

Of the 3,930,065 people who live in Oregon,
759,256 live in Multnomah County

It only takes **ONE** to make a difference.

THAT PERSON CAN BE YOU!

2 0 1 5 / 2 0 1 6

MULTNOMAH YOUTH COMMISSION A P P L I C A T I O N



2 0 1 4 - 2 0 1 5 C o m m i s s i o n M e m b e r s

BAKER CHARTER WEB SCHOOL • Avery Carr • **BENSON HIGH SCHOOL** • Yessica Mulet • **CATLIN GABEL SCHOOL** • Violeta Alvarez • Ben Kitoko • **CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL** • Nancy Barrera • Blanca Farfan Gaytan • Grace Ramstad • **CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** • Lucy Young • **CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL** • Leja Biberic • Anna Del Savio • Hannah Kelley • Elexis Moyer • **DAVID DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL** • Fatuma Gedi • Madina Gedi • **DE LA SALLE NORTH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL** • Delaney McEvoy • Adriana Rangel-Ponce • **FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL** • Quince Assenberg • Charity Dunlevy-Todd • Jia Wu • **GRANT HIGH SCHOOL** • Kaz Leffel • **GRESHAM HIGH SCHOOL** • Victor Castellanos-Welsh • Jesus Perez Romero • Juanguillermo Perez-Torres • **LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL** • Alex Zhang • Amy Qiu • **MILWAUKIE ACADEMY OF THE ARTS** • Lashawn McCarthy • **MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE** • Henry Nguyen • Samantha Young • **OUT OF SCHOOL** • Ana Meza • Julian Rist • Christopher Luchini • **REYNOLDS HIGH SCHOOL** • Fernanda Otero Gonzalez • **REYNOLDS LEARNING ACADEMY** • Antonio Servin • **SELLWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL** • Nicolas Avendano • **SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL** • Kendall Fleshman

To complete the application online, go to: www.ourcommission.org/apply





March 10, 2015

Dear MYC Applicant,

Thank you for considering applying to the Multnomah Youth Commission! Serving as a Youth Commissioner provides you with a unique set of skills and the opportunity to make our community a better place for youth to live. As Co-Chairpersons for the Youth Commission, we would like to share with you our excitement for serving on the Multnomah Youth Commission.

Who We Are

The Multnomah Youth Commission was created in 1996 in order to provide a voice for youth in County government. Today, we are the official youth policy body to both Multnomah County and the City of Portland. This includes adult staff from Multnomah County Office of Diversity and Equity and City of Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

What We Do

The Multnomah Youth Commission does much of its work through its three committees. These committees are: **Education/ Youth Voice, Sustainability, and Youth Against Violence.**

Here are some of our recent accomplishments:

- The MYC, alongside thousands of community youth in Multnomah County, created "Our Bill of Rights, Children + Youth" (BOR). The City of Portland and Multnomah County became the first governments in the nation to adopt a BOR as an official governing policy. The BOR serves as a constant reminder of the vital role children and youth play in shaping the future of our communities. The document holds public officials accountable to protecting children's welfare and gives youth a concrete resource and tool to draw attention to their interests.
- In 2011, in response to an increase of violence towards youth, the MYC formed the Youth Against Violence Committee (YAV) and has worked hard to engage youth in the community to tell their stories about violence and create policies to make change. For the last three years we have hosted our Annual Rob Ingram Youth Summit Against Violence and this year we funded mini summits against violence and worked with the Portland Police Bureau to strengthen relationships between youth and police.
- The Education/Youth Voice Committee works closely with community and education leaders to develop youth led-solutions to issues impacting youth in local school systems. After holding focus groups last year with youth throughout Portland and Multnomah County to explore root causes of student chronic absenteeism, the Committee analyzed the data and will be working with youth impacted by the issue to draft policy recommendations to decrease chronic absenteeism and youth disengagement from schools.
- We are currently working to maintain *YouthPASS* which provides free bus passes to every high school student in Portland Public Schools. In addition, we are working in partnership with OPAL and PSU Capstone to expand *YouthPASS* to all high schools in Multnomah County and ensure all youth have access to safe, reliable and affordable transit service.

The Youth Commission gets things done!

What You Need To Do

This application has a number of parts to it. Please complete all parts of the packet including the application for Youth Commissioner (Voting & At-Large), 2 references (1 peer and 1 adult), "the Box" for your creative expression, and don't forget to fill out the form to select the date you would like to interview.

