

## **Mayoral Appointments/Reappointments to the Commission on Cultural Affairs**

To approve the Mayoral appointments and reappointments of the following individual to the Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs:

Stephanie Tavares-Rance, Aurora (F)(AA)(CD6) to serve as an individual with experience in strategic partnerships, marketing, events and public relations for a term expiring August 31, 2022 and occasioned by the resignation of Kendra Ingram, appointed;

Beth Mosenthal, Denver (F)(C)(CD6) to serve as an architect for a term expiring August 31, 2022, reappointed;

FloraJane DiRienzo, Denver (F)(C) (CD7) to serve as a representative of Denver Center for Performing Arts for a term expiring August 31, 2023, and to serve as co-chair, reappointed;

Jami Duffy, Denver (F)(C)CD9) to serve as a representative of youth for a term expiring August 31, 2023, reappointed;

Stephen Brackett, Denver (M)(AA)(CD9) to serve as a musician and educator for a term expiring August 31, 2023, reappointed;

Ryan Foo, Denver (Asian) (CD8) to serve as a representative of the theatre for a term expiring August 31, 2023, appointed;

Damon McLeese, Denver, (M)(C)(CD9) to serve as a representative of the arts, disability and non-profit organizations for a term expiring August 31, 2023, appointed;

Paola Correa-Nava, Denver (F)(NA)(CD5) to serve as a representative of the cultural arts for a term expiring August 31, 2023, appointed;

Lisa Kennedy, Denver (F)(AA) (CD1) to serve as a representative of arts journalism for a term expiring August 31, 2023, appointed;

Courtney Snell, Denver, (F)(C)(CD3) to serve as a representative of contemporary art for a term expiring August 31, 2023, appointed.

### **Purpose/Scope of the Board:** RMC 28-20

The Commission is responsible for providing advice and input to the Denver Office of Cultural Affairs on issues relating to art and cultural affairs.

**Member Qualifications:** The Commission on Cultural Affairs seeks candidates that represent Denver's diverse community and is specifically looks for leaders who either live in Denver, or who are immersed in the Denver community with the following backgrounds and experience:

- Working artists, arts administrators, creative entrepreneurs, etc.
- Strategic Planning & Implementation
- Nonprofit Management
- Real Estate & Built Environment
- Philanthropy

- Board Development & Leadership
- Marketing & Communication
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusiveness

Stephanie Tavares-Rance, while not a Denver resident, was selected on the basis of her background as co-founder and Executive Director of Color of Conversation film festival, which is the second largest African American film festival in the world - hosted annually in Denver. The event, and its subsequent yearlong programming, is dedicated to amplifying and uplifting African American filmmakers and audiences from across the world. Her work to advance Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in arts and culture through film and storytelling is unique and otherwise unaddressed in the City and County of Denver

**Selection Process and why this applicant was chosen:** following submittal of applications and surveys are reviewed and scored by the Director of Arts & Venues, and both co-chairs. Interviews are scheduled and once a decision has been made on the best candidates who not only offer expertise and City Council district representation, the names are forwarded to the Director of Boards and Commissions in early July to allow time for the Mayor's approval and City Council process so the new commissioners can be active voting members at the September meeting (commission term year is September-August).

#### **Current Board Makeup –**

Bobby Lefebre, Denver (M)(H)  
(CD2), writer, reappt.

Katherine Greeley, Denver (F)(C)  
(CD9), rep. DPS, appt.

Maren Stewart, Denver(F)(C)  
(CD11), communications, reappt.

Heather Nielsen, Denver (F)(C)  
(CD7, DMA, reappt.

Leesly Leon, Denver (F)(LX)(CD9)  
rep. communication, reappt.

Michael McClung, Denver (M)(C)  
(CD10), rep. arts, reappt.

Sarah Kurz, Denver (F)(C)(CD12)  
rep. communication, reappt.

Dudley "Van" Schoales, Denver(M)  
(C) (CD10), rep. president A+1 Colo.,  
reappt.

Alexis Moore, Denver (F)(C)(CD1)  
rep. urban planner, repl. O'Connell,  
appt.

Eriko Tsogo, Denver (F)(Asian)  
(CD4), rep. artist/creative director  
repl. Harris, appt.

Viniyanka Prasad, Denver (F)  
(Asian)(CD10), ED/Storytelling  
Sanctuary, repl. Obiwole, appt.

Stephanie Tavares-Rance, Aurora  
rep. strategic partnerships,  
Marketing, events and public relations  
repl. Ingram (resigned), appt.

Beth Mosenthal, Denver(F)(C)  
(CD6), rep. architect, reappt.

Kevin Smith, Denver (M)(C)(CD9)  
rep. Denver Film Society,  
repl. Vasquez, appt.

David Conger, Denver (M)(C)  
(CD10), rep. public art and architecture,  
repl. Chism (resigned), appt.

Tess Vigil, Denver (F)(H)(CD8)  
rep. DPS, reappt.

FloraJane DiRienzo, Denver (F)(C)  
(CD7), rep. DCPA, reappt. Co-Chair

Jami Duffy, Denver (F)(C)(CD9)  
rep. youth, reappt.

Ryan Foo, Denver (M)(Asian (CD9)  
rep. theatre, repl. Comfort, appt.

Lisa Kennedy, Denver (F)(C)  
(CD2), rep. arts journalism, repl.  
Mowry, appt.

Stephen Brackett, Denver (M)(AA)  
(CD9), rep. musician and educator,  
reappt.

Damon McLeese, Denver (M)(C)  
(CD9), repl. Makovsky, appt.

Courtney Stell, Denver(F)(C)  
(CD3), rep. contemporary arts,  
repl. Basye, appt.

**Additional Information: None.**