

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPLICATION



Please complete this application in its entirety and submit an original signed copy to the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California 95118. If more space is needed, please attach additional pages. Applications are valid for one year from the date of receipt and are public record. This application is available on-line at <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committees> under "Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission." For assistance, please contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board at (408) 265-2607, extension 2277.

A. CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Committee: Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission			
Name (First, Middle, Last): Tammy Gao			
Home Phone:	Work Phone:	Cell Phone:	Fax:
Mailing Address: (Street Address, City, State, ZIP)			
E-mail:			
If Applicable, Present Employer (Name and Address):		Job Title:	
Do you have a current contractual relationship with the Santa Clara Valley Water District? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
If Yes, please describe (if more space is needed, please attach additional pages):			

B. VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

List current and previous volunteer experience. Include experience with charitable organizations, committees and commissions, or public offices you may have held and relevant dates. If more space is needed, please attach additional pages.		
DATE(S):	NAME:	RESPONSIBILITIES/EXPERIENCE:
11/22/18		
04/21/18		
03/31/18		
03/24/18		
01/13/18		

C. INTEREST AND AVAILABILITY

How did you hear about this committee opening?	
<input type="checkbox"/> District Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Director (please specify):
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Committee Member (please specify): Kathryn Bravo	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
Please describe your interest in serving on this committee: <i>I'm interested in bringing awareness to topics that are usually avoided - nonelected, for example. And, I think that, with bringing awareness, I could educate myself, as well as others, on the environmental impact we're making.</i>	
Please describe your relevant qualifications, such as specific skills, training, or knowledge that should be considered in applying for this committee: <i>InterACT (volunteering club), taught me leadership skills.</i>	
How would the community benefit by your participation on this committee? <i>I think that the community will benefit in the sense that I would use my platform to bring awareness to such issues and discuss talk about the prevailing issues teen's experience in regards to water and environmental stewardship.</i>	
Are you available to attend committee meetings when scheduled? (please go to https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committees for committee meeting schedule details) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If No, please describe:	
If you have a disability, what accommodations would you need to serve on this committee?	

D. EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In case of emergency, contact:	
1. Name:	Phone:
2. Name:	Phone:

I, HEREBY, ATTEST THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND MAY BE VERIFIED BY THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT. I UNDERSTAND THAT MISREPRESENTATION OR OMISSIONS MAY BE CAUSE FOR MY IMMEDIATE REJECTION AS AN APPLICANT OR TERMINATION FROM APPOINTMENT TO A COMMITTEE.

Applicant Signature

04/05/19
Date Signed

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE




Those applying for the **YOUTH COMMISSION** must complete the **APPLICATION** and **SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE**. For more information or questions, please email: youthcommission@valleywater.org.

Name (First, Last): Tammy Cao	
What School Do You Attend: ✓	Grade Level:
Extra-Curricular Activities: Interact	Favorite Subjects: Math, English
Please go to www.valleywater.org and scroll down to The Water District in Your Area to identify your Board Member and District #	
Board Member's Name: Tony Estremera	Board Member District #: 6

In 300 words or less: (If more space is needed, please attach additional pages.)

1. What do you feel are the top three issues young people in Santa Clara County are facing, particularly around water or environmental stewardship? If appointed, how will you connect these issues to your role on the Youth Commission?
2. What do you hope to gain from being on the Youth Commission? What do you think you can contribute by being on the Youth Commission?

Applicant: I, **Tammy Cao** (print applicant name) verify that the information I have provided on this application is accurate. All information provided is subject to verification. False, inaccurate, or ineligible applications will be disqualified.

Parent/Guardian: I,  (parent/guardian signature) understand that my child has applied for the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission and has my express permission.

B. Volunteer Experience

Date(s):	Name:	Responsibilities/Experiences:
11/19/17		
03/03/18		

1. What do you feel are top three young people in Santa Clara County, are facing, particularly around water or environmental stewardship? If appointed, how will you connect these issues to your role on the Youth Commission?

The international project this year for my club is, "Se Necesita Un Pueblo," or, It takes a Village. And through this project, I came to realize that, although the project focuses on the youth of Venezuela--youths in Santa Clara County also share similar struggles.

Every day, the number of abandoned youths increase in Venezuela, who do not have access to necessities like water, food, shelter, and education. And, despite San Jose being apart of Silicon Valley--the "home to many start-ups and global technology companies"--there still continues to be issues of homelessness. Throughout San Jose, there are tents along railroads, parents, with their children, asking for money to get through the day. And yet, no matter how apparent the issue of homelessness affects us, we continue to ignore it.

And consequently, the arising issue of homelessness also affects our environment. In San Jose, homelessness is a big issue, which is why there are numerous homeless encampments in Coyote Creek. So, along with homelessness, there is also the issue of trash along the banks of the creek. Clubs have taken to account of the trash along the banks of the creek. And so, there are Coyote Creek Cleanups to get rid of the waste. But, even despite our consistency to clean the creek, the issue only continues to become more prominent.

There's also the issue of wasting water--as teenagers, we don't take into account how our actions can affect the environment. That being said, even leaving the water running for too long--or taking an unnecessarily long shower, limits the availability of water.

2. What do you hope to gain from being on the Youth Commission? What do you think you can contribute by being on the Youth Commission?

As a freshman, I was hesitant to join clubs, but through Interact I was able to understand my passion for service. More importantly, I grew to develop a love for

understanding the compassion of people, through service. So, I applied to be an officer, and through my position--I was able to improve and acquire leadership skills.

But through my experience as a club officer, I also became informed about the worldly issues around me--and it made me feel the urge to make a difference. So, I realized that I could be able to apply "Se Necesita Un Pueblo," because I knew, that I could create a profound change in my community. For that reason, I felt inspired to take initiative--because I found that through Interact, I was able to provide people the necessary support and love, to allow them to thrive. And so, I want to use this experience and find growth within myself--I want to be able to do the same through Youth Commission.

I hope that through the Youth Commission, I am able to use my platform to voice the issues that I find prevalent for teens within Santa Clara County. And, I realized that through my experiences and growing up in this community, I was able to recognize the problems that are often avoided. Through the Youth Commission, I hope to make a bigger impact on my community--and be apart of striving for environmental change and to give voices for youths who are too afraid to speak up.

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