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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

January 26, 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

Kamar Nelson, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began November 1, 2016 and will end October 31, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Adrienne Siebert.

Roxana Perez, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Paul Michael Irvin.

Abel Regalado, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Marquis Smith.

Natalie Dharmapalan, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Sydney Nguyen.

Kian Nouri, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2015 and will end June 30, 2017, filling the seat previously held by Jowena George

Rahma Mahdi, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Munirah Harris.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Libby Schaaf Mayor



17 JAN 26 PM 3: 02 General Application City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

General Infor	mation					
Name:	KAMAR -	TAMER	NEI	5010		
Address:	•					
City:	OAKLAWD	State:	CA	Zip:	94612	
Telephone:			1			
Cell phone:						
Email:			•			
School:	DAKLAND 1	- U 416H		Year:	2016-2017	
Date of Birth:	OAKLAND 1	25, 20	02			
References						
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(References can be religious leader, et	•			of your fam		mber, a
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Commitment Statement

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

1 me Communent (May be subject to revision)

General Meetings (4-6 hours a month)

2nd and 4th 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, White New (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. Kamar Nelsan Signature of Applicant Date: I, the parent/legal guardian/significant adult for Karnay Mkon 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. : 10/24/16 Signature of Adult, if under 18 Date:

MILED OFFICE OF THE GITY CLERK OAKLAND

17 MN 26 ml & Camar Nelson. I am from Oakland CA and currently attending oakland high school. My favorite subject are math and biology because you need math because it all around you and i like biology because i just like to study life and cells. Since the summer of 2009 I have participated in community service project through my uncle nonprofit program we lead ours. I am currently playing football for the bay area seminoles the pushion I play is carner.

The issues and problems facing youth are that many youth re on their phones too much. This is a problem because we don take the time to see what is around us. We could be on our phones and not paying attention to our surroundings and walk across the street and have an accident. Also, we don attention in class and so we end up dropping out or getting bad grades.

I would address the cell phone issue in youth council by see if the can try to block everything non school related. This would help because more people could then focus on their work.

I would be a great addition to the youth council because I have good ideas for the future. I also have a great personality and I am easy to get along with. I am interested in joining because I want to be a part of the changes in the city of Oakland.

I think it is important for youth to participate in local government because they're too much stuff going on that know one see. i would like become a member of the city of Oakland youth advisory commission because I want to make change in oakland.

After I graduate from high school I want to be an engineer. I plan to join Project Lead the Way and focus on engineering during high school. I am interested in building and inventing new projects.

Thank you, KAMAR NELSON

Kamar Nelson

Objective: To become an engineer

Work Experience

We lead ours - 510 484 3260

- XXXXXXXXXX

2016

Public service

Education

Currently in 9th Grade

Previously Attended

Oakland High School, Oakland, California James Madison, Oakland, California

Alliance Academy, Oakland, California

Skills and Talents

- · Strong math and analytical skills
- · Team player; works well with others
- · Independent worker; self-disciplined
- · Creative thinking skills
- · Responsible; good management skills
- · Time management and organizational skills

Achievements and Awards

- Most athletic
- · Most likely to succeed in 6 grade



General Application

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

General Into	rmation				
Name:	Roxana Pere	7			
Address:					
	State		Zip:		
City:	Oakland Califo	ornia	94605		
Telephone:					
Cell phone:					
Email:	11@	•1			
School:	Aspire Golden Stat	e Prep	Year: 11th		
Date of Birth:	May 30th ,2000				
religious leader, e	etc. The references conferences conference	employer, a school sta annot be a member o Relationshi employer manager	of your family)	Phone #	oer, a
Emergency (Contact Informa	ation	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	• .	
Parents/Guardi	ans Print Name:	Araceli Lima			
Phone number(s):				
Alternative Cor Phone number(Jose Hernandez	. ,		

. Roxana Perez Objective

Experience

Babysitter (2011- present)

- Supervised homework.
- Prepared children's meals.
- Babysat children ages from 1yr -13yrs old
- Volunteer at EOYDC (present)

Volunteering at Elementary to mentor (2011-2014)

- Assisted students in beginning writing skills
- Assisted students in math
- Helped students read word by word

