



Application for Boards and Commissions

City of New Haven, CT

Submitted On:

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Full Name	First Name: Tenzin Last Name: Dhondup
Email	tenzin.dhondup@yale.edu
Are you a current New Haven resident?	Yes
Full Address	Street Address: 74 High Street Second Address: 207 City Hill Street, Naugatuck, CT 06770, USA City: New Haven State: CT Zip: 06511
Phone Number	203-241-1014
Are you a registered voter in New Haven?	Yes
What political party do you belong to? [This information is only requested as it is required by the city charter (Article X Sec. 2-551) to ensure minority party representation on boards and commissions]	Independent
What is your current occupation?	Student
Please upload a resume, short bio or personal statement of interest	Tenzin Dhondup Current CV (July).pdf
New Haven Boards & Commissions Listed	Cultural Affairs Commission
Please explain why you are interested in serving on this board/commission?	I hope to join the Cultural Affairs Commission to supporting our city in celebrating the vibrant, talented, and multicultural communities that we have. My family and I have always called New Haven home as it's where my dad first migrated to in the 90s, before bringing my mom from India, and where I was born and raised for a few years. Now as a student at Yale, I've continued to see how our city and countless organizations such as Unidad Latina en Acción, Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services, and Havenly seek to empower our migrants in our community like my parents. I hope to join this commission to bring more celebrations for the immigrants in our community that bring us so much energy, life, and hope. Like other cities, I hope to work with other members to hold events like an

	<p>Immigrant Heritage Day or Week, where we provide our community with an opportunity to celebrate each other, connect with our heritages, and build cross-cultural understanding between our diverse community members. Most of all, I hope to celebrate the city that first provided my dad and countless other parents and children with a chance at a new life. Similarly, I hope to celebrate the countless parents and children that have endeavored to build a home and join our community here.</p>
<p>Why do you believe you are a good fit for this board/commission?</p>	<p>Admittedly, besides my own and my family's lived experiences, much of my past experiences in working with immigrants and refugees in New Haven and in South Asia have been through the context of health care and health administration. However, it has been in these roles that I realized that resettlement into New Haven requires much more than providing acute services - It requires building a culture of compassion and curiosity for one another, our roots, and our stories. It is only through these routes that we can truly create the conditions for health and prosperity within our incredibly diverse and vibrant community. More practically, my previous roles have taught me how to be a dynamic team member and to manage many community relations. I am sure that these experiences will help me in endeavoring to support our Commission on Cultural Affairs.</p>
<p>Do you have any time commitments that would prevent you from participating in the board/commission meetings?</p>	<p>As a student, I may have class obligations that prevent me from being able to attend some meetings. However, as a first-generation college student, I have had to quickly learn how to balance both school and work to be there for my friends, family, and myself. I hope to bring this same level of energy and commitment to this commission.</p>