



Wednesday, November 9, 2022

## City of Olympia Cultural Access Advisory Board Application

Advisory committees are a structured way for individual community members to share their opinions and perspectives, study issues, and develop recommendations in a focused small group. Their primary purpose is to provide judicious advice, from a community member's perspective, to the Olympia City Council.

The Olympia Cultural Access Program Advisory Board was established to ensure that the Cultural Access Program provides public benefits. The Board advises the City Council on the formulation of processes, procedures and criteria for carrying out the goals of the Cultural Access Program and ensures that the program's expenditures are invested based on the priorities and commitments made to Olympia voters.

The City of Olympia values participation from all perspectives and life experiences and looks for equity and inclusion in advisory committee appointments.

To reduce barriers to community member participation the City offers stipends of \$25 per meeting attended to advisory committee members. Those members who certify as low income are eligible to receive stipends of \$50 per meeting attended. Advisory Committee members may waive the stipend upon request.

The Olympia City Council's General Government Committee recommends appointments to the full Council. Recommendations are made following review of applications and interviews of qualified candidates.

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of services and resources. Questions? Contact Dawn Carvalho, 360.753.8065, [dcarvalh@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:dcarvalh@ci.olympia.wa.us)

If you saved or submitted an application and did not receive a confirmation, please check your spam folder. When filed with the City, your application and attachment documents are public records and may be subject to public release.

**Name**

Justin McKaughan

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Address**

[REDACTED]

**Select your neighborhood (Olympia residency is not required; however, it is a primary consideration. )**

Other

**If you choose other please write in your neighborhood here:**

Trosper, formerly Indian Creek for 16 years



**Some appointments require that applicants reside within Olympia city limits. Even though your mailing address may be Olympia, you may reside in the County or another jurisdiction. Are you a resident of the City of Olympia?**

No

**Primary Phone Number**

[REDACTED]

**Alternate Phone Number**

[REDACTED]

## Interests & Experiences

Please keep answers concise and informative. You are introducing yourself to the Olympia City Council and sharing with them why you are interested in being considered for appointment. You may attach a resume.

**Attach a Resume**



Updated Resume.docx

**Briefly describe why you wish to serve on Cultural Access Advisory Board.**

I worked with Mayor Selby and the Olympia School District as a board director in support of Prop 1. I want to see cultural access shine in the city of Olympia. I would be serving as a board director supporting cultural access right now but our family moved to Tumwater this past summer, where I had to step down as a board director August 31st. I worked on the videos to promote the cultural access campaign and networked across the community in support of the passage of prop 1.

I want to give back to Olympia because Olympia gave so much to me as a human. I've grown as a person through the kindness and compassion of the greater Olympia community. I want Tumwater and Lacey to pass similar measures.

**Describe your experience, qualifications, and/or skills which would benefit the Cultural Access Advisory Board.**

As a resident of Olympia for over 20 years, I want music and the arts accessible for all students and residents. My background of living in poverty, being homeless for a time in Olympia, and being a musician that helped support many artists in their endeavours, I have a unique background to support the success of this board. I have experience serving on the Olympia School Board, as a Member Advocate for the Tumwater Education Association, as a Board Member and Finance Committee member of the Olympia Film Society, and board experience on the Clover Park Foundation.

### **Share the ways you've been involved or have volunteered in the community.**

I volunteered for years at the Olympia Film Society and Thurston Community Media, formerly TCTV. I served for 3 years as a volunteer school board director in Olympia. I've volunteered with the Washington Education Association in lobbying efforts to expand access and resources for educators and students in Washington State. I ran for Port Commission in 2003, my first dip into local politics, eventually running in 2019 for school board position 2 and winning the seat. I served as a Den leader for Pack 266 with the cub scouts out of the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. I've ran volunteer animation workshops for the Olympia Film Festival for about 5 years.

I had a cassette record label in the late 90s, early 00s, where I put out a number of local artists albums, helping people record and produce music and films for the greater community. I helped train groups how to use social media for promoting social justice.

