

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Application

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL

Submitted on	3 February 2025, 8:02PM
Receipt number	12
Related form version	10

I am interested in serving on the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs. By checking this box I am affirming that I understand this appointment will be a 2-3 year commitment.	Yes, I understand
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I understand that this document will be a public record and any information I provide could be subject to release upon request.	Yes, I understand
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Date of application	02/03/2025
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Contact Information

Full name	Fernanda Diaz-Basteris
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Phonetic pronunciation	fer-NAN-duh DA-ih-uhz-BAS-ter-rihs
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Gender	Female
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Pronouns	she/her/ella
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Email address	diazbama@gmail.com
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Phone number	5308488271
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Indicate home, work, mobile for primary number	Home
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Secondary phone number	
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Indicate home, work, mobile for secondary number	
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If you have a social media presence (Instagram, Facebook, X, TikTok, LinkedIn, etc.) please share the best way to find you	_decolonizing_lxcomics
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Residential street address	68 W Como Avenue
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City	Columbus
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Zip code	43202
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How many years have you lived in the City of Columbus?	2
What district of the City of Columbus do you live in? (1-9 or outside of city limits)	3
Age	36-45

Personal Information

Country of origin (or country of origin of your parents, if applicable)	Mexico
How long have you lived in the US? (date of arrival)	07/01/2011
What immigrant group or groups do you represent?	Continental Caribbean/Latinx
What languages do you speak and rate your fluency in each (basic, conversational, fluent, or proficient)	Spanish - native English - proficient French - basic
Do you identify as one of the following: Immigrant (a person who has come to a country that is not their own in order to live there permanently), Refugee (a person who has come to a country that is not their own to avoid persecution in their country of origin), First-Generation (children of foreign-born parents)	Yes
Ethnicity and race (please check all that apply)	Latino (Mexico, South American, Central America, Caribbean, etc.)
Occupation (if retired, please share former occupation)	University Professor
Do you identify with any of the following affinity groups?	Not applicable

Questionnaire

Why are you interested in serving on this commission? (maximum 250 words)	As an immigrant in the academic institution, and as a literacy facilitator at non profits and community centers, I see a crucial need to strengthen the bridge between the city, the non profits and Latinx studies/students at our public university. Immigrants are present in all areas, businesses, and spaces in Columbus, and the educator tier must be represented and included in this city initiative. As educators we have the opportunity to both serve and be served.
What do you hope the commission will accomplish in the short term and long term? (maximum 250 words)	Creating support networks beyond businesses, addressing the immediate needs of college students, and building bridges between higher education institutions, students, and their families are essential steps. These efforts aim to create and improve educational initiatives and help build sustainable immigrant communities.
Please describe and share relevant activities and accomplishments that relate to the community that you represent (maximum 250 words)	Día de los muertos at Ohio State, Latinx studies speaker series at OSU, Latinx Feminist Comics Cluster at OSU, Latinx studies at Latino Festival and Green Lawn Dia de los muertos.
List any experience that would assist you in serving on this commission (maximum 250 words)	Organize Latinx-oriented events at the university; Lead research clusters on Latinx feminist visual studies; Host scholars and artists for campus visits and community engagement

Are you related to any elected City official or city staff member? If yes, please explain.

no

Do you or any of your family members work for or serve on the board of directors of any organization which has contracted with or applied for funding from the City of Columbus? Do you anticipate any involvement of this kind in the future? If yes, please describe the relationship.

no

Please indicate any activities you are involved with that may present a conflict of interest with the commission applying for.

I work at The Ohio State University, they sponsor my work visa

References

Reference #1

Paloma Martínez-Cruz

Relation #1

Colleague at Ohio State University

Phone number #1

6307790559

Email #1

martinez-cruz.2@osu.edu

Reference #2

Bradley Petrella

Relation #2

colleague at Our Lady of Guadalupe Center

Phone number #2

6143595485

Email #2

bpetrella@colscss.org

By filling out the reference section, I hereby authorize the City of Columbus to conduct a reference check by contacting the individuals listed above. As a reminder, this document is subject to public records requests.

Yes

Resume & Letters of Reference

Optional: Please attach your resume and any letters of reference here. If you plan on mailing this form please remember to attach a copy of your resume and any letters of reference.

[CV Fernanda Diaz.docx](#)