

## **Affordable Housing Resident Oversight Committee**

### **Applicant Package - Community Member with Lived Experience**

Affordable Housing Resident Oversight Committee - Community Member with Lived Experience

**Term:** 26 Sep 2022 - 31 May 2023

**Positions Available:** 1

**Number of applicants in this package:** 1

- LeMaster, Menodora

**Name:** LeMaster, Menodora

**Mailing Address:** 91 Campus Dr. PMB #2501, Missoula, MT, 59801

**Email Address:** Menodoralemaster@gmail.com

**Board Name:** Affordable Housing Resident Oversight Committee

**Date:** 09/12/22

**Pronouns** Learn more about sharing pronouns:  
**https://lgbt.ucsf.edu/pronounsmatter:** They/them

**Phone Number:** 406-304-7260

**Is your mailing address different than your physical address?:** Yes

**Zip Code:** 59801

**How long have you lived in the City of Missoula?:** 4 years, 6 months

**How long have you lived in the State of Montana?:** 4 years, 10 months

**What is your current living situation? :** Staying with Family/Friends

**This committee will consist of nine (9) voting members and two (2) non-voting alternates. If you are not selected for a voting position, are you interested in an alternate position?:** Yes

**What is your interest in serving on the Affordable Housing Resident Oversight Committee?:** I recently suffered greatly while trying to find a place to live in Missoula. I don't want anyone else to have to go through that.

**What skills and perspective will you bring to or draw on as a member of the Affordable Housing Resident Oversight Committee ? Please include any experiences (lived and/or professional) or familiarity you have with affordable housing, zoning, funding, housing policy, or other relevant skills:** I spent the entirety of July and August of this year trying to find housing and ran out nearly every resource before I finally did. Therefore I am intimately familiar with Missoula's renter market, including property management companies, private renters, apartments, house shares, roommates, anti-pet policies, service animal discrimination, predatory application fees, the Missoula Housing Authority, the Housing Advocate Network, Crosswinds' new housing assistance program, and MERA.  
I am also very familiar with the massive disparity between Missoula wages and Missoula rental costs, as well as the rental options for students and university housing, both in general and in specific.

**Describe your vision of a successful Affordable Housing Resident Oversight Committee:** A committee that prioritizes the needs of the most disadvantaged in Missoula, that utilizes providing support and care for such groups as a baseline for systems that are supportive and caring of all people, with the ultimate priority that every single person in Missoula, without exception, should have a safe, accessible, comfortable place they can live with dignity and autonomy every day and night of the year.

Such a committee would divide its priorities between managing existing properties and building new ones. With existing properties, the focus should be on defending and advancing renters' rights and acquiring properties for the city to administer as permanently affordable housing. With new builds, the priority should be on making sure that properties are accessible and centrally located, are permanently affordable, suit the needs of the populations they are built to serve, are built in harmony with the environment, are of a quality that will last for many generations, and are aesthetically beautiful.

**Why, in your opinion, are people in our community (Black, Indigenous, People of Color, those with lower incomes, young people, elderly people, etc.) being disproportionately affected by the affordable housing crisis in Missoula?:** Because these groups have lower incomes, less political influence, and little freedom to fight back.

**Please provide a brief summary of your background (such as life, work, educational, or volunteer experience that feels relevant to this opportunity).:** For the past 4.5 years I have lived and rented in Missoula, most of that time as a student. I have worked in various capacities with low-income children and their families, worked at ASUM Legal Services where I saw that most of the cases we received were housing-related, and have some experience with the local refugee community. I also have a bit of perspective from having lived overseas.

**On Monday, July 20, 2020 City Council adopted the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Ordinance and Funding Commitments Resolution. The Ordinance outlines the membership roles required for this committee. Please indicate below which roles apply to you.:** Community Member;Community Member whose household has received assistance to secure or maintain housing within the last two year

**It is a community-held priority to seat the Affordable Housing Resident Oversight Committee with members who reflect the varied experiences of Missoulians. Sharing how you identify is optional and is intended to help us ensure that the committee is diverse. IF you selected Disability status complete question below as well.:** Disability Status (yes/no)

**Race:** White

**Ethnicity:** West European

**Gender:** Nonbinary

**Age:** 25

**Disability Status:** Yes

**Reference 1 Name:** Heather Hibbard

**Reference 2 Name:** Lou Villemmez

**Agreement Signature:**I affirm that my application responses are true and complete to the best of my knowledge: Yes

**Time of Submission:** 09/12/22 4:11:17 PM

**Attachments:**

- LeMasterResume\_Sep22.pdf

American English – Native | Japanese – Business | Mandarin Chinese – Intermediate

**Multilingual professional** skilled in intercultural communication, research, and media arts. Extensive working experience in both self-directed and teamwork environments. Motivated artist with expertise in illustration, social media management, and broadcast production. Proficient with Adobe Creative suite, Apple products, and Microsoft Office suite, among others.

