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BAC-10142

Contact Information

Contact Name	tara jae	Home Address	
Preferred Phone		Home City	
Preferred Email		Home State	CO
Other Phone		Home Zip	
Other Email		County	Broomfield
DOB		Hispanic or Latino origin or Descent?	No
Gender	Non-binary	Race/Ethnicity	African American
Other Gender		Other Ethnicity	
Title		Salutation	Dr.
		Pronouns	they/them

Application

Status	In Progress	Council Resolution Number	
Notes			

Board Information

Board Name	Denver Commission on Cultural Affairs (DCCA)	Original Start Date	
		End Date	
		Other boards or commissions served	

Work Information

Employer		Work Address	
Position		Work City	
Business Phone #		Work State	
Work Email		Work Zip	

Additional Information

Are you a registered voter?		Objection to appointment?	No
If so, what county?		Special Information	
Denver City Council District No	8	Registered Lobbyist	No
Conflict of Interest Explanation		Conflict of Interest	No

Education and General Qualifications

Name of High School		Name of Graduate School	
Location of High School		Location of Graduate School	
# of Years Attended High school		# of Years Attended Graduate School	
Did you Graduate High School	Yes	Did you Graduate	
		Graduate Major	
Name of College			
Location of College			
# of Years Attended College			
Did you Graduate College			
Undergrad Major			

Reference Details

Reference Name #1	Reference Email #1
Reference Phone #1	Reference Address #1

Reference Name #2	Reference Email #2
Reference Phone #2	Reference Address #2

Reference Name #3	Reference Email #3
Reference Phone #3	Reference Address #3

Agree to a background check ☒

Owner Anna Respet

Created By Anna Respet, 7/2/2025, 10:37 AM

Last Modified By Anna Respet, 7/2/2025, 10:37 AM

Applicants History

7/2/2025, 10:37 AM

User Anna Respet

Action Created.

Tara Jae, MFA, Ph.D

c: [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

SKILLS

- Effective, intersectional visionary
- Evidence-based, community-informed approach
- Exceptional interpersonal communicator
- Trauma informed practice and crafting
- Experienced community organizer and event planner
- Highly resourceful and creative thinker
- Producer, writer and director
- Fundraising, mutual aid and grant writing

KEY CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Founded and directed a 501c3 that focuses on the wellness of BIPoC + LGBTQ
- Built a fluid communication system that effectively launched efficient crisis messaging for a municipality
- Certified Level 2 Public Information Officer
- Created an overall City Strategic Plan, which included communication, tourism and downtown development
- Editor of several publishing projects
- Guided several organizations on strategic crisis communication, diversity statements and change management processes
- Developed and implemented DEI strategies and coaching for large organizations and municipalities
- Consulted for executive teams on cultural awareness training, staff and department development programs and management wellness retreats
- Produced, wrote and directed several shows and film projects that focused on Black voices

WORK HISTORY

Executive Director | Founder | 2017-Current

YouthSeen, Denver

- Responsible for overseeing administration, budget, programs and strategic plan of the organization
- Built a mental health program for LGBTQIA+ youth and their families, with a specific focus on QTBIPOC
- Grant writing, reporting and mutual aid development
- Medical advocate for our transgender clients who traveled for surgery
- Developed a youth LGBTIA+ camp for the Rocky Mountain Region that specifically focused on youth of color
- Developed and managed a budget of \$2M

Co-Chief Diversity Officer | Consultant | 2019-2023

Rocky Mountain Public Media, Denver

- Support internal and external DEI strategy development and implementation
- Develop and support internal DEI communications and messaging frequency
- Support content development, research and production to ensure accuracy in storytelling
- Provide executive and staff coaching to support DEI trainings and education offerings
- Co-develop and monitor DEI practices; made recommendation for new initiatives
- Co-developed DEI department within overall organizational structure

DEI Consultant | 2015-Current**Various Locations**

- Create and deliver internal and external communication strategies and overall strategic diversity, equity and inclusion planning and implementation
- Project management for non-profits, small businesses and municipalities around communication strategies and DEI efforts
- Develop policy and operational development for HR departments
- Develop and plan executive retreats to advance both internal and external commitments to mental health equity, including: staff development, board development, strategic planning, fundraising, and partnership cultivation.
- Develop and implement ongoing programs and trainings to support and facilitate an intersectional engagement around learning among participants within organizations
- Identify, collect, and analyze appropriate data to assess community climate and develop key strategies for effective programming

Director of Communication & Events | 2014-2015**City of Kemmerer, WY**

- Managed operation of 15,000 square foot Event Center which included the event planning for the city
- Directed and managed visitor services, while also promoting the areas recreational activities to solicit tourism
- Developed and implemented a strategic communications plan and vision for the city that included social media and overall planning for community engagement
- Managed a budget of \$1M
- Researched, developed, and managed communication and outreach efforts to proactively communicate city's mission and priorities including developing and maintaining websites and all social media
- Wrote grants that resulted in \$8M for infrastructure
- Oversaw talent booking logistics for city events

Scholarly Publishing Specialist | 2011-2012**Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester**

- Was responsible for daily functions in the studio including supervising interns
- Was point of contact for academic publishing related services for the RIT community
- Created publishing solutions based on requests from staff and academics
- Was Managing Editor for two open access/academic online journals
- Supported social media strategies and developed content for department website

EDUCATION

PhD in Advanced Studies of Human Behavior
Capella University
Minneapolis, MN

Masters of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Art
Goddard College
Plainfield, VT

Bachelors of Arts in Visual Art
SUNY New Paltz
New Paltz, NY

Dr. tara jae is a visionary storyteller and cultural curator with a deep passion for mental health and wellness within our QTBIPOC community. With an extensive background in the arts, Dr. jae has made a lasting impact through powerful, transformative narratives that uplift, educate, and inspire.

An award winning creator, Dr. tara uses the medium of storytelling to address the intersection of identity, culture, and healing. Their work is rooted in a commitment to fostering spaces where individuals can thrive and experience abundance, peace, and personal growth. As an advocate for mental health, Dr. tara focuses on creating resources and experiences that support our QTBIPOC community on their healing journeys, empowering them to navigate challenges and embrace their full potential.

Driven by a belief that everyone deserves to heal, grow, and live authentically, Dr. tara continues to push the boundaries of creativity to impact lives and promote holistic wellness.