



August 24, 2021

Dear Mayor Wilson,

Please accept this request to appoint one new member to the Arts & Culture Advisory Board. We currently have three vacancies for our 15-member board. Our current vacancies are all full-term openings and therefore the terms would start the day of approval by County Council and last for 3 years.

This year, we instituted a new process for Arts & Culture Advisory Board recruitment by establishing a Nomination and Recruitment Subcommittee. This subcommittee worked closely with me to identify recruitment priorities, within your overall board recruitment directives, and implement new strategies to meet these priorities. We focused recruitment efforts on geographic, ethnic, and racial diversity as well as artists from diverse art forms. After the subcommittee generates interested candidates, an initial application review is completed, followed by an informal interview with me, and finally guest attendance at an advisory board meeting. Candidates who have advanced through these steps are then forwarded to the Department and Mayor's Office for consideration.

The current recommendation is the first candidate to come out of this new process and we are confident this individual reflects the recruitment priorities of the Mayor's Office and will offer unique and valuable perspectives. We will follow the same process to identify candidates to fill the two remaining vacancies for which we will focus on recruitment from District 2.

The following recommendation is for your consideration:

Natosha Washington – District 1

Natosha brings unique experience to our board that we do not currently have. She has vast teaching experience specifically in the arts (dance.) "It is my mission to continue providing opportunities for students and our community at large to learn from one another. Bringing the two together through the arts, open and honest conversations now more than ever, is of the utmost importance. Being a woman of color in a field whose representation does not look like that of her own has strongly influenced my pedagogy and the ways I choose to approach my artistic endeavors, education and life-hence my applying to be on this board."

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Matt Castillo,
Director, Arts & Culture

Holly Yocom
Dept. Director, Community Services

Attachments: Natosha Washington Board Application
Natosha Washington Resume
Arts & Culture Advisory Board Roster

JENNIFER WILSON
Mayor

ERIN LITVACK
Deputy Mayor &
Chief Administrative Officer

HOLLY YOCOM
Department Director
Community Services

**MATTHEW
CASTILLO**
Division Director
Arts & Culture

50 West 200 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

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TTY: 7-1-1

Salt Lake County Arts & Culture

Current Advisory Board Roster

Arts & Culture Advisory Board Member	District	Term	Info
Bing Fang	4	2017-2020 2021-2023	Background in finance, marketing, management, ethics and business strategy; Off-Broadway Theater board member; NHMU board chair; Asian/Pacific Islander community
Daphne Williams	4	2017-2020 2021-2023	Visual art expert
Gordon Wolf	3	2017-2020 2021-2023	Taylorsville Arts Council; Mid Valley Performing Art Center design committee member
Maria Chumbita-Garcia	4	2018-2021	Engineer; Hispanic/Latino community; young professional
Annastasia Kaessner	1	2018-2021	Downtown commercial real estate broker; young professional
Erik Christiansen	4	2018-2021	Lawyer; huge arts supporter; board experience
Brian Van Ausdal	4	2019-2022	IT Business Analyst and huge arts supporter.
Don Tingey	5	2019-2022	Director of Strategic Services for City of South Jordan
Ryan Riches	5	2019 - 2022	Ryan is a retired project manager from Lockheed Martin and a member of the Beehive Statesmen Barbershop Chorus and Stayin Alive Quartet.
Jordan Brun	3	2019 - 2022	Artist, actor and arts educator at Brighton High School.
Megan West	1	2020-2023	Involved in the mental health/substance abuse industry. Meghan background in budget management, event production
Emily Emmer	6	2020-2023	Marketing strategist with 15+ years experience. Practicing artist, musician, and patron of the arts

Application Form

Profile

Natosha M Washington
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

[Redacted]
Email Address

Salt Lake City School District Performing Arts Department
Employer Job Title
Chair and Dance Director at
West High

[Redacted]
Home Address

[Redacted]
Suite or Apt

[Redacted]
City

[Redacted]
State

[Redacted]
Postal Code

[Redacted]
Primary Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Arts and Culture Advisory Board: Submitted

Referred by:

[Redacted]

Qualifications

Please tell us about yourself.