Community Involvement & Activities

Local Churches (2008-2010)

• Worked 4hours per week to clean the patio & broom inside the church

Local Libraries (2010-2014)

Assisted in organizing books & keep library clean

Sports

- Soccer coach assistant (2014-present)
- Girls soccer team captain (2014-present)
- Volleyball resource manager (2015-present)
- Junior coach leader(2009-2010)

Community

Meeting with the mayor

- Breaking Bread To The Community
- Brotherhood across America

Programs

- Youth Uprising (2014-2015)
- Gay Straight Alliance (2015-2016)
- East Oakland Youth Development Center (2015-present)

Education

Currently in High School & taking college classes

- Sociology
- Printmaking
- Beginners painting
- Spanish
- Music

My name is Roxana Perez. I consider myself a very progressive and determine person. I love my city, Oakland, this is the place that I was raised in. I have been involved in my community for this past year by being a youth leader at East Youth Development Center. In EOYDC, I have gained more knowledge about my community and the things that take place in this city. I also met my coach, Sharon Washington, and together we founded this new organization call Breaking Bread In The Community. I am contributing to my community because there is a lot of room for improvement in Oakland.

I started at the East Oakland Youth Development Center as a volunteer where I tutor elementary and middle scholars. Now, I am currently working at the center where I work one on one with children under the age of 13 years old. I tutor them with their homework, participate in enrichment activities with them, and supervise them the entire afternoon. For example, I help them develop arts and music skills, dance moves, and other fun activities. I also help them gain knowledge and develop leadership skills. Throughout my time in that center I have talked to children about life outside the center. Many have expressed their concerns about leaving the center and going home to violence in or outside their homes. This really made me reflect that my children in Oakland don't feel safe at all. What can I do? Affortanently I had the honor to express my conser to the mayor of Oakland about our public safety. I gave her my honest opinion about what certain traits the new police chief should have, but for me this is not enough. I realized that I can not control everyone's negative intentions, but I know that I can prevent violence in my community by becoming part of the Oakland Police Department to serve and protect them.

My passion for helping other specially those in my community have pushed me to try to be more organized. There is so many things I want to accomplish, but I have to do it in an organized form to make sure it works. This idea drived me to The Jefferson Awards. This event is where a variety of organizations come together to receive training on how to conduct productive meetings to make things happened in communities all over the Bay Area. I met people of my age that are as passion as I am. It brought me some comfort knowing that I am not going to be the only one combating violence, dirty streets, homelessness, and other things in my state.

After 2 years of receiving knowledge from The Jefferson Awards, I set my mind to try to focus on one thing and that is to clean our streets. I do not only mean by picking up my trash but help those who live in the streets. I go out at least once a month to hand out clothe, food, water, and hygiene packs that are donated to me by friends and relatives. This does not only helps the homeless but it also allows my friends and family know that they are part of this community and by donating they are also contributing to make positive change happen in Oakland. This is a collaboration with my coach Sharon who has been doing this in Manteca but never came out here in Oakland to serve the less fortunate. We are just starting and once we get more people involved, I will know that I have done my part which in a few years I will be planning my next move to help Oakland become a great city.

I want this city to be a safe environment for the future youth of Oakland. I am starting to make a difference by being part of a youth center and provide food, clothing, and hygiene packs to the less fortunate. I am letting my voice be heard to those who are afraid to speak up. After I finish college, I am more than willing to come back to this city to serve and help my community. I would like to influence others to keep doing the same thing which is to help their neighbor.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND



General Application City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

General Infor	mation	İ			
Name:	Abel Angel Regalac	do			
Address:		-			
City:	Oakland S	State:	CA	Zip:	94601
Telephone:					
Cell phone:	Cell				
Email:					
School:	ARISE High School			Year:	Senior (12th Grade)
Date of Birth:	August 4, 1999 08	3/04/199	9		
References					
(References can be religious leader, et	c. The references car ference	Tea		f your far	er, a community member, a nily) Phone #
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Abel Regalado

EDUCATION

ARISE High School, Oakland, California
Peralta Community College District, Oakland, California
Stanford Programming Academy, iOS Mobile Development
Make School: Summer Academy, iOS Mobile Development

