

MEMORANDUM – DENVER LGBTQ COMMISSION

TO:	Denver City Council
FROM:	Office of Boards & Commissions
DATE:	4/29/25
PURPOSE:	Appointments for the Denver LGBTQ Commission

Purpose of Commission:

The Denver Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Commission (LGBTQ) Commission partners with the community to advance social, economic, and political equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people using its unique position within the City and County of Denver.

Appointment Process:

The Mayor appoints up to 21 members and City Council confirms appointments for a term of 3 years.

Term: 6/1/2025-5/31/2028 or until a successor is duly appointed.

Eboni Coleman (she/her) (Female, African American)

Eboni Boneé Coleman (EB) is a multimedia artist, producer, and creative who focuses on contextualizing the lived experiences of her community as a Black queer woman. With a keen eye for the subtle details of her environment, EB's work has been featured in various publications locally and nationally, including but not limited to: Rocky Mountain PBS, Blavity, Westword, The Denver Post, OutFront Magazine, Colorado Homes & Lifestyles Magazine, and 9 News. A native of Denver, EB's distinctive eye is influenced by her background as a performer. With the ability to see the hidden patterns and making the connections for the larger story, EB has the innate sense to see the impact of the photo before it happens. Resulting in powerful captures of what is now our communal history.

Alex Diorio (they/them) (Gender non-confirming, Caucasian)

Community & Operations Manager, Quince Coffee House



As the former General Manager and Community Director at Town Hall Collaborative, Alex worked to ensure that the space is inclusive and explicitly prioritizes the safety and joy of QTBIPOC individuals. Through community-driven initiatives, programming, and policy implementation, they cultivated an environment where queer people—especially those with intersecting marginalized identities—feel seen, heard, and valued. Town Hall has been recognized as a leader in LGBTQ+ safe spaces in Denver, earning awards that reflect their dedication to fostering belonging. As a mentor in the Big Queer, Little Queer program at Joy as Resistance, Alex engages with queer youth at a 1:1 and small group level - providing guidance, encouragement, and a safe space to navigate their identities.

Dr. tara jae (they/them) (Non-binary, African American)

Founder & Executive Director, YouthSeen



As the Founder & Executive Director at Youth Seen and Co-Founder Black Pride Colorado, Dr. Tara's work is rooted in an understanding of how communities of color heal, and how to dismantle the stigmas that mental health care needs do not exist within these communities. Tara is skilled in validating and working with racial trauma as it relates to mental health and in organizational spaces. They intricately apply their knowledge of how racialization, racism, and culture greatly impact our experiences of ourselves, our relationships, and our lives.

Tangible, honest connection is at the foundation of Tara's therapeutic relationships, not just theory and jargon. YouthSeen is an organization that focuses on the mental health and wellness of QTBIPOC communities. Black Pride is a celebration of Black queer communities.

Tony Lucero (he/him) (Male, Two or more races)

Managing Director, Operations, Moonshot



Prior to joining Moonshot, Tony served as an AmeriCorps staff member with City Year Denver, is a former high school educator, and Mayoral appointee who worked on the House 1000 Initiative. He worked as a Managing Director at City Year Denver, where he supported the team to create GSAs and similar programming for students, and brought in LGBTQ leaders as guest speakers and facilitators. Tony is an alumnus of the Moonshot Fellowship and has also volunteered with Urban Peak and other local nonprofits.

Austin Montoya (he/him) (Male, Native American)

Senior Communications Officer, The Gill Foundation



As senior communications officer, Austin Montoya is responsible for managing grants for communications and research projects, identifying and acting on opportunities to shape the public narrative on LGBTQ issues, and ensuring cohesive communications strategies are integrated into and across grants made by the foundation. Austin has committed his career to health equity, reproductive justice and LGBTQ equality, working in communications and leadership roles at the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, One Colorado Education Fund, and The Colorado Health Foundation. Most recently, he spearheaded Pulse, an annual public opinion poll used to shape policymaking on issues that impact Coloradans' health and well-being.

Andrew Miller (They/He) (Transgender, Caucasian)

Manager of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Education, UC Health



Andrew R. Miller (they/he) is a DEI leader and transgender advocate with over a decade of experience advancing LGBTQ+ equity in healthcare and the workplace in Denver, Colorado. Andrew supports healthcare staff, providers, and leaders in shifting the culture of equity and inclusion within organizations. As Certified Diversity Professional and clinical counseling graduate, Andrew combines lived experience with professional training to address systemic inequities and create spaces where all identities are respected and celebrated. They are passionate about driving social, economic, and political equity for the LGBTQ+ community.

Nastassja “Stas” Schmiedt (they/them) (Non-binary, African American)

Co-Founder, Spring Up Collective



Stas is a Queer, Nonbinary, Black-Italian based on Ute, Arapaho, and Cheyenne unceded lands in Denver, CO. In addition to being a Co-Founder of Spring Up, Stas is also our “Imaginatrix” and Lead Curriculum Designer. Coaching Style: Untangling the patterns and root causes of challenges through storytelling, power analysis, and creative practices. Creatively designing accountable organizational systems and engaging, accessible curriculum. Stas has also supported queer-led organizations like One Colorado and Joy as Resistance as a consultant who supports with conflict mediation and strategies for collective governance.