### **Describe your experience with and knowledge of the communities and organizations meant to be served by the Olympia's Cultural Access Program.**

I worked with the city as a school board director in moving the initiative forward through the timeline that Mayor Selby pitched to me in the summer of 2021. Having been involved with the campaign and wanting to see it grow into a beautiful garden, I feel that I have the background that will help cultural access be successful. As a school board director, I made it a point to lead with love, reaching out to community members with an open heart, even when they were very upset and wanted to vent about things. I've been open to difficult conversations and know that as a middle aged white guy, the way people talk and engage with me will be different, so I use that awareness to open people's hearts and minds to the communities outside the bubble of whiteness, which is a thing in Olympia and around the country. I want a cultural access board that gives more voices at the table and am totally cool with getting passed over while offering support in other ways as a pro bono consultant that wants to see a similar initiative pass in Lacey and Tumwater, knowing that the kids in those districts are seeing their school budgets in crisis and my background as a music teacher, I've seen the arts get slashed first. I want poor kids and our BIPOC communities to experience educational liberation where we tear down walls and barriers with programs like cultural access.

### **List your educational and/or professional background and area of study.**

I graduated from Evergreen in 2000 with a focus on Media Production, Gender Studies, Political Science, and Peace/Conflict Resolution. I received my residential teaching certificate in 2004 from the University of Washington Tacoma as a 5th year BA program. In 2007, I completed my Professional Teaching Certificate through the Evergreen State College with a focus on Music and Social Justice. In 2009, I received my M.S. from Walden University in Integrating Classroom Technology. In 2017, I completed a Principal Certification Program through Western Governors University. I am looking at starting a School Superintendent Doctoral Program in the next 3-5 years.

I worked in odd jobs around town during my college years at Evergreen. When I graduated in June of 2000, I didn't have the family support or money to leave town. I started working as a Groundskeeper at Evergreen when I got my BA and loved it. I started substitute teaching as an Emergency Certified Teacher in April of 2001 for Tumwater Schools. Once I got my Teaching Certificate in 2004, I subbed in Olympia, Tumwater, and North Thurston school for the 2004-2005 school year. In 2005, I was hired by Clover Park School to be the Band Director at Woodbrook Middle School. In 2010, I moved to one of our elementary feeder schools to be a Teacher-Librarian. I received my National Board Teaching Certificate in 2013 and submitted my renewal for the certificate this year, finding out in December if I recertify. In 2014, I was hired by Tumwater Schools to be a Technology Consultant Teacher. I did that work for 5 years and transitioned back to the classroom in 2019 as an elementary general music teacher at Michael T Simmons Elementary School. As of September 2nd, I am the new Vice Principal at Olympic View Elementary School in Lacey, Washington.

**Appointment to an advisory committee will require your attendance at evening meetings, and undertake other work (reading, meeting preparation etc.). How many hours per month are you willing to commit as a volunteer?**

I committed between 10-20 hours a week as a school board director, so I'm thinking this will be less than that and I had the capacity to give that amount of time to OSD. I can commit between 20-40 hours a month as a volunteer depending on the month and my commitments as a building administrator in North Thurston Public Schools.

## **If you are not appointed to the Board at this time:**

**Do you wish to be considered for appointment to another Board or Commission?** No

**Do you wish to be considered for future appointment to your preferred Board or Commission?** Yes

**Would you be willing to volunteer for other City activities? You can find opportunities here:** Yes  
[https://www.olympiawa.gov/news\\_\\_information/employment\\_\\_volunteering/volunteer\\_opportunities.php](https://www.olympiawa.gov/news__information/employment__volunteering/volunteer_opportunities.php)

**Thank you for your interest in serving on a City of Olympia Advisory Committee!**

**Please hit the "submit" button below when you have completed your application .**

**Candidate: TOM DYER**

**CAP Specific Questions:**

- Please tell us a little about yourself and how you feel moved by the arts, cultures, heritage or sciences in our community.
- What challenges does our community face today that you believe Cultural Access can help to address?
- It's 2044. Cultural Access has been a successful city program for twenty years. What changes do you see in our community as a result of this program? What are the hallmarks of the program's success?
- Please describe your working style and share a positive experience you have had working on a committee, board, or other collaborative group setting.
- Is there anything else you want to share about yourself, your experience, or your personal sense of connection or commitment to this work?

