

Application Form

Profile

Mawadda

First Name

Amboun

Last Name

Middle Initial

Email Address

Home Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

What Ward do you live in? Use the following link to determine your Ward if you do not know: (<https://www.cityofsalem.net/government/city-council-mayor/about-city-council/find-a-ward-map>) *

Ward 8 - Northwest Salem

I live: *

In a single-family house

I work for: *

A nonprofit

I am: *

Work full-time

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Employer

Job Title

Occupation

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Salem Public Library Advisory Board: Submitted

Which of the following City of Salem Board or Commission meetings have you attended? *

None

Interests & Experiences

Mawadda Amboun

What do you feel you can contribute as a board or commission member?

I bring a combination of public service experience, community engagement, and data-informed decision making. In my professional role in county human services, I work on program quality, performance monitoring, and improving access to services for diverse communities. I would contribute thoughtful analysis, collaboration, and a focus on ensuring library programs and resources are responsive to community needs. As a resident and community organizer, I also care deeply about building connections between neighbors and local resources. I would bring a community-centered perspective and work to support the library as an inclusive, welcoming space that expands access to knowledge, learning, and opportunity for all Salem residents.

[Upload a Resume](#)

What prompted your interest in applying to serve as a board or commission member?

Libraries play an important role in strengthening communities by providing free access to knowledge, learning opportunities, and essential resources. My son and I love spending time at the library, and it has become a meaningful place for us to read, learn, and explore together. As a parent and a resident of Salem, I value how libraries support youth literacy, lifelong learning, and community connection. Serving on the Salem Public Library Advisory Board would be a meaningful opportunity to contribute to an institution that benefits families, students, and residents across the community.

Please explain how your education, professional, personal, lived, or volunteer experience and knowledge qualify you to serve on the board(s) or commission(s) for which you are applying.

My professional work in public service focuses on program quality, accountability, and improving how community services reach residents. I collaborate with program staff, analysts, and partners to evaluate programs, develop tools that monitor outcomes, and ensure services meet community needs. This experience has given me strong skills in analysis, governance processes, and collaborative problem solving. Beyond my professional work, I have also been involved in community initiatives that focus on connecting neighbors with resources and supporting local organizations. These experiences have strengthened my understanding of how community networks function and how public institutions can partner with residents to expand access to information and services. As a resident of Salem and a parent, I value libraries as spaces that support learning, literacy, and community belonging. I would bring both professional expertise and a community perspective to help the board thoughtfully support the library's mission and long-term impact.

List any experience you have with volunteering for the City of Salem, your neighborhood association, or other public bodies organizations.

I founded and run Bayt Safiya, a community mutual aid initiative that connects neighbors with resources and support. Through this effort, I help share information about nonprofit services, promote local small businesses, and connect community members who are offering or requesting help. In my professional role in county human services, I also collaborate with community partners and service providers to improve access to programs and resources. This work has strengthened my understanding of how public institutions and community organizations can work together to support residents. As a newer resident of Salem, I am excited to become more involved locally and contribute to public institutions that strengthen community connection, learning, and access to resources.

In the last five years, I have: *

None of these

What language(s) do you speak?

English and Arabic

Can you commit to attending a minimum of 75 percent of scheduled meetings? (Please refer to the City's website for the meeting schedule. Failure to meet the attendance requirement may result in removal from office.)

Yes No

Please list up to three (3) references whom we could contact to learn more about your qualifications (name/email address or phone number/relationship).

Wendy Lear wendy.lear@gmail.com/+1(503) 341-6178/Former director Elizabeth Garcia elizabethalvarez16@gmail.com/+1(971) 267-4870/Friend Emilie Azorr emilieazorr@gmail.com/+1 (503) 502-6186/coworker

Question applies to Salem Public Library Advisory Board

When did you last visit the Salem Public Library? Tell us about your experience during that visit.

My son and I visit the Salem Public Library every Tuesday after school. During our visits, we browse and check out books together, and he usually spends time exploring the adolescent section. As a tween, it has been wonderful to see him find books that match his interests and help grow his love of reading. Our weekly visits have become a routine we both look forward to. The library feels welcoming and well-used by families, students, and community members, and it provides a valuable space where young people can explore ideas, discover new books, and develop lifelong learning habits.

Question applies to Salem Public Library Advisory Board

In your opinion, what role does the Salem Public Library play in making Salem a livable community?

The Salem Public Library plays an essential role in making Salem a livable community by providing free access to knowledge, education, and resources for residents of all backgrounds. Libraries are one of the few public spaces where people of all ages can gather to learn, study, and connect without barriers. For families, libraries help foster literacy and curiosity in children. For students and adults, they provide access to information, technology, and programs that support lifelong learning. More broadly, the library helps strengthen community by creating a welcoming space where residents can access resources, attend programs, and feel connected to their city.

Demographics

The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Ethnicity

Gender

Question

Age: *

25-34

Disability Status: Do you identify as a person with a disability? *

No

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If comfortable, please specify disability:
