PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

For Information Contact:

Date: November 1, 2013 Marta R. Idowu

Kill Date: January 1, 2014 (206) 684-4540

Seattle LGBT Commission Seeks Candidates

The Seattle LGBT Commission seeks applications from interested candidates for four vacant seats on the Commission. The Commission is a 16-member body that advises the Mayor, City Council, and City departments on issues that affect LGBTQ communities throughout Seattle. Commissioners have the opportunity to promote positive change by working with community groups and individuals to identify areas of concern, by making recommendations regarding policy and legislative changes, and by serving as liaisons between LGBTQ communities and city government.

In 2013, the Commission addressed a range of priority areas identified through community feedback and the findings from Snapshot Seattle, a citywide survey and community input from an annual Community Workplan Event. These priority areas include support of LGBTQ elders and aging services; issues pertaining to LGBTQ immigrants, refugees, and asylees; education and outreach around intersectional identities; LGBTQ economic justice; issues of gender identity inclusion and access; outreach to the Seattle Police Department; increased awareness of LGBTQ youth support; support for an LGBTQ Community Center and development of an Office of LGBTQ Affairs among others. Additional information about the Commission's 2013 Work Plan is available online at http://www.seattle.gov/LGBT.

Appointment to the Commission is subject to confirmation by the City Council. Commissioners serve two-year terms, although may be appointed to fill the remainder of an existing term.

<u>How to apply?</u> The deadline to apply for a seat on the Commission is December 31, 2013. To apply, please submit a completed application form, along with a letter of interest, a resume, a short biography, and the area of Seattle in which you live.

<u>Click here to download the application</u>. Application materials must be submitted by email to Marta Idowu at <u>marta.idowu@seattle.gov</u> by the deadline. Please note, all documents must be in MS Word document file format in order to be considered complete for submission.

Applicants must live or work in Seattle, and must be available for monthly public meetings on the third Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 at Seattle City Hall in downtown Seattle. Applicants should possess demonstrated experience working or volunteering with LGBTQ communities, and it is highly encouraged that applicants have attended at least one Commission meeting or event within the past 12 months to learn more about the Commission's work and process. Applicants are encouraged to attend the Commission's November 21 or December 19 meetings at City Hall or the December 11 Work Plan Event at Washington Hall to learn more and meet Commissioners.

The City of Seattle is committed to promoting diversity in the City's boards and commissions. The City welcomes applications from persons with disabilities, persons of color, persons of different faiths, immigrants, youth, senior citizens, women, all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions.

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