2013 - Present 2014 - Present

Summer 2016

Summer 2016

EXPERIENCE

Oakland Voices, Oakland, California

October 2016 - Present

Correspondent / Journalist

- Attending bi-monthly journalism trainings with East Bay Times journalists
- Preparing and writing about two stories a month within my community in Oakland
- Interviewing community members, and doing research within the community to share the 'untold' stories in Oakland

1st Place ImmersED - Berkeley Business Academy for Youth, University of California, Berkeley

Summer 2016

Participant at UC Berkeley HAAS High School Entrepreneurship

- Developed an authentic business plan for our business idea, ImmersED, to prove maximum revenue and success
- Developed the Product and Service plan detailing the mechanics of technology used in our service
- Presented business plan and proposition to investors at final Business Showcase Competition
- Awarded the Golden Bear: Director's Award for recognition of outstanding work and expectation

Community Technology Network, Oakland, California

October 2015 - June 2016

Digital Literacy Trainer with Ready, Set Connect!

- Attended weekly tech-related professional development workshops throughout a competitive 8-month long program
- Provided quality digital literacy training sessions to community members at local library branches
- Developed bilingual how-to videos based for Library Patrons on creating and using a Gmail Account
- Designed the first website for Ready, Set, Connect! that covered resources for the community, youth-created projects and program outreach to the community, volunteers, and youth

Reyes Party & Event Rentals, Bay Area, California

June 2013 - September 2016

Planning & Catering Event Necessities

- Catering, organizing & coordinating multiple events to be held in short period of time in between
- Maintaining customer satisfaction and identifying customer needs accordingly
- Calculating amount of supplies to be used for events, and making sure there is enough inventory

PROJECTS

- Generated over \$10,000 in revenue for my website development clients by coaching them on managing their business website, and explaining best design and web practices to increase sales and site traffic
- Designed and developed a time management tool app for self organization based on Eisenhower Box.
- Began and founded the 1st Chapter of <u>Hack Club</u> in ARISE High School, and in Oakland, CA. My main role is to organize weekly meetings, teach and mentor students to code.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Hack Club at Arise High School, Oakland, California

<u>Club President</u>

September 2015 - Present

- Implementing the first Computer Science Coding Club at ARISE
- Facilitating weekly meetings on coding and building websites
- Preparing curriculums and agendas for weekly meetings
- Mentoring members on various coding and technology opportunities

Hack The Hood, Oakland, California

June 2015 - August 2015

Web Designer

- Met with clients to discuss their website's vision and purpose
- Prepared a designed site framework, showing the website's structure and its' functionality
- Decided which branding, text, colors and backgrounds to use
- Uploaded the site to a server for publication online

Dear Mayor Schaaf and City Council,

My name is Abel Regalado, I am an Oakland native and a senior at ARISE High School. I grew up in East Oakland classrooms throughout my lifetime, and like many youth in my community I grew up through adversity. In my case, during my freshman year my father abandoned my family, I was able to overcome this gruelling depression and struggle through education – a family of educators at ARISE High School, and a plethora of community resources and programs. My resilience and dedication to pursue a higher education and contribute to my community allowed me to be selected for Students Rising Above Class of 2017. Since I overcame this family struggle, I found my purpose and passion: to gain insights on computer science and share my knowledge with my community. I am now dedicated to giving back to my community through the magic of computer science and social justice.

As a student-leader at ARISE and a leader in my community, I have witnessed youth in my community to be affected by traumatic life/family experiences like my own, and the environment or school they are in prevents them from receiving the support they need. In addition, I have seen youth and my community as a whole, disconnected from the tech environment prospering in our city. Like my school, students lack computer science exposure and it takes organizations and leaders like me to start coding clubs or computer science classes in our schools. Companies like Uber and Google are coming to our city, but it is important for our youth to be involved because if not us, then who will take the engineering jobs at these companies?

I see myself as a great fit for the Oakland Youth Advisory Commision because I will implement my leadership and work with other like-minded youth and leaders in our city. I am excited to work with the commission to create more opportunities and growth for youth of Oakland. Now, more than ever, youth in Oakland need hope because the new president of our country does not provide hope for youth like us. Instead, Oakland needs more youth representation who understand problems that youth undergo, and ways of solving these problems. Participating in OYAC will be a great opportunity for me to develop my leadership, and fulfil my desire to serve my community and my city who has offered me much more.