BIO: Natosha Washington is a professional choreographer, director and avid educator who is passionate about all inclusive learning. Washington received the 2015 Sorenson Legacy Award for Best Secondary Dance Educator in Utah, and most recently nominated for Salt Lake City School District's 2020 Teacher of the Year Top Four. Washington received her BFA from the University of Utah in Modern Dance (2004) and Associate Degree of Fine Arts from Ricks College (1999). During her time at the U, Washington's work received the Best Performance award at the 2004 American College Dance Association's National Festival at the Kennedy Center, Washington D.C., and was featured in Dance Magazine (2004). Washington co-directed the Utah-based company, RawMoves, that received a 2005 Slammy Award for Best New Dance Company. Washington, a full-time dance teacher at Judge Memorial Catholic High School (2005-2012), created a program for young men to dance, starting with 18 it developed to 44 young men. Washington also taught at Northwest Middle School (2012-2018) creating the school's "Celebration of Dance." The program consisted of 400+ students celebrating school pride and diverse cultures through dance. In 2018, Washington expanded the West High Dance program two class sizes, adding 60+ students. Also, she is developing a new educational program in collaboration with Weber State Professor Jo Blake geared towards first-generation students to receive a degree of higher education. As a choreographer, Washington's work has been seen internationally (China, Russia, New Zealand, Fiji, Brazil), professionally (Repertory Dance Theatre), collegiate (University of Alabama, Utah Valley University) and secondary school companies, including her own, The Penguin Lady Dance Collective. Natosha Washington is a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah who is currently the Performing Arts Department Chair and Dance Company Director at West High School.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I believe in a world where education and the arts are equitable and accessible for all. As a nation and state we are making strides to close this gap but we simply are not moving quickly enough. I believe this is due to our lack of understanding and inability to truly sit through the challenging conversations deemed necessary for growth. Our fear of having to view ourselves through an honest and unfiltered lens is a disservice to ourselves which then permeates into the communities we serve. Our communities and the generations of youth left in our wake deserve more than our fear. Have we in fact, unknowingly been a contributing factor in unjust biases to those we encounter due to race, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, religion, disabilities? The list goes on. As a Black Woman in Dance and Education in the state of Utah, it has become my mission to bring awarenesses such as these to light with everyone I come into contact with. It is my mission to continue providing opportunities for students and our community at large to learn from one another. Bringing the two together through the arts, open and honest conversations now more than ever, is of the utmost importance. Being a woman of color in a field whose representation does not look like that of her own has strongly influenced my pedagogy and the ways I choose to approach my artistic endeavors, education and life-hence my applying to be on this board. I hope to continue serving my community. Throughout my career I have watched people create narratives about others that make me question whether or not they have seen the whole picture. As I look closer I watch people navigating assumptions about their own character that others seem to create off of appearance rather than actions. Seeing these biases, LIVING these biases, has now become the foundation and inspirational force I lead with in my artist and educational endeavors. I choose not to sit comfortably. I choose not to sit quietly. I DO NOT choose complacency for I know complacency is where the human condition dies. I choose to use my voice, my artistry and the life that courses through my veins for change- to help those who are not heard.

What education, work experience, or volunteer experience do you have that applies to the board you are applying for?

-Served on Repertory Dance Theatre Board for 3 years -See resume

What unique perspectives could you bring to the board?

I believe with my teaching experience, vast demographics reached, extensive involvement in art making inside and outside of the state of Utah, leaderships rolls inside dance education, combined with my being a Black Woman navigating all of the above, I have a very unique perspective and lens in which I'm able to view and give insight into the specific needs of our community.

[NW Resume 2020.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Are you a Salt Lake County employee?

Yes No

Are you a current member of another Salt Lake County board or commission?

Yes No

Race/Ethnicity *

District *

District 1

Gender Pronouns *

Age Range *

Languages *

English

Political Affiliation

NATOSHA WASHINGTON



Teaching Experience

West High School SLC, UT Dance I, Dance II, Dance III, Musical Choreographer Dance Company & IB Dance	2018-Current
Northwest Middle School SLC, UT Dance grades 7th-8th, Dance I, Dance II, Dance Company, School Improvement Committee	2012-2018
University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL Master classes in modern-contemporary & partner work Choreographer: Performing Dance Company	2016-Current
The Penguin Lady Summer Dance Camp SLC, UT Hosted by the University of Utah Classes in: Modern, Afro-Fusion, Jazz, Contemporary, Ballet, Comp/Improvisation, Partnering, Steppin'	2014-Current
Now and Next Dance Mentoring Organization Representative for the state of Utah Nationally recognized teaching organization	2013-2016
RawMoves Dance Company SLC, UT <u>Master Classes, Lecture Demonstrations, Outreach Teaching:</u> Modern Dance, Steppin'/Rhythm Analysis and Choreography At schools: West High School, Viewmont, Brighton, Woodscross, Judge Memorial, Salt Lake Performing Arts, Highland, Hillcrest, East High School, Copper Hills and Cottonwood.	2004-2013

<u>Residency at BYU Idaho Rexburg, ID</u>	2011
Master Classes: Modern/Contemporary, Partner Work, Evening length performance of “Story of Eight”	
Judge Memorial Catholic High School SLC, UT	2005-2012
Dance specialist and Educator: Dance II, Creative Movement, Virtuosic Movement for Men, DanceCompany	
Brigham Young University Provo, UT	2004-Current
Master classes in: Steppin’ / Modern-Contemporary Choreographer: Contemporary Dance Theater	
Utah Valley University Adjunct Professor Orem, UT	2003-2005
Professor of Steppin’/ Rhythm Analysis, Hip Hop, African Choreographer: Performing Dance Company	
University of Utah’s Children’s Dance Theater SLC, UT	2003-2005
Outreach and Dance Specialist K-6th grade Teaching curriculum through dance: Lincoln, Beacon, Highland, Park View and Morning Side Elementary	
UDEO’s Annual High school dance workshop SLC UT	2003-Current
Modern, Partnering, Technique, and Comp/Improvisation.	
Multicultural Arts Center SLC UT	2003-2005
Teaching students grade k-12 expression through movement	
Repertory Dance Theatre: Dance Center on Broadway SLC UT	2002-2005
Steppin’, Modern, Hip Hop, African, Choreography	
Repertory Dance Theatre Summer Intensives SLC UT	2001-2008
Guest Teacher and Lecturer: Modern Dance, Steppin’/Rhythm Analysis	
University of Utah SLC, UT	2000-2011
Guest Teacher and Lecturer: Modern Dance, Steppin’/Rhythm Analysis	
American College Dance Festival Northwest Region	2000-Current
Guest Teacher and Lecturer at University of Utah, Weber State, Western Washington University, Utah Valley University and the University of Wyoming Modern Dance, Steppin’/Rhythm Analysis	

