

City of Aurora
APPLICATION - WARD II COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Due Date: May 20, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

Name: Ryan Ross, PhD

Home Address: 25047 E Canal Place Zip Code: 80018

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Day Phone: 3035244180 Evening Phone: 3035244180

What year did you become a registered elector in Aurora? _____

Have you lived in Ward 2 for at least one year? Yes No

EDUCATION

Degree: Doctorate Years Completed: 2008

EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name: Colorado Community College System

Position: Associate Vice Chancellor Dates: 11-2018 - current

Address: 9101 E Lowry Blvd Denver, CO 80230

REFERENCES

Name: Charles Gilford Phone: 720-624-9095

Name: Rico Munn Phone: 303-365-7800

Name: Commisioner Steve O'Dorisio Phone: 720-333-1117

I swear and affirm that I:

- Am a "Registered Elector" as defined in Aurora City Code Section 54-2
- Am a citizen of the United States of America
- Have resided within the municipal boundaries of the City of Aurora for at least one year prior to the appointment
- Have resided within the respective Ward boundaries for at least one year prior to the date of appointment
- Will have reached my 21st birthday prior to the date of appointment
- Have not been convicted of a felony
- Am not a City of Aurora employee or hold any other elective public office

Do you presently serve in any appointive position on a Board, Commission or Committee?

Yes No

If yes, what Board Commission or Committee:

Why do you desire appointment to City Council? You may use additional paper if needed.

Please See attached document

If we were to conduct a comprehensive background investigation and reference checks what will we find that may warrant explanation or that could be of concern to the city? You may use additional paper if needed.

Nothing of concern

What will we find in an internet search of press coverage that may be controversial or of concern to the city? Please provide whatever explanation you think is appropriate to help us understand what we will find. You may use additional paper if needed.

Nothing of concern

Do you have any special work experience, qualifications, or training that is related to your service on this board or that you would like to share with us?

Interests/Activities: Please see attachment

Licenses/Training/Certificates: Please see attachment

How much time do you anticipate being able to spend on Council duties each month? 75-100

Are there certain times when you wouldn't be available (for instance because of job hours or another regular commitment)? I work full time: Monday - Friday 8 to 5 but I have some flexibility with appropriate planning.

Signature: Ryan Ross Date: 05-20-2021

Note: Application will not be considered without attaching resume or if received past the deadline. Please include your previous three employers and the reason for leaving on your resume. You may use additional paper to answer the application questions.

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE USE ONLY:

Voter Registration Date: _____ Application Received Date: _____
Proof of 1 Year Residency

Send completed application packet to:

Email: kvrodrig@auroragov.org

Mail: City Clerk's Office, 15151 E. Alameda Pky., Ste. 1400, Aurora, CO 80012

Fax: 303-739-7520

Ryan Edward Ross, PhD

25047 E. Canal Street Aurora, CO 80018

Phone: (303) 524-4180

Email: [REDACTED]

Biography

Ryan E. Ross, Ph.D., is a transformational change agent, educator, and servant leader committed to achieving educational access and equity for all students and developing leaders. Ryan's professional, community, and social contributions earned him the title "Denver's role Model for Inclusiveness, as well as land him recognitions such as: The Denver Business Journal's prestigious 40 under Forty Award, being named as an African American who make a difference by the Denver Urban Spectrum, receiving Colorado's M.O.D.E.L (Man of Distinction Excellence, and Leadership) award, being a recipient of the 2013 MLK Jr. Humanitarian award from Colorado's Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, being named as one of Colorado's top five most influential young professionals by COBIZ magazine in 2014, and recently being recognized as the 2016 Colorado 9 News leader of the year.

Personal Mission Statement

Unapologetically committed to equity, social justice, and educational access for everyone

Work History

COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM –DENVER, CO

ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION, **NOVEMBER 2018 – CURRENT**

AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE –WASHINGTON, D.C.