If you are accepted, you will join a body of youth ages 13-21, which are diverse in their ideas, cultures, and voices. With your help, the MYC can continue to promote a thriving, flourishing community for youth, by youth.

Thank you for deciding to be an active member of your community by applying to the Multnomah Youth Commission. Good luck!

**Violeta Alvarez
Co-Chair
Multnomah Youth Commission**



POSITION DESCRIPTION

Youth Commissioner: Voting & At Large Multnomah Youth Commission 2015-2016



SECTION 1 - PURPOSE OF POSITION

As part of the 2015-16 Multnomah Youth Commission (MYC) new members will become the official youth policy body to the Multnomah County Board and Portland City Council. This diverse group of youth (ages 13-21) must live, work, attend school, or attend an out-of-school program in Multnomah County or the City of Portland. Commissioners provide advice about the decisions the City & County make that affect young people. They also strive to advocate for a youth agenda of positive policy changes, guided by “**Our Bill of Rights: Children + Youth**”, the nation’s first Bill of Rights written for and by young people. Providing a voice for our community’s youth, the MYC is supported and funded by Multnomah County Office of Diversity and Equity (ODE) and the City of Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI).

Youth Commissioners participate as non-paid volunteers. Decisions are made every day that affect the lives of young people, many times with little or no input from those the decision impacts. The purpose of the MYC is to involve youth in all levels of community decision-making.

SECTION 2 - DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

Two types of member positions are available: Voting and At-Large

VOTING MEMBERS:

- Commit 15 hours per month to MYC activities including meetings in Portland and East County on two Sundays of every month from 4:30-7:30pm and one weekly after-school meeting per week.
- Attend all meetings of the MYC and be ready to participate and work as a group.
- Assist in creating a work plan for attaining the strategic goals established during the past term and at the 15-16 Youth Commission Fall retreat.
- Ensure that the MYC, and its subcommittees, complete assigned duties within the work plan, on time, and make progress on each of the strategic goals.
- Seek the opinions, thoughts, and ideas of community youth to inform MYC activities.

AT-LARGE MEMBERS:

- Follow all the same duties as voting members, but have less demanding Sunday attendance and time commitments. At-Large members are required to commit 7 hours per month to MYC activities.

The MYC selection committee will determine which position is most appropriate for individual applicants.

SECTION 3 - KNOWLEDGE SKILLS & ABILITIES

- Strong communication skills (public speaking skills are a plus.)
- Willingness to respectfully handle conflict and address oppression in all its various forms.
- Willingness to work in youth-adult partnerships and ensure that both youth and adults feel valued and respected.
- Ability to attend meetings in various locations and settings across the City and County.
- Ability to actively participate in Commission activities and complete all tasks assigned.
- Knowledge of City/County systems and departments and an ability to work with those systems to affect positive change for youth (we provide the training.)



APPLICATION 2015/16 MULTNOMAH YOUTH COMMISSION



Make sure your full application (including recommendations) arrives no later than **Monday, April 27, 2015.**

You can submit online, mail, fax, or email to:

Multnomah Youth Commission

ATTN: Marc Fernandes

10317 E Burnside, Portland, OR 97216

multnomahyouth@gmail.com (EMAIL)

www.ourcommission.org

503.793.1691

Please, if you **handwrite** **USE BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY!**

Multnomah Youth Commission

Name: _____ Date: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

If you are in school, which **school** will you attend next year (Fall 2015)?

Age: _____ Birthdate: _____

Grade Next Fall (Sept. 2015): **Circle One**

7 8 9 10 11 12 **College** **Home-school** **Out of School**

If you are **not** in school next year, list your plans for Fall '15:

How did you hear about the Youth Commission? **Check all that apply:**

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents | <input type="checkbox"/> Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper (which ones): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher | <input type="checkbox"/> Email | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor | <input type="checkbox"/> Saw a flyer | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> On the radio | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Referred by Youth Commissioner (name): _____ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please share): _____ | | |



CURRENT YOUTH COMMISSIONERS WILL REVIEW YOUR APPLICATION. PLEASE GIVE SINCERE AND HEARTFELT RESPONSES. THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF YOUR APPLICATION IS THAT YOU BE YOURSELF. WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE AND LEARN MORE ABOUT YOU! THANK YOU!!!

