

NICOLE J. JONES
1417 E. 124TH SREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90059
310/766-9025

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October 7, 2016

Andres Ramos
Vice President of the Board of Trustees
Office of the Chief Executive Officer
Compton Community College District
1111 East Artesia Blvd
Compton, CA 90221
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Mr. Ramos:

I am very interested in being considered for the appointment to the position of Trustee Area 2 for the Compton Community College District. Given my experience in public affairs, philanthropy and nonprofit management, I believe that I have strong qualifications that would allow me to serve in a meaningful way on the Board of Trustees. Enclosed is a copy of the CCCD application and my resume.

I specifically want to highlight three qualifications that would help me achieve success in this role:

▪ **Governmental Experience**

I have extensive political experience, having served on the staffs of several elected officials. In these roles, I served as a community liaison addressing constituent concerns; participated in community events; executed a variety of community-based projects; and, spearheaded legislative projects addressing community needs. As a result, I have developed a strong understanding about community relations and the role of various city departments and other governmental agencies, which will be key factors in coordinate and collaborating with city entities, which provides me with real-life implementation of political science concepts.

▪ **Strong Understanding of Community College Student Population**

My career has provided me expertise in funding educational programs and support services for students and low-income communities. I remain connected to resources that report on advancements in the nonprofit and educational field and participate in ongoing professional development sessions to stay informed on best practices.

Additionally, I have had extensive board service, and these experiences have helped me understand the real-life implementation of challenges facing underserved communities.

▪ **Extensive Local, Statewide and National Network**

Having had the opportunity to work across multiple sectors, including political service, foundations, nonprofit organizations, higher education and civic involvement, I have developed an extensive network of colleagues. These relationships have proven to be invaluable, assisting me in understanding the political structures and connections between government and other sectors.

I approach my work with the highest level of respect as I am passionate about making a positive difference. Passion for serving others and improving communities is the connecting thread throughout my professional and civic involvement. These opportunities have also significantly increased my capacity to understand students and appreciate diversity and responsiveness – the process of listening and developing strategies to effectively and appropriately address needs and concerns.

I look forward to further participating in the application process. Should you need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 310/766-9025.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole J. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nicole" being the most prominent part.

Nicole J. Jones

NICOLE J. JONES

1417 E. 124th Street * Los Angeles, CA 90059

Phone: 310/766-9025 * Email: nicolejjones@alum.calberkeley.org

Summary of Qualifications:

- Strong analytical skills, political acumen and effective written and oral communication skills developed through roles as fundraiser, grantmaker, political aide and evaluation consultant.
- Valuable insights about the public affairs sector, including understanding legislative processes (local, state and federal level), creating effective communication strategies and supporting collaborative partnerships.
- Comprehensive understanding of nonprofit landscape and strategic philanthropy, including best practices in nonprofit management, program planning, project implementation and organizational leadership.
- Seasoned grantmaker with more than 10 years of significant experience, working at a community foundation, private foundation and regional association of grantmakers.
- Completed the Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs, the National Urban Fellows Program and numerous other leadership development programs.
- Strong record of community/civic service, which includes local and national board service on agencies such as the American Heart Association, California Board of Psychology and National Urban Fellows.
- Extensive national network of public policy, philanthropic and nonprofit leaders.

Education:

- Bernard M. Baruch College, City University of New York – Master of Public Administration
- University of California, Berkeley – BA, Social Sciences (Urban Education Emphasis)

Professional Experience:

2015 – present Director of External Affairs – Southern California Office of California State Controller Betty Yee

Serves as a member of the External Affairs team working in the Southern California region. Responsibilities include representing Controller Yee in various communities with a focus on promoting financial fitness, highlighting the impact of state and local funding and tax implications, and understanding the financial needs of Californians with a specific emphasis on women, immigrants, students and veterans.

2011 – 2015 Director of External Affairs – Crystal Stairs, Inc.

Oversaw organizational fundraising planning and projects, public policy and advocacy efforts, and communications strategies to support the various child care and family support services delivered to underserved families residing in South Los Angeles and the communities of Compton, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale and Long Beach.

2008 – 2011 Associate Director, Corporate and Foundation Relations – Loyola Marymount University

Managed donor identification, cultivation and stewardship activities for corporate and foundation donors to support a diverse funding portfolio, including the School of Film and Television, Seaver School of Engineering, the School of Education, the African American Alumni Association, the Mexican American Alumni Association and the Hannon Library. Also, served as a member of the LMU Staff Senate.

2007 – 2008 Senior Program Director – Southern California Grantmakers

Supervised planning, development and implementation of programs for corporate giving programs, family foundations, private foundations, public foundations and individual members (major donors), as well as establishing strategic relationships with local affinity groups and organizations .

