	Year:	class of 2015 (11th grade)
Date of Birth:	_____		

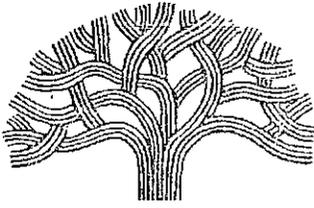
## References

(References can be your teachers, an employer, a school staff member, a community member, a religious leader, etc. The references cannot be a member of your family)

	Reference	Relationship	Phone #/email
1.	Deborah Decoudreaux	Teacher & Play Director	
2.	Kiran Jain	Family Friend	

## Emergency Contact Information

Parents/Guardians Print Name:	CORA Luttrell
Phone number(s):	_____
Alternative Contact Name:	James Good
Phone number(s):	_____



# Commitment Statement

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

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Committee Meetings (2-4 hours a month)

Set-up according to members' availability

Misc. Work for the Commission (2+ hours a month minimum)

> Attend community meetings, complete research, various committee tasks, etc.

Attend a 2 to 4-day mandatory retreat

Attend quarterly 1-day mandatory weekend trainings

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I, Eleanor Good (print name), understand the purpose and function of the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. If accepted, I am prepared to fulfill the commitment that is asked of all members. I have discussed the time commitment with my parents or legal guardian, teachers and school administration, sport coaches and other activity directors, employer, and all others who may be affected by my involvement in the Commission. I can make a serious time commitment given my responsibilities.

Signature of Applicant

Eleanor Good

Date:

1/27/14

I, the parent/legal guardian/significant adult for Eleanor Good, understand the purpose and function of the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. I support her/him in this commitment, and give permission for full participation in all activities and responsibilities pertaining to the duties of a commissioner.

Signature of Adult, if under 18

[Signature]

Date:

1/27/14

2014 MAR 20 AM 9:18

**DRAFT**  
Approved as to Form and Legality

City Attorney's Office

**OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

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**RESOLUTION APPOINTING REBECCA DHARMAPA, TAKAI GINWRIGHT,  
MAHLIK SMITH, JAMILA COLEMAN, ELEANOR GOOD AS MEMBERS OF THE  
OAKLAND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Youth Advisory Commission was created by Ordinance No.10545 C.M.S., adopted February 5, 1985, amended by Ordinance No. 11461, passed June 23, 1992, and amended by Ordinance No. 11869, passed March 12, 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, the Youth Advisory Commission is comprised of Twenty-Five youth from ages 13 to 21, appointed by the Mayor and Council, one to represent each Council District and the remaining eighteen to serve as at-large members, with all appointments being for a period of two years, with a limit of two consecutive terms; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the Youth Advisory Commission is to identify the needs of youth of the community from the ages of 13 to 21, thereby creating citizen awareness of such needs and serving as the policy recommending body for civic/education-related matters within the jurisdiction of the City of Oakland in which youth have an interest, and

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Mayor Jean Quan has appointed the following individuals for the terms set forth below:

**Rebecca Dharmapa**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that began July 1, 2012 and will end June 31, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Edward Gray.

**Takai Ginwright**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that will begin July 1, 2012 and will end June 30, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Eric Gant.

**Mahlik Smith**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term as the Mayor's appointee that will begin July 1, 2012 and will end June 30, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Donte Pharr.

**Jamila Coleman**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that will begin July 1, 2013 and will end June 30, 2015, filling the seat previously held by Bahar Ostedan.

**Eleanor Good**, Mayoral appointment to serve a two year term that will begin November 1, 2012 and will end on October 31, 2014, filling the seat previously held by Lilly Tahmesebi .

**RESOLVED**, that pursuant to City Charter section 601, the City Council hereby confirms the Mayor's appointment of Rebecca Dharmapa, Takai Ginwright, Mahlik Smith, Jamila Coleman, Eleanor Good and reappointment of Seydina Seck, and Bryce Showes to the terms set forward above.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

**AYES – KALB, PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN, MCELHANEY, SCHAAF, GALLO,  
BROOKS, REID, AND KAPLAN**

**NOES –  
ABSTENTIONS-  
ABSENT-**

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
**LATONDA SIMMONS**  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California