ANSWER ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER—TYPED OR USING BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY! Please answer the following 4 questions in no more than 1 page (front & back).

QUESTION 1:

Please share with us some of the issues that are important to you or young people you know. Share any community service or advocacy you have done around these issues.

QUESTION 2:

Why do you want to be a member of the Youth Commission? Please describe any communities you represent or could help engage in the work of the MYC.

QUESTION 3:

Commissioners are required to commit at least 15 hours per month (7 hours for At-Large members), including attending meetings in Portland & East County (Gresham) on two Sundays of every month from 4:30-7:30pm and one weekly after school meeting per week. Members are only allowed to miss three MYC Sunday meetings in a 6-month period. Describe other school or community activities you are involved in and how will you balance your schedule in order to honor the commitment to the MYC?

QUESTION 4:

Please share something about yourself that you have not already shared.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

(If you are under the age of 18 please have your parent or legal guardian sign so we know they are notified of your application to the Youth Commission).

Parent/Guardian (s) Name (s): _____

Parent/Guardian (s) Signature (s): _____



**IMPORTANT! PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT THIS FORM
WITH YOUR APPLICATION**

***Youth Commission Interviews
Check ONE (and mark your calendar!)***

**SATURDAY MAY 16, 2015
10:00am- 12:00pm
Gresham Schools Building
1333 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham**

Yes! I will attend this interview

**SATURDAY MAY 16, 2015
2:00pm- 4:00pm
Portland City Hall, 2nd Floor Lovejoy Room
1221 SW Fourth Ave, Portland**

Yes! I will attend this interview

If you are unable to attend either of these times or you miss your scheduled interview, a make-up interview is scheduled for

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 4:30-6:30pm

Lincoln Building, 421 SW Oak St, Portland

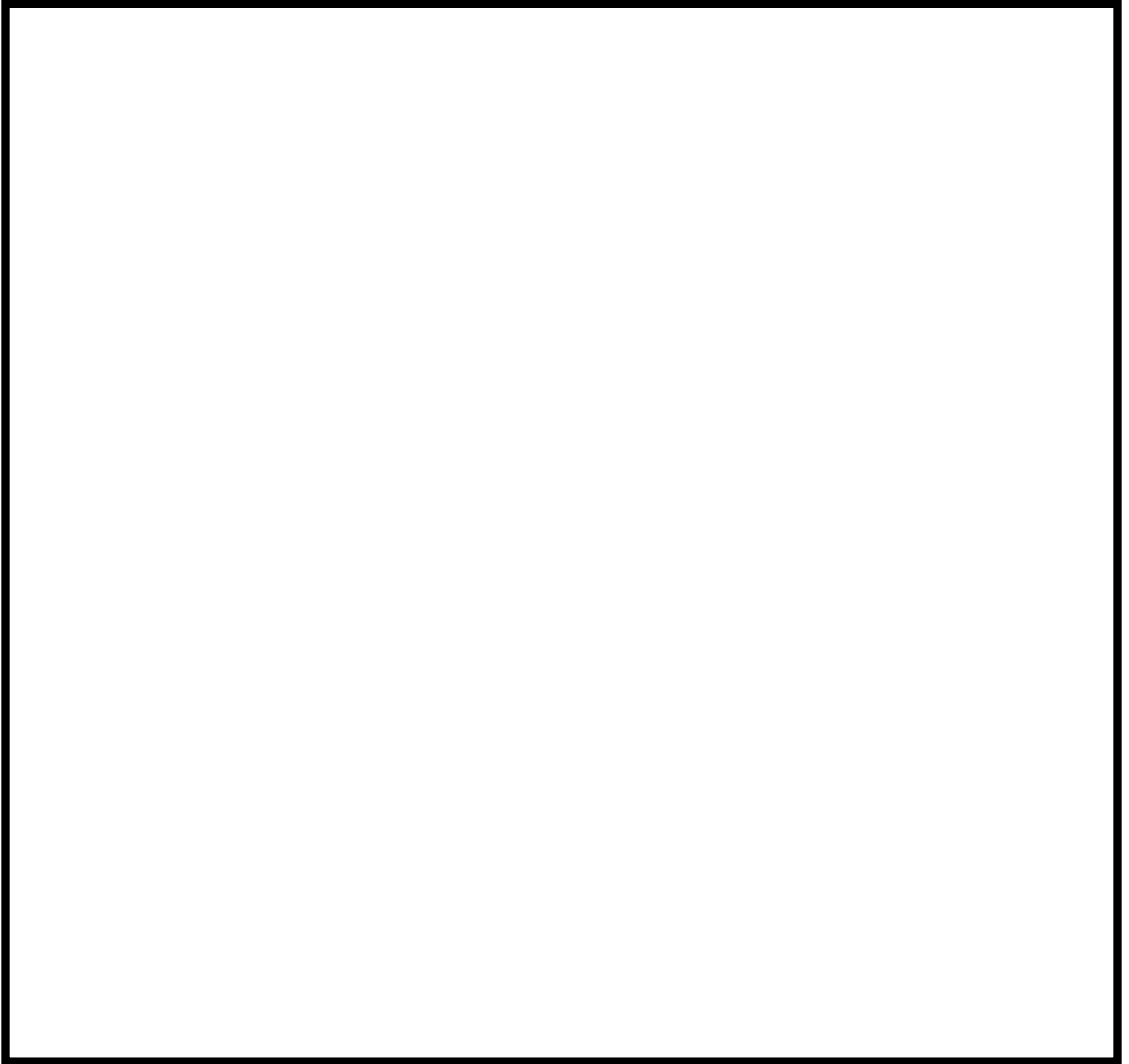
I Can't Make Sunday, I will interview on Tuesday