2002 – 2007 Program Director – The California Wellness Foundation

Managed statewide portfolios of community-based programs and policy grantees to address the issues of violence prevention, teenage pregnancy prevention and mental health, awarding up to \$8 million annually. Reviewed grant proposals and developed funding recommendations. Key accomplishments include:

- Represented TCWF on Los Angeles Mayor Villaraigosa's Council of Education Advisors, the National Funding Collaborative on Violence Prevention board, and a World Health Organization (WHO) advisory committee;
- Supported public education campaigns, including developing public opinion polls, publications and statewide convenings, including organizing an international meeting held in conjunction WHO; and,
- Assisted with preparation of a retrospective analysis of the 10-year Violence Prevention Initiative.

1998 – 2001 Program Officer/Program Associate – California Community Foundation(Los Angeles County)

Conducted outreach to grantseekers, reviewed funding requests and oversaw grant monitoring, with increasing levels of responsibilities. Oversaw a diverse portfolio, including education, health, housing, community engagement and arts grantees. Assisted with development of funding guidelines and project timelines for several special initiatives, including the Los Angeles Community AIDS Initiative, the Gay and Lesbian Community Fund and the Getty arts initiatives. Grant portfolio also included the following activities:

- Managed the Centinela Medical Community Fund, a regional health initiative, awarding \$800,000;
- Launched Fostering Understanding Initiative, a youth human relations program, awarding \$300,000; and,
- Managed the Los Angeles Community AIDS Initiative, awarding \$100,000.

1997 – 1998 Fellow/Special Assistant, The Indianapolis Foundation – National Urban Fellows Program

Awarded fellowship from a highly competitive, national applicant pool for a graduate-level program comprised of academic coursework and field experience as a Special Assistant at The Indianapolis Foundation, resulting in conferral of a Master of Public Administration degree. Fellowship accomplishments included implementing a summer youth funding program; securing and monitoring a Points of Light Foundation grant to support a youth service initiative; and completing several research projects.

1996 – 1997 Coro Fellow – Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs (Los Angeles, CA)

Selected as one of 48 fellows nationally for post-graduate public affairs fellowship focused on leadership development and civic participation. Field assignments included the California Community Foundation; the Office of Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan; Los Angeles County Probation Officers Union; Daewoo Motors America; Jack Scott for Assembly Campaign; Los Angeles City Attorney's Office (James Hahn, who later became Mayor); and KCET – Life & Times Show.

Prior to this period, served as a **field representative to California State Assemblyman Kevin Murray** (1994-96) and the **Watts Field Deputy to Los Angeles City Councilmember Rudy Svorinich, Jr.** (1993-94). In these roles, served as a community liaison addressing constituent concerns, participated in community events and executed a variety of community-based projects and spearheaded legislative projects addressing community needs. Also, worked as a **research associate at Evaluation & Training Institute** (1992-93), conducting third-party evaluation studies for public agencies, nonprofit organizations and grant-funded projects. Additionally, worked as an **instructor at UCLA Extension** (2004-2005), teaching the introductory course on prospect research and proposal writing for the fundraising certificate program.

Awards and Professional Fellowships/Training:

- 14th Annual G.C.S. Multi-Cultural Leadership Korea Visitation Program – LA Delegation to Korea (2011)
- America's Leaders of Change – National Urban Fellows, Inc. (2009-2010)
- Ambassadors Within – California Community Foundation (2003)
- Association of Black Foundation Executives – Emerging Leader in Philanthropy Award (2003)
- Leadership California – Annual Issues Program (2001)
- Southern California Grantmakers/SCAP – Fundamentals of Grantmaking Series (1999)
- National Urban Fellows Program – Indianapolis Foundation (1997-98)
- Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs (1996-97)
- Cal-In-Sacramento Internship Program - California Department of Education, High-Risk Youth Unit (1991)

Civic/Community Involvement:

- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated
- American Heart Association Greater Los Angeles Division – Board Member (2011 – present); Past Chair
- California Board of Psychology – Public Board Member (Governor Jerry Brown appointee; 2012-2018); Vice President, Chair – Policy & Advocacy Committee
- Cal Alumni Association (University of California, Berkeley) – Board Member (2013-2017)
- HRDCVR Magazine – Advisory Board (2014)
- Los Angeles African American Women's Public Policy Institute – Board Member (2007 – 2011)
- Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce – Scholarship Committee (2000-2003)
- National Organization of Women/Califa Chapter - Member
- National Urban Fellows, Inc. – Board Member (2005 – 2011)
- New Frontier Democratic Club - Member
- Southern California Blacks in Philanthropy – Chair (2004-2007)
- Tavis Smiley Foundation – Board Member (2008 – 2012)

**COMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
TRUSTEE VACANCY APPLICATION FORM**

Name: Nicole J. Jones

Home Address: 1417 E. 124th Street

City, State, Zip: Los Angeles, CA 90059.