DIRECTOR EXTERNAL MOBILIZATION: WESTERN REGION, **MARCH 2016-NOVEMBER 2018**

URBAN LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION OF COLORADO

President and CEO, **January 2015 – Current**

COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF DENVER – DENVER, CO

Interim Vice President for Student Development and Retention, **November 2015 –March 2016**

Dean of Student Development and Retention, **April 2011- November 2015**

Executive Director, Federal Trio Programs: **January 2008 – April 2011**

Director, Educational Opportunity Center: **December 2006 – January 2008**

Director, Educational Talent Search: **August 2005 – December 2006**

Lead Counselor & Assistant Director, Educational Opportunity Center: **January 2005 – August 2005**

Counselor, Educational Opportunity Center: **September 2003 – January 2005**

STIRRED UP ENTERPRISES – DENVER, CO: AUGUST 2006 - CURRENT

President and CEO

Motivational Speaking, Educational Consulting, Nonprofit Development Support, and Cultural Relevance and Competence workshops

Denver Kids Inc. – Denver, CO: June 2002 – September 2003

Denver Public Schools

Educational Advisor

Consulting Snapshot

City of Aurora (2020-21)

Project: Facilitation – Community and Police Task Force

Five Points Development Corporation (2018)

Project: Community Engagement

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American Heart Association (2017)

Project: Government relations and policy support

American Petroleum Institute (2014-2015)

Project: STEM outreach campaign to Women, African American, and Latino Students

Denver Public Schools – Denver, CO (2010 -2015)

Project: Cultural Relevance in the classroom – Martin Luther King Early College

Project: Diversity Speaker Series: Focusing on Black Boys Academic Success versus Suspension - District

Project: Creating Inclusive Excellence for Students – Contemporary Learning Academy

Project: Building Team Dynamics to Create a Culture for Learning – Omar D. Blair School

Project: Identity and Success of African American Males – Contemporary Learning Academy

University of Denver (2011-2016)

Project: Pioneer College Prep leadership Academy Diversity Speaker

Project: Black Male Initiative Summit Leadership and Diversity Speaker

Anne Arundel Community College - Baltimore, MD (2011)

Project: Auditing Federal Trio Programs

EDUCATION

Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Leadership and Innovation (2012)

Dissertation: A Counter to the Proposed Crisis: Exploring the Experiences of Successful African American Males
University of Colorado Denver, Denver, CO

Leadership Denver (2014)

Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce

CCD Executive Leadership Training (2011)

Community College of Denver

Master of Education in Organization Performance and Change (2005)

Capstone: Improving Training and Development within the Aurora Police Department
Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO

ULF Connect Executive Leader Training (2008)

Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (2002)

Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE

Certified Career Development Facilitator (2005)

Performance Solutions
Community College of Denver

SKILLS SNAPSHOT

*Diversity and Inclusion
Institutional Effectiveness
Transformational Leadership
Strategic Planning
Leadership Development
Student Affairs Management*

*Coalition Building
Grassroots Mobilization
Budget Management
Action Planning
Team Building
Stakeholder Relations*

*Community & Interpersonal Relations
Grass-top Relationship Building
Solution Oriented Problem Solving
Operational Excellence
Public Speaking
Public and Private Partnerships*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

Graduate, Denver Metro Chamber Foundation Leadership Denver (2014)

Mayoral Appointee, Denver Parks and Recreation Board (2010-2012)

President, Denver Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi (2011-2013)

Member, Denver Kappa Alpha Psi Scholarship foundation (2011-2015)
Vice Chair, Impact Empowerment Group (2013-2014)
Board Member, Mile High Youth Core (2010 -2018)
Board Member, Byrne Urban Scholars Program (2002 – 2005)
President Regional ASPIRE (CO, UT, WY, ND, SD, and MT, 2008-2010)
Board Member, Council for Opportunity in Education (Washington, D.C., 2008-2010)