It is my aspiration to attend the best higher education programs that fit my interests in Computer Science and Entrepreneurship. I seek to attend UC Berkeley's new MET Program, where I will double major in Computer Science and Business Management. This will allow me to create software, and start my own companies, startups and nonprofits. I envision myself coming back to my community in Oakland and start organizations that will bridge the tech divide affecting my community.

These are just some of my dreams, aspirations and participating in Oakland Youth Advisory Commision will allow me to pursue my goals to serve my community.

All the best, Abel Regalado, 01/03/2017.

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Natalie Devani Dharmapalan

St Paul's Episcopal School - 7th Grader GPA: 3.8

VOLUNTEERING:

Elderly Home: we talk and sing to the elderly to keep them engaged and happy.

Cleaning Lake Merritt: We spend time at the lake cleaning up the shores after the rains when there is runoff.

Interests:

Cooking, dancing, playing sports (volleyball, Basketball, and I love to do science experiments,

Activities:

NewStyle Motherlode Dance studio 2010-present St Paul's Basketball Team 2015-present Core Elite Club Volleyball Team 2016-present

General Application City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

Natalie Dharmapalan

Oakland, Ca 94610

St Paul's Episcopal School - Oakland 2017

DOB: 12/24/2003

My name is Natalie Dharmapalan. I'm 13 years old and in 7th grade at St Paul's Episcopal school in Oakland. My extra curricular activities include Volleyball on a club team, I dance and I play basketball and volleyball for my school team.

We have several issues in our city that I feel we as the youth council can address. I feel all schools is Oakland should be more involved in helping others in our community, such going and volunteering at the homeless shelters. We have a huge homeless problem in our city and it is getting bigger with the growth of our city's population. This will keep us connected to how all populations in our city are doing.

I think we should also discuss are the playgrounds in Oakland. I think the parks should be cleaned more often, I've seen many parks in Oakland where there is trash all over and other hazards like needles. This becomes a very unsafe place for our children to play.

My final issue is not having enough affordable camps for children in the summer and after school when their parents have full time jobs. Either the camp is too expensive or the hours aren't long enough to accommodate working parents schedules. If our kids have a safe place to be afterschool it will keep them out of trouble.

The way I would begin to address these issues if to first write up the problem and a possible solution. I would discuss with the other members of the youth council to get more information. WE could them brainstorm ideas and solutions together as a team.

I feel would a great addition to the youth council because I will work hard to make Oakland a better place for our youth to be raised in. I was born and raised in Oakland and I feel a special bond to our city. I wont give up until I've solved the issue. With both my older sisters Rebecca and Rachel Dharmapalan on the Youth Council as Chairwomen, I feel I have great role models and I hope to follow in their footsteps.

My dream high school is Bishop O'Dowd. I feel I will get a great education and they have good sport teams. As an athlete I feel they will support my interests and education goals.

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 # Pebecca teacher Carmona Susan teacher POYTER

st. Paul's Episcopal School - Dallend

Emergency Contact Information

Parents/Guardians Print Name: Ja Uzie Dharmapalan
Phone number(s):
Alternative Contact Name: Jonathan Dharmapalan

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)

2rd and 4th 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' availabili

Misc. Work for the Commission (2+ hours a me

> Attend community meetings, comple

Attend a 2 to 4-day mandatory retreat

Attend quarterly 1-day mandatory weekend trainings



ee tasks, etc.

Natalle I, Dharmafalar (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: Matalie Dhamaphu 12/29/16.
I, the parent/legal guardian/significant adult for Attan MARAM 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: [JACKIE DHARMAPALAN]
(JACKIE DIIII



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General Application City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

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General Info	rmation				
Name:	\	Kinn N	OUNT	***************************************	
Address:	K				
City:	oux lang	State: LA	Zip:	44611	
Telephone:					
Cell phone:					
Email:		•	^		
School:	Bishop	Odowa	Year;	2018	
Date of Birth:	•	11499			<u>U</u>
	your teachers, an er			a community m	nember, a
	eference	Relations	··· 	Phone	#
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2. Jahre	ilaher	mend	or		
Emergency C	ontact Informa	tion			
Parents/Guardia	ans Print Name:	. Kar	t Noh	V;	
Phone number(s):				
Alternative Cor	ntact Name:	1600	bo he	PWV.	
Phone number(s):	٠.			,