Phone: Homes: (310) 766-9025 Business: (310) 766-9025 Cell: (310) 766-9025

Email address: nicoleijones@alum.calberkeley.org

Occupation: Director of External Affairs – Southern California

Company: State Controller's Office (Office of State Controller Betty Yee)

Business Address: 888 S. Figueroa Street, Suite 2050

City, State, Zip: Los Angeles, CA 90071

Please complete the following: (This information is required in addition to your resume)

Education (List degrees or highest year completed and the college or school)

Master of Public Administration – Bernard M. Baruch College, City University of New York

Bachelor of Arts, Social Sciences (Urban Education Emphasis) – University of California, Berkeley

Employment History (most recent 10 years)

State Controller's Office (Office of State Controller Betty Yee) – Director of External Affairs, Southern California

Crystal Stairs, Inc. – Director of External Affairs

Loyola Marymount University – Associate Director, Corporate and Foundation Relations

Southern California Grantmakers - Senior Program Director

The California Wellness Foundation – Program Director

Public and Community Service

California Board of Psychology – Public Board Member (Governor appointee)

Cal Alumni Association (University of California, Berkeley) – Board Member

American Heart Association, Greater Los Angeles Division – Board Member/ Volunteer

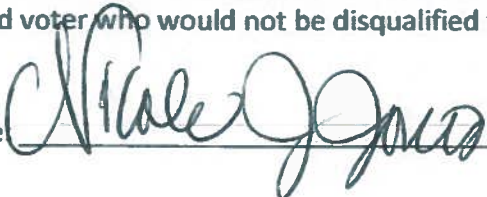
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

(Check if applicable) I am related to a current employee of the District. If yes, name of employee and relationship

I understand that I may not simultaneously be an employee of the Compton Community College District and serve as a member of the Board of Trustees.

I certify that I meet all eligibility requirements. (Note: To be eligible, an individual must be at least 18 years old; must be a resident of the District and specifically Trustee Area 2; must be a U.S. citizen; must be a registered voter who would not be disqualified from holding civil office by the Constitution or any law of the state.)

Signature



Date:

10/7/16

1. Please describe your understanding of the role of a California Community College District Trustee and explain why you are interested in serving as a Trustee for Compton Community College District.

The role of a California Community College District Trustee is a governance role. This role includes overseeing the policy direction, hiring key administrative staff, maintaining strong personnel relations, evaluating institutional performance, ensuring financial and legal stability, serving as a connection and intermediary with community; and working in partnership with other Board of Trustees. Likewise, the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees serve in a governance role on behalf of the citizens of the District to ensure that Compton Community College is creating an educational climate of high quality standards and to ensure the college's fiscal and legal stability. In this current period the Board of Trustees play a critical role in serving as a bridge between the community, the college administration and El Camino College to ensure that there is strong and effective partnership.

After more than 20 years of service in the political, philanthropic and nonprofit sectors, I believe that my experiences and applied knowledge have prepared me to serve as a Compton Community College District Trustee. My track record of public service, professional positions and volunteer service, have been focused on enhancing access to education and social services. Specifically, my service as a state commissioner on the California Board of Psychology and my tenure serving as a staff member in the California Legislature have given me firsthand experience about the functions of public institutions.

In addition to my professional positions, I have remained committed to service through my work related to scholarships, college outreach and direct services. I am especially interested in serving at Compton Community College District because the community college is an important community resource and asset, and the student population being served is deserving of a high-quality institution in achieving the community college mission of: academic transfer preparation; career/technical education; continuing education; developmental/remedial education; and, community service.

2. Briefly share your public service and involvement in the Trustee Area 2 (Willowbrook, Enterprise, Compton and West Rancho Dominguez) communities, and how this service would enhance your position as a member of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees.

I have been a Willowbrook resident for the past eleven years, living two houses from where my father was raised. I have long-term connections and service in Willowbrook and the neighboring communities of Watts and other parts of South Los Angeles. The majority of my professional career has centered on addressing issues impacting these communities. Of particular note, in my role as External Affairs Director and manager at Crystal.Stairs, I was actively involved with the implementation of the Head Start sites in Willowbrook and Compton, which included gaining a stronger understanding of the career technical education programs focused on early childhood education at El Camino College Compton Center. In this capacity, I was involved with the First 5 LA Best Start programs targeting the communities of Watts/Willowbrook and West Athens. As a former grantmaker, I oversaw a grants portfolio that included a significant number of programs that supported educational attainment and supportive student services to support students, much like those residing in Area 2.

In my volunteer capacities, I served on the board of the American Heart Association where there was a targeted effort to support health education and outreach in schools and community-based organizations serving the Willowbrook, Compton and South Los Angeles area.