## CORE COMPETENCIES

Communication ♦ Technology ♦ Design ♦ Writing  
Leadership ♦ Social Media Outreach ♦ Customer / Client Relations

## EDUCATION

**Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Japanese ♦ Minor in Chinese**  
University of Montana – Missoula, MT – May 2022

**Teach English As A Foreign Language (TEFL) Certificate – Level 5 ♦ Teaching Online (100 hours) & One-to-One (30 hours) Courses**  
The TEFL Academy – Dublin, Ireland (Remote) – 2020

**Takarazuka Media Arts University** – Shinjuku Campus – Tokyo, Japan – 2016–2017

**Akamonkai Japanese Language School Graduate Certificate** – Tokyo, Japan – 2014–2016

**Rotary Youth Exchange (Study Abroad)** – Gujarat, India – 2013–2014

## AWARDS

**Henry and Marguerite Ephron Award in Modern Languages** – 2021–2022

**Dirk and Kim Visser Scholarship in Art** – 2021–2022

**Marion Boyer Fine Arts Scholarship Endowment** – 2021–2022

**Fell-Oskins Art Scholarship** – 2021–2022

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

**Academic Coordinator**  
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, Missoula, MT

2022

- ◆ Ready students for success in secondary and post-secondary education by preparing and presenting college preparatory courses on topics such as mentorship, essay-writing, email etiquette, study skills, scholarship applications, etc.
- ◆ Ensure academic success and the completion of effective post-secondary school and financial aid applications by hosting after-school tutoring in area high schools 4 days per week
- ◆ Recruit new students to the program through the creation and implementation of marketing materials, including brochures and posters
- ◆ Engage students and community members with the program via regular posts on social media
- ◆ Ensure students make informed choices by educating them on their post-secondary option, funding methods, and possible career fields via group presentations, individual advising, and field trips to job sites

#### **Archivist**

2022

MIKE AND MAUREEN MANSFIELD CENTER, Missoula, MT

#### **English As A Second Language (ESL) Tutor**

2022

LIFELONG LEARNING CENTER, Missoula, MT

- ◆ Enhance refugee students' English language skills by collaborating with ESL teacher to deliver small group instruction to mixed-level adult learners
- ◆ Build students' typing and computer skills during technology class to promote career readiness
- ◆ Accommodate students' diverse learning needs to deliver quality instruction

#### **Social Media / Outreach Manager | Legal Support Staff**

2020–2021

ASUM LEGAL SERVICES – UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, Missoula, MT

- ◆ Tripled Instagram followers by updating account 3+ times weekly and adding personal designs to posts
- ◆ Created new organization logo still in use today
- ◆ Designed a half-page university newspaper advertisement
- ◆ Improved outreach efforts by collaborating with campus groups to foster cross-promotion and organizing and hosting an educational webinar series
- ◆ Developed new online client intake process and improved website design, adding staff biography page and legal resources library for clients
- ◆ Processed intake paperwork for new clients and managed scheduling as secretary and first point-of-contact

#### **Graphics Operator**

2021

SWX BROADCASTING, Missoula, MT

- ◇ Developed eye-catching graphics before baseball games by employing creativity and graphic design skills as part of a sports broadcast film crew

- ◇ Managed graphic displays in real-time on game days by communicating with director and producer
- ◇ Ensured efficient operations by troubleshooting technical difficulties with broadcast equipment and computers and overseeing scorebug operations

#### **After School Program Director**

2019-2020

Boys and Girls Club of Missoula County, Missoula, MT

- ◇ Facilitated recreation and personal development for seventeen 5-to-13 year olds during their after-school hours
- ◇ Ensured students' physical well-being by distributing healthy snacks and enforcing safety rules
- ◇ Supported students' academic achievement by helping with homework assignments, adapting grant-required lesson plans to suit students' needs, and teaching a weekly coding club
- ◇ Built students' emotional and social skills through adaptive planning and aiding in interpersonal conflicts
- ◇ Connected students with the community by arranging visitors and field trips
- ◇ Constantly improved my own skills and knowledge through weekly online and monthly in-person training through Boys and Girls Club.
- ◇ Continued my pedagogical studies independently, including taking a 5-week course in the Science of Learning by the UK's National STEM Learning Centre and attending a presentation on helping students develop emotional coping skills by Families First Missoula.

**Additional experience in broadcast media sector** as *Production Assistant (KECI Missoula)*

**Additional experience in education and customer service sectors** as *Substitute Teacher (Desmet K-8 School)*, and *Cashier & Deli Operator (University of Montana)*, *Japanese Speaking Hall Staff (Aoyama Ramen Hall)*

### **LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

|  |      |
|--|------|
| <b>Montana TRIO Professionals Statewide Connection Event</b> | 2022 |
| <b>TRIO State Leadership Conference – Montana</b>            | 2022 |
| <b>Women's Policy Leadership Institute – Montana</b>         | 2020 |
| <b>Paper Airplanes TEFL Tutor</b>                            | 2020 |
| <b>China Table President – University of Montana</b>         | 2019 |