MEDIA

<http://www.cobizmag.com/articles/guest-column-grooming-the-next-generation-of-leaders>
<http://www.bizjournals.com/denver/stories/2010/03/15/focus32.html>
<http://www.epaperflip.com/aglaia/viewer.aspx?docid=5eb75e96af7747f5b89b52653ba95939&page=8>
http://issuu.com/denverurbanspectrum/docs/dus_aug2011_36_pager_epub_layout_1-opt/8
http://www.denverpost.com/recommended/ci_20249874
<http://newswire.coloradocommunitycolleges.com/2013/08/dr-ryan-ross-wins-mavors-diversity-award/>
http://cbslc2014.com/?page_id=48
<http://blogs.denverpost.com/style/tag/mayor-michael-hancock/>
http://www.reporterherald.com/news/education/ci_24953702/loveland-gathers-keep-dream-alive
<http://coloradosprings.com/denvers-marade-marches-on-despite-bitter-cold/article/1619078>

HONORS

2018 MLK BR. Business Social Responsibility Award
2017 Asfaw Family Foundation Arches of Hope Leadership Award
2016 Denver Urban Scholars Gilbert Garcia Memorial Award
2016 9News Leader of the year
2014 Colorado Gospel Hall of Fame Leader on the Move Award
2014 COBIZ Magazine Gen XYZ 25 Most Influential Young Professionals
2013 Denver Mayor Diversity Award
2013 Martin Luther King Humanitarian Award Colorado Martin Luther King Commission
2013 Denver Foundation Swanee Hunt Individual Leadership Award
2012 University of Colorado Denver Distinguished Doctoral Graduate
2010 Denver Business Journal Forty under 40
2010 African American Who Makes a Difference: Denver Urban Spectrum
2010 Wellington E. Webb Commitment to Excellence in Education Award
2010 Regional ASPIRE Distinguished President Award
2010 Mayoral Appointment to the Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
2009 North East Charter Community Star Award
2008, Colorado Black Chamber Connect Leadership Empowerment Award

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Email: 

Application Questions

Why do you desire appointment to City Council?

I believe that service is "the great equalizer." There is nothing that eliminates titles, posturing, and inaccessibility like inspiring service in the public's interest. The relationships I value most and the experiences I hold most dear are the direct result of service. As a youth, I watched the service completed by others create opportunities that literally changed the trajectory of my life. As a young man, the voice and advocacy of those committed to servant leadership role-modeled the responsibility I believe and accept we have as leaders to pay it forward.

This sense of responsibility and opportunity to create new relationships and experiences fuel my interest in serving Ward 2. While not perfect, I believe the City of Aurora is on the cusp of evolving into something remarkable:

- a city with an amazing opportunity to grow the economy and provide opportunities that remove individuals from poverty
- a city where public safety means all citizens feel stable, secure, and seen
- a city committed to a philosophy that everyone matters and has a right to live with dignity, especially the most disenfranchised,
- a community where diversity is celebrated and all citizens thrive.

I believe Ward 2 has had leadership that supports this vision of Aurora, and I would like to work to continue to uphold this vision. Serving in an interim capacity will allow the work to continue without significant interruption and give the community members of Ward 2 time to select their representative of choice to lead them into the future. There is no greater honor than service to one's community, I look forward sharing my time, talent, and being entrusted with this most important post.

Thank you for your service to the City of Aurora and consideration of my application to join your team in service of Aurora over the next five months.

Do you have any special work experience, qualifications, or training that is related to your service on this board or that you would like to share with us?

I understand the legislative process, city systems, charter rules, resolution, and ordinance process. I have had the opportunity to work closely, providing facilitation services, with City of Aurora Deputy City Manager Jason Batchelor and APD Community Relations Division Manager Claudine McDonald, and various representatives from community organizations and Wards across the City of Aurora. My engagement with these great folks offers you firsthand experience of my ability to bring people together, problem solves, and communicate effectively, and focus on producing outcomes.

Facilitation, teamwork, and communication skills are several of the talents I believe would add value to the democratic pursuits and processes of the council. Over the years, through education, professional work, and private consulting, I have developed an ability to assess, synthesize, and understand policies, procedures, and data.

I believe in fairness, justice and view things with an equity lens. My understanding and approach to equity have brought tremendous value to metro and rural college communities across the state. I believe I can offer the same value to the City of Aurora and Ward 2 community.

I have attached my resume and bio for your convenience.

Ryan Ross, PhD