3. What is your understanding of the primary responsibilities of the Board, and how do you envision your role as one member of the Board?

The Board serve is an oversight role, and the Board is tasked with working together to ensure that the institution is operating in an ethical, legal and prudent manner, which includes each Trustee having the responsibility to remain informed and gain an understanding of the various activities and issues facing the District. This type of role requires commitment and interest in becoming informed, and includes asking questions and operating with integrity in all efforts. I believe the Board's role in connecting with the community is critical to ensure transparency and promote awareness and understanding. As a member of the Board, I am committed to respecting other members and encouraging dialogue and partnership in our service.

4. What do you see as the major educational issues facing California community colleges in the next 3-5 years?

The California community colleges play a key role in the higher education landscape, and the needs of students are significant. Over the next 3-5 years, I believe that the major educational issues that will be impacting campuses statewide are: developmental/remedial educational classes and services; career/technical education and matriculation/transfer rates.

Developmental or remedial education includes coursework that focuses on literacy (basics of reading, writing and arithmetic) and fundamental skills for resiliency, including time management, study skills and other coping mechanisms. Furthermore, the prevalence of functional illiteracy and the lack of quality K-12 preparation have increased the demand for developmental education.

There is continued interest and popularity of career/technical education studies at the community colleges. To meet the growing occupational needs, there has been an increase in students pursuing health-related studies and other career training programs. The demand for these types of course will continue, especially in the light of the closure of many private technical educational institutions.

Also, many community colleges are facing challenges with low transfer rates, which is linked to the lack of counseling staff and services, resulting in students not completing the necessary courses for transfer credit. Additionally, there number of class offering does not meet demand, which requires students to take a longer time to complete the coursework necessary for transfer.

In addition to aforementioned educational issues, the need for student support services will likely increase, including counseling services and financial supportive resources. The ability to access these much-needed services will likely determine the success of community college students.

5. What do you see as the major educational issues facing the communities served in Trustee Area 2 in the next 3-5 years?

I would imagine that the educational issues facing the communities served in Trustee Area 2 will mirror the needs of the statewide system. However, developmental educational and career/technical education can be prioritized as major concerns in the near future.

As previously mentioned, the focus on developmental/remedial education is critical due to the the varying levels of illiteracy – even for those students completing high school certification. In considering providing basic coursework, there will also be a strong need for assessment and placement services to identify student attainment and needs.

Additionally, those students seeking career/technical educational goals need developmental education. Students will need to have coursework that incorporates basic skills (reading, writing, arithmetic/mathematical operations, listens and speaks); thinking skills (creative thinking, decision-making ability, problem-solving skills, visualization, learning skills and reasoning skills); and, personal development (responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity and honesty).

6. Who do you believe you will be representing if you are appointed to the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees?

As an appointed member of the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees, I believe my role is to represent the community in ensuring the sustainable and effective operation of the District and the El Camino College Compton Center. As a bridge between the college and the community, I view my role as translating community needs for education into advocating and promoting effective policies. Further, I envision supporting those efforts that would support the best interest of the college and address the needs of the various constituencies – students, faculty, administration and residents. So, in this role, I would be faced to consider the various constituent concerns; however, the primary focus will remain the communities served in Trustee Area 2 and throughout the entire Compton Community College District. I believe the underlying priority is to advocate for the best outcome that would support the residents in the District.

7. How would you ensure that all constituent groups – internal and external – have a voice in the governance of Compton Community College District?

Passion for serving others and improving communities is the connecting thread throughout my professional and civic involvement. As such, I approach my work with the highest level of respect as I am passionate about making a positive difference. My professional and personal experiences have allowed me to significantly increase my capacity to understand students and appreciate diversity and responsiveness – the process of listening and developing strategies to effectively and appropriately address needs and concerns. And, most importantly, I am committed to encouraging the involvement of new voices. For these reasons, I am confident that I would make a meaningful contribution as a member of the Compton Community College Board of Trustees.

VanBrown Paula

From: Nicole J. Jones <nicolejanne@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 07, 2016 11:43 AM
To: VanBrown Paula
Subject: Trustee Area 2 Vacancy Position Application (Nicole J. Jones)
Attachments: Cover Letter for CCCD Trustee Vacancy_Vice Chair Ramos.pdf; Nicole J Jones Resume - October 2016.pdf; CCCD Application (100716).pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good Morning! Attached is my complete application for the Area 2 Trustee Vacancy in the Compton Community College District. I have attached the following items:

Cover Letter to Vice Chair Ramos
Compton Community College District Trustee Vacancy Application Form/Questionnaire
Resume

I will call the office to confirm receipt.

Thanks and have a great day, Nicole Jones

Nicole J. Jones
(310) 766-9025