Commitment Statement

City of Oakland's Youth Advisory Commission

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> 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, Kin Non Ky (print name), understand the purpose and function of	f the Oal	kland Youth
Advisory Commission. If accepted, I am prepared to fulfill the commitment	that is a	sked of all
members. I have discussed the time commitment with my parents or legal g	uardian,	teachers and
school administration, sport coaches and other activity directors, employer,	and all c	others who may
be affected by my involvement in the Commission. I can make a serious tim responsibilities.	e comm	itment given my
Signature of Applicant	Date:	11/14/ Le
I, the parent/legal guardian/significant adult for Kink Non V under	rstand th	ne purpose and
function of the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission. I support her/him in	this con	nmitment, and
give permission for full participation in all activities and responsibilities per	taining t	o the duties of a
commissioner.		
Signature of Adult, if under 18	Date:	,

Resume

Name: Kian Nouri

Phone number:

Address:

ilc

Schools attended: Hillcrest middle school, Bishop odowd High school

Job experience: employee at modern twist

Volunteer work: camp Krem, sunny side elderly home, Francophone academy

Awards: Digital music excellence

Hobbies and passions: music

Hi my name is Kian Nouri and I am an 11th grader from bishop O'Dowd high school in Oakland and I want to make a change in my community. I have grown up in Oakland all my life and attended Oakland public schools every year until I started high school and was blessed enough to go to a private school. Both of my parents immigrated alone at 16 and 18 years old from Iran to the bay are during the revolution that tore the country they loved apart. My parents both ended up finding a way to attend the university of California Berkeley, even though the odds were highly against them due to the lack of parental supervision for a lot of they're teenage and young adult life's. My parents both now own their own companies and have inspired me to take initiative in life and be person I aspire to be. Since I was two years old I have been apart of an Iranian community center and this has inspired me to want to have a word as a youth in the city of Oakland. I have found a passion in getting my word and the youths ideas out and trying to take control of our lives. The city of Oakland faces a lot of adversity and to many outsiders is seen as a bad place but I want to help FILED
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OAKLAND

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Rahma Mahdi

Oakland, CA 94611

An Oakland native committed to social justice within her community and the greater Bay Area.

EXPERIENCE

Oakland Public Library, Oakland Ca — Youth Advisory Board Member

AUGUST 2015 - PRESENT (1 YEAR & 5 MONTHS)

I serve on the Teen Advisory Board at Rockridge Public Library. My position on the board has granted me a platform regarding teen accessibility, homelessness and educational opportunities.

- Worked on social policies for the library regarding internet access and gaming consoles in after school program
- Gained an outlook on the centrality of the library for urban, low-income students of color and educational equity in public spaces.
- Focused on teen accessibility of the overall library, after school programs, and improving the "Teen Zone" in Rockridge Library.
- Honed my analytical/critical skills in the field of public policy.

Peralta Colleges, Berkeley Ca — Public Relations and Marketing Assistant

NOVEMBER 2015 - APRIL 2016 (6 MONTHS)

Served as a liaison for faculty and staff with regards to social media platforms used by students. Assisted students in locating the different utilities on campus and enrollment via phone. Updated website and various social platforms about school events. Also worked heavily with Microsoft Office, Microsoft Outlook, and Google Does:

- Coordinate and maintain communication with faculty to advertise a variety of events at such as presentations, teach-ins, and meetings
- Developed institution's brand through promoting events via social media
- College recruitment through social media promotion and campaigns
- Maintained content for social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

AWARDS

Regents' and Chancellor's Scholarship:

UC Berkeley's most prestigious scholarship offered to the top 1.5% of undergraduates out of 100,000+ applicants. At just 17 years old, I was picked as one of the few Regent's Scholars (50 in total) to transfer from community college as a 3rd year to the #1 public university in the world. UC Berkeley faculty support the scholarship through conducting interviews for prospective scholars during the selection process and through mentoring the scholars during their undergraduate careers.