You will know by May 31st if you are selected to serve as a Youth Commissioner for the 2015-16 term. A celebration for new commissioners is planned for June 7, 2015 at the Gresham Schools Building. Mark your calendar, in case you are selected!



**YOUTH COMMISSIONERS, SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO THINK OUTSIDE
THE BOX. YOUR LAST TASK-**

**DO ANYTHING YOU WANT WITH THIS
BOX...EXCEPT IGNORE IT!**



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REFERENCE NO. 1:

PEER REFERENCE



IMPORTANT! The person completing this reference should place the reference in a sealed and signed envelope and give it to the applicant. Complete applications must be received NO LATER THAN APRIL 27, 2015.

References may also be completed online at www.OurCommission.org/apply

TYPE OR USE BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY!

Multnomah Youth Commission
10317 E. Burnside, Portland, OR 97216
Phone: 503-793-1691
Email: multnomahyouth@gmail.com

An individual who lives, works, or attends school in Multnomah County or the City of Portland and is not related to the applicant must complete each reference. When you complete the reference, please provide the following information about yourself so that we may contact you if necessary. Please use your own sheet (s) of paper.

Name of MYC Applicant: [text box]

Your Name: [text box] Date: [text box]

Home Address: [text box]

City: [text box] State: [text box] Zip: [text box]

Home phone: [text box] Work phone (if applicable): [text box]

1 How long have you known the applicant? [text box]

2 What is your relationship with the applicant? [text box]

3 How dependable is the applicant? Be specific and give examples.

[Large empty text box for question 3]

4 The MYC needs both leaders and team members. Please describe a time when this applicant either demonstrated leadership or an ability to work in a group and follow direction.

[Large empty text box for question 4]

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REFERENCE NO. 2:

ADULT REFERENCE



IMPORTANT! The person completing this reference should place the reference in a sealed and signed envelope and give it to the applicant. Complete applications must be received NO LATER THAN APRIL 27, 2015.

References may also be completed online at www.OurCommission.org/apply

TYPE OR USE BLUE OR BLACK INK ONLY!

Multnomah Youth Commission

10317 E Burnside, Portland, OR 97216

Phone: 503-793-1691

Email: multnomahyouth@gmail.com

An individual who lives, works, or attends school in Multnomah County or the City of Portland and **is not related** to the applicant must complete each reference. When you complete the reference, please provide the following information about yourself so that we may contact you if necessary. Please use your own sheet (s) of paper.

Name of MYC Applicant: []

Your Name: [] Date: []

Home Address: []

City: [] State: [] Zip: []

Home phone: [] Work phone (if applicable): []

1 How long have you known the applicant? []

2 What is your relationship with the applicant? []

3 How dependable is the applicant? Be specific and give examples.

[]

4 The MYC needs both leaders and team members. Please describe a time when this applicant either demonstrated leadership or an ability to work in a group and follow direction.

[]