Professional Choreography Experience

The Penguin Lady Dance Collective

<i>Plucked</i>	2019
<i>TAROT</i>	2016
<i>The Penguin Lady Presents</i> Evening Length Show	2014

Repertory Dance Theatre

<i>The Pedestal</i>	2019
<i>Say Their Names</i>	2018
<i>Exit From Eden</i>	2006
<i>The One to Classical Music</i>	2005
<i>We want Respect (Steppin')</i>	2003

Utah Jazz Dancers

Half-time choreography	2018
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University of Alabama

Guest Choreographer	2015
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Utah Valley University

<i>What Lies Beneath the Skin</i>	2014
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RawMoves

<i>Quality of Life</i> Full Length	2012
<i>Babble</i>	2011
<i>The Story of Eight</i>	2010
<i>Our Divided Anatomy</i>	2008
<i>Something for Everybody</i>	2007
<i>Cost of Living- Quality of Life</i>	2006
<i>Caught in the Act</i>	2005
<i>Cost of Living</i>	2004

Utah Valley University

<i>Empowerment</i>	2010
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Brigham Young University

<i>Steppin'</i>	2010 & 2004
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University of Utah

<i>Crazed</i>	2008
<i>Control Freak</i>	2005

Salt Lake Community College	
Modern/Contemporary	2010
Steppin’/hip hop choreography	2009
African Choreography	2008
Steppin’ Choreography	2007
Brolly Arts	
<i>Middle Sex-Life is Random</i>	2006
<i>Table for Three</i>	2005
<i>Sleepy Hallow</i> Site Specific	2004
Sunset Studio of West Virginia	
<i>Take it and Run</i>	2005
Saint Mary’s Hall of Texas	
<i>Let Go</i>	2005
Scottsdale Community College	
<i>Million Man March</i> Afro-centric movement and Steppin’	2005
Independent Choreography	
<i>The Penguin Lady</i>	2004
Lagoon Amusement Park	
<i>In the Groove</i> Hip hop group piece	2003

Performance Experience

SB Dance Stephen Brown	Current
<i>“Rework”</i>	2017
<i>“Adam and Steve”</i>	2015
<i>“Yoga the Musical”</i>	2007
Brolly Arts Sofia Gorder & Natosha Washington	
<i>“Black Social Change”</i>	2016
The Penguin Lady Natosha Washington	
<i>“Black Sheep”</i>	2014
My Turkey Sandwich Dance Company Sarah Donohue & Aaron Woof	
<i>“Yellow Wall Paper”</i>	2009

RawMoves | Natosha Washington & Nicholas Cendese
“Track” 2005
Caught in the Act 2005

University of Utah Performing Dance Company | Kaye Richards 2003

BYU-Idaho Contemporary Dance Company 1997-1999
Touring to Performing | Brazil, Fiji, and New Zealand

Honors and Awards

Beverly Taylor Sorenson Award
Best Secondary Dance Teacher in the State of Utah 2015

American College Dance Festival 2015
What Lies Beneath the Skin

Spirit of Northwest Middle School Award 2014

Alumni Representative | Control Freak 2009
Selected from over 50 works to represent the alumni
from the Modern Dance Department at the University of Utah

Repertory Dance Theatre
Winner of first annual Iron Choreographer Award 2006 & 2009

Excellence in Choreography 2006
Inducted as a member of Orchesis, an honorary dance society

Winner of Best New Dance Company | Salt Lake City 2005
City Weekly Local Newspaper

Best Performance | American College Dance Festival
House of Timothy 2004
Performed at the Kennedy Center in NYC and featured in Dance Magazine

Elizabeth R. Hayes Award | Full Ride Scholarship 2003-2004
Excellence in Choreography

Work Selected for Gala Concert
University of Utah | *Tea Party at the Morgue*

2003

Education

University of Utah
BFA in Modern Dance

2004

Brigham Young University-Idaho
Associate in Science

1999

Special Skills:

Building community | Teaching: Modern Dance, African Dance (Congolese and West African), Steppin', Partnering and Pas de Deux, Modern Dance Choreography and Composition, Polynesian Dance, Competitive Cheerleading and Stunting

Referrals

Linda C. Smith | Director of Repertory Dance Theater (RDT)



Brent Schneider | Associate Director of Fine Arts