Peralta Colleges Foundation Scholar's

Award: While attending Peralta Colleges at the age of 16, I received this academic award. This is a \$1,000 scholarship awarded once per year in the Fall for academic excellence.

Recognition for Work: As a volunteer at the Rahmah Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in the Bay Area, I was awarded for my work with Muslim youth during the school year.

Academic Honor Roll: Academic honor roll is given to those with recognition of academic excellence through maintaining a grade point average of 3.75 or higher.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Dear Mayor Schaaf & City Council,

My path through higher education started at 13 years old in an American History course at College of Alameda, a community college in the Peralta District. Two years later I would graduate from high school, summa cum laude and by sixteen, I would petition for my first Associate's Degrees while simultaneously applying to UC Berkeley as a transfer student. At seventeen, I am now starting my first year as a Regent's and Chancellor's Scholar and a junior at the #1 public university in the world. In this letter, I hope to address why I am a strong and passionate candidate for the youth commissioner vacancy.

My Oakland upbringing has shaped my identity and my path throughout higher education. While serving on Oakland Public Library's Teen Advisory Board, I found that libraries function as a hangout zone for Bay Area youth. The library serves as a borderland between school and home. Hence, my work on the Teen Advisory Board has focused on teen accessibility, after school programs, and improving the "Teen Zone" in Rockridge Library. A public library sandwiched between Technical High School, Claremont Middle School, and Oakland International High School. I have previously worked on social policies for the library regarding internet access and gaming consoles in after school programs. My experience has given me an outlook on the centrality of the library for urban, low-income students of color and has spiked my passion for educational equity in public spaces. Hopefully, by focusing on research within the field of public policy, I can further my studies regarding education and grow my analytical/critical skills.

Volunteering at the Rahmah Foundation, a non-profit organization, I worked with Muslim women to create an inclusive space for Muslim girls to discuss their experiences at school and other social areas. Together we hosted an after school program where K-8 school girls didn't have to fear to bully for wearing the hijab i.e. the Islamic headscarf or having a "weird" sounding name. Experiences that are common in public schools. As a group mentor, I lead various activities that focused on self-empowerment. My volunteer work at the after school program represents my passion for social activism and advocacy.

As I continue to push for safe spaces for Muslim youth, I hope to add my own unique experience as a Black Muslim to the larger discourse of education and public policy. In the future, I hope to create policies that humanize diversity in schools including but not limited to, curriculum that reverses the prejudice taught about racial minorities outside of the classroom but commonplace within the classroom. As a youth commissioner, I will broaden my work not just to volunteering but also civic engagement and policy proposals. In the future, I hope to be an agent of change for the underserved communities of my beautiful city, Oakland.

Sincerely,

Rahma Mahdi

Political Science, Regents & Chancellor's Scholar Class of 2018 | University of California, Berkeley OFFICE OF THE GITY CLERE OAKLAND

17 JAN 26 PM 3: 04

Approved as to Form and Legality

MMMM

City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY MAYOR LIBBY SCHAAF

RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF KAMAR NELSON, ROXANA PEREZ, ABEL REGALADO, NATALIE DHARMAPALAN, KIAN NOURI AND RAHMA MAHDI AS MEMBERS OF THE 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 confirmed by the City 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 Libby Schaaf has appointed Kamar Nelson, Roxana Perez, Abel Regalado, Natalie Dharmapalan, Kian Nouri and Rahma Mahdi to the Oakland Youth Advisory Commission for the terms set forth below; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That pursuant to City Charter section 601, the City Council hereby confirms the following appointments to the Youth Advisory Commission:

Kamar Nelson, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began November 1, 2016 and will end October 31, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Adrienne Siebert.

Roxana Perez, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Paul Michael Irvin.

Abel Regalado, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Marquis Smith.

Natalie Dharmapalan, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Sydney Nguyen.

Kian Nouri, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2015 and will end June 30, 2017, filling the seat previously held by Jowena George.

Rahma Mahdi, Mayoral appointment to serve a two-year term as an At Large appointee that began July 1, 2016 and will end June 30, 2018, filling the seat previously held by Munirah Harris.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:_____LATONDA SIMMONS

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