



City of Gilroy Board, Committee, & Commission Application

**All Commission, Board, and Committee applications are a public record.*

Board/Committee/Commission of Interest:		Youth Commission	
Name:	Zara Ting-Tee		
Phone number(s):		email address*:	
Are you a registered voter within the City limits?		No	
Physical Address*:			
Driver's License or ID No.:		Date of Birth*:	Last 4 of SSN:
List your qualifications for this appointment:			
<p>My qualifications for this appointment are the following: 1) In 2022, I worked as a mentor in the STAR Arts Education program here in Gilroy. I was a part of the pioneer crew for the infamous Oak Tree Garden, which belonged to the Ohlone people for centuries. I was absolutely honored to share this rich history with the youth of the program. I worked with Mrs. Marilyn Cardinali to guide the students and introduce the children through the powerful concept of theater. Prior to this, I was also a part of STAR's podcasting class, in which I worked with Mr. Ethan Chargin to later help create a video to promote the new musical Puff's to other youth and expose them to the wonders of being in a community based musical. 2) As a Junior Olympic Gymnast from 2015 through 2020, I helped coach young and aspiring gymnasts who were interested in being a part of the competitive team. I absolutely loved teaching and guiding these junior gymnasts to embody the life and skills of a competitive gymnast. Some of these junior gymnasts have joined the team and have given back their knowledge to the community by being great role models and excellent leaders. 3) I have volunteered at various elementary/middle schools across Gilroy. I have also went back to mentor and give a presentation to upcoming middle-schoolers in my previous fifth grade GATE class in Rucker Elementary. I gave them honest and significant advice on the transition from elementary to middle school and the transition from middle school to high school. I was incredibly honored to stand in place of those who had done the same for me. 4) I was actively involved in Gavilan's Science Alive Gallery and really enjoyed assisting the middle schoolers in finding their passions in science and math. It was so fun to watch the kids experience real science and to watch their amazement. My wish is for these students to gain the knowledge and eventually contribute their expertise to our city. 5) In my middle schools years, I was passionately involved as a member of the Kindness Club ran by Ms. Fortino (Brownell), in which we would visit Wheeler Manor to brings smiles to the senior community and visit the local shelters to care for our city's animals. It brought a lot of happiness and contentment to be involved in such a positive motion for our Gilroy community. 6) During COVID, I made personal cards to all the seniors at Wheeler Manor. My yearning to be a part of the community during the</p>			

pandemic, has given me the opportunity to bring a little smile and joy to the senior residents during the unfortunate lockdown period. I was delighted to be a part of this while also being able to recruit other youth to do the same. 7) I am always open and active in GECA's student body. I consistently participate in school events and provide advice and ideas for the members of the student council to promote a healthy and inclusive environment in our GECA community.

List any service to the community including any prior appointments:

I was a mentor at STAR Arts and also helped promote the arts and sciences to youth in both the STAR and Science Alive programs. I am a frequent volunteer to schools across Gilroy and enjoy introducing others to being active in the amazing Gilroy community.

What are your goals while serving on this Board/Commission/Committee?

While serving on this Board/Commission/Committee, my main goal is to allow the youth community in Gilroy to understand and feel that they have a voice and role in our community. I also hope to encourage people to get more involved in the community itself, and I hope to be able to provide affective advice to help the board and city in any way I can. Throughout my life, I had been a recipient from very kind people in Gilroy, so now, I want to give back to our city and to the wonderful people in it.

Why are you the most qualified to serve on this Board/Commission/Committee?

I am a person who loves analyzing problems and finding solutions to them, in both large or more private situations. I have a huge interest to how the world works through trial and error and changes, so that is why I took multiple sociology classes, in the past year, in Gavilan College to better understand the functioning of societies. I am a great listener and have public speaking skills that I've gained through speeches, theater, and Poetry Out Loud. I enjoy voicing my honest opinion and working as a team to acknowledge issues and create greater opportunities for others. After the many mentors I've had through the years, such as police officers, librarians, school counselors/teachers, and even running non-profits, I believe I have a strong understanding of community and will make a conscientious effort to be an effective member of the Gilroy City Youth Committee.

School: Dr. TJ Owen's Gilroy Early College Academy / Grade: 10th



By clicking on this box, I declare under penalty of perjury that I am currently a registered voter within the City limits of the City of Gilroy. Furthermore, I understand that this application and any attachments are subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act and must complete mandatory Open Government Ordinance Training. I further understand that members of the Planning Commission, Building Boards of Appeals, and Physically Challenged Board of Appeals are also subject to filing the Fair Political Practice Commission's Statement of Economic Interest Form 700 relating to financial disclosures.