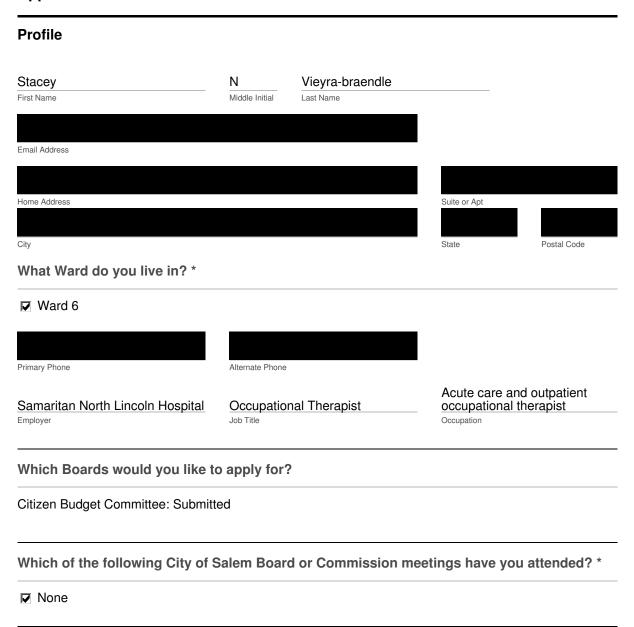
Application Form



Interests & Experiences

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

As an occupational therapist, I consider peoples' "occupations" all the ways in which they occupy their time. I feel very strongly that our "occupations" directly impact our health and well-being. As such, I am constantly thinking about the paths we take to arrive at the "occupations" we take part in, the things that we do. Will having stable housing allow someone to do more than just survive? Will having comprehensive and accessible mental health services not only directly impact someone's mental health, but then also allow them to find meaning and joy in new occupations? Additionally, as a mixed Latina and accomplice to other marginalized communities, I am committed to occupational and social justice tenets, which are central to my personal and professional paths. I will bring with me an equity lens and a passion to support others in critically examining our committee's decisions through this lens. Finally, I think a key role of local leadership, including committee positions such as this, is to not only ensure the health of its citizens, but to support them in thriving. That is what I will contribute as a member of this committee — I will consistently be analyzing how the money we spend can ensure our citizens thrive, for the things that our community members do will impact who they are, who they become, and where they find they belong.

Upload a Resume

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

I moved back to Salem in 2019, while entering the last year of my doctoral program. Perhaps it was the intense healthcare education I was in the midst of, or simply my growth in understanding the world a bit more, but I came to realize how much impact I can have on community health by serving my community through local leadership. As noted above, I finally recognized that are local leaders are truly working towards the mission of improving the lives of all citizens. Thus, the way our city allocates its money matters - it impacts each one of us, even when we do not realize it. It has the potential to create opportunity, to ensure our health and well-being, and to spark joy. Serving on the Citizen Budget Committee would allow me to directly be a part of that impact for my neighbors. Additionally, it would allow me to get a closer look at local government and to develop a better appreciation for the duties and scope of our city's leaders. As someone interested in continuing to serve our community, this will help me to better understand how local government functions, and how various pieces work together towards improving the lives of Salem citizens.

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

I have a variety of experiences that have helped prepare me to serve on this committee. Firstly, I have held several leadership positions in organizations small and large, with a variety of aims. As such, I am not only familiar with the ins and outs of formal meetings, but also highly value collaborating with others. I enjoy getting to know who my teammates are, what drives them, and how to connect with them in a way that facilitates working together. My clinical training and experiences as a healthcare professional have also prepared me to serve on the Citizen Budget Committee. I have previously worked as a music therapist with pediatric populations, adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and with adults at the Oregon State Hospital. I currently work as an occupational therapist in the hospital setting. These experiences have taught me how to directly support a patient's total health, as well as how to design and implement programming that will do so. I possess a powerful combination of clinical reasoning, leadership experience, strong interpersonal skills, and initiative to make a meaningful and long-lasting contribution to our city. I am confident that my diversity of experiences will be a welcome addition to your team.

List any experience you have with volunteering for the City of Salem or other organizations.

I currently host a fridge and dry pantry for the Free Fridge Salem network. Additionally, I have served in numerous volunteer leadership positions over the past several years, as of moving to Oregon. Please see below: Adelante Mujeres, Produce Rx - 2018 Interprofessional Student Diversity Group (Pacific University) - Secretary, 2018 Student Occupational Therapy Association (Pacific University) - President, 2018 National Executive Board of Gamma Alpha Omega Sorority, Inc. - Vice President of Standards, 2014-2016; Vice President of Internal Affairs, 2013-2014; Vice President of Philanthropic Affairs, 2010-2013 Mid Valley Mentors - Youth Mentor, 2011-2013

Briefly explain any experience you have working with your neighborhood association or other public bodies or committees.

Occupational Therapy Association of Oregon - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force, August-December 2020 Oregon Association for Music Therapy – President, 2014-2015; President-Elect, 2013-2014

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).

Amanda Kleist / amandaleekleist@gmail.com (208)914-0773 / Classmate from doctoral cohort; friend AJ Klausen (503)779-8940 / Friend Laural Lee Pond / laleepond@gmail.com (906)869-5117 / Former colleague from the Oregon State Hospital; friend

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.

Ethnicity			
Gender			