

Application Form

Profile

Rachel

First Name

Rosekind

Last Name

Middle Initial

Home Address

Suite or Apt

El Cerrito

City

CA

State

94530

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Email Address

Which supervisorial district do you live in?

District 1

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

New York University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

B.A. / Literature and Social Theory

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Yale University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Dual PhD / African American Studies and American Studies

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

San Jose State University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Masters of Library and Information Science

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

Other schools / training completed:

Course Studied

Hours Completed

Certificate Awarded?

Yes No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

None Selected

Seat Name

District 1 representative

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

Yes No

If you have attended, how many meetings have you attended?

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I am a longtime Bay Area resident who has resided in El Cerrito for the past five years. I have been an educator for over two decades and have earned both a PhD and a Masters in Library and Information Science. I have a deep and nuanced understanding of the role of public libraries in supporting community cohesion and support, and I possess a strong commitment to civic responsibility. I run my own business centered around empowering individuals and organizations through written expression, and I have held many workshops at Contra Costa libraries over the years. My love of libraries is lifelong: it stems from an abiding passion for promoting access to and equity of resources. I am a staunch advocate for what I believe in, but I am also well-versed in the necessity of consensus-building. Public libraries play a vital role in supporting *all* members of their communities, and I have worked consistently over the years to advocate for services and policies that promote the profession's core values. I believe that my unique and well-balanced perspective would enrich the commission's discussions and amplify its effectiveness. Over the years, my varied library-related roles have included patron, researcher, grantwriter, and presenter. I frequent all of our East Bay library systems, but I hold a special place in my heart for CCC's libraries, particularly for the El Cerrito location and the ongoing campaign to help build a new branch. In short, I believe that I would be an excellent candidate to fill the District 1 vacancy. I invite you to explore my website to learn more about who I am and what I do: www.writeyouare.net.

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

I would like to be considered for appointment to other advisory boards for which I may be qualified.

Yes No

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board, commission, or committee?

Yes No

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

I serve on the Berkeley Farmers Market Community Advisory Council, the Progressive Librarian Guild, and assist a wide array of mission-driven individuals and organizations on a pro bono basis with grant writing and other writing-centered projects. In the past, I have volunteered for several years for the Coalition for the Homeless

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

I believe that the information in the previous section "Board and Interest" covers this question, but I have attached my resume for your consideration, which I hope will fill in any gaps.

[Upload a Resume](#)

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a Familial or Financial Relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors?

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relations?

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I certify that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and undersand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

I Agree

RACHEL ROSEKIND, PhD

EDUCATION

San Jose State University, San Jose, CA

MLIS, December 2016

Focus on social justice and radical reference; public and school libraries; readers advisory; innovative community engagement, library services, and platforms; and information literacy, equity, and ethics

Yale University, New Haven, CT

Dual PhD, African American Studies and American Studies, 2006

Between the Country House and the Kitchenette: Literary Excavations of Space and Self in the Work of Henry James and Gwendolyn Brooks. Advisor: Hazel V. Carby

M.Phil., Honors, African American Studies and American Studies, 2003

M.A., Honors, African American Studies and American Studies, 2001

New York University, New York, NY

B.A., Summa Cum Laude, Literature and Social Theory, 1997

Focus on the navigation of public, urban, and political space as represented and defined in literature and the visual and applied arts.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder, Write You Are!

2015–Present

- Run independent business providing writing instruction & coaching, content creation, writing workshops, college & graduate school consulting, and editorial services throughout the country

Data Lead and Content Editor, San Jose State University, School of Information

November 2019–Present

- Work as primary point person for 25+ team members and 125+ faculty to strategize, mine, streamline, and synthesize significant amounts of data to support the iSchool's reaccreditation process and final report submission.
- Assist with editing content and layout of accreditation report

Independent Editor

2000–Present

- Work with individual and institutional clients to develop manuscripts for publication
- Edit dissertations, theses, grant proposals, academic articles, and other nonfiction material
- Review literary manuscripts, including poetry, novels, novellas, short stories, and essays
- Create content for corporate reports, factbooks, presentations, blogs, and websites

Research Intern, Wikimedia Foundation

January 2016–September 2016

- Research the intersection between and application of Wikimedia projects to: cultural preservation and knowledge dissemination in the developing world; academic, public, research and special collections libraries; information literacy instruction; and innovative technological platforms
- Design and tag a Zotero bibliographic collection to collocate and disambiguate the data
- Write a comprehensive literature review documenting the evolution of Wikipedia’s role in information literacy frameworks and instruction throughout the world.

Research Intern, African American Museum & Library at Oakland

April 2016–May 2017

- Research and create a bibliographic digital archive chronicling the history of Blacks in Oakland after World War Two.

Research Assistant to African American Studies Department Chair, Yale University

January 2001–May 2006

- Assisted Department Chair with personal research, preparation and editing of conference papers and journal articles, and creation of course syllabi
- Planned “*African American Studies and Yale: Revisiting Origins, Imagining Futures*,” held in May 2002; organized conference panels, designed publicity materials and commemorative brochure; wrote and published historical and photographic essay documenting the history of Yale’s African American Studies department

Lead Organizer, “Langston Hughes and His World” International Conference, Yale University

March 2001–October 2002

- Drafted grant proposal and budget narrative to Ford Foundation outlining plans for international conference to celebrate centenary of Hughes’s birth
- Secured \$100,000 from Ford Foundation and \$15,000 from Yale’s Kempf Memorial Fund
- Tracked expenses and prepared budget reports for grantmaking institutions

- Liaised with Yale’s Office of Printing and Publishing Services, the President’s Office, Beinecke Rare Books & Manuscripts Library, Grants & Contracts, and multiple academic departments to facilitate collaboration and communication
- Prepared website content and all publicity materials, brochures, and souvenirs for event
- Helped plan and execute all conference activities, including: library exhibition, film screening, panel discussions, meals, book signings, music, and theatrical performance
- Coordinated travel plans and lodging arrangements for conference speakers
- Partnered with publishing house and performed outreach to local public schools to organize reading, musical performance, and large book donation to school libraries and classrooms

Tutor and Summer Program Instructor, Central Falls Public Schools, Rhode Island

December 2004–March 2006

- Assisted 9th-12th grade students with class assignments and helped to build study habits and writing skills
- Wrote grant to secure funds from Central Falls School Department to lead summer course for “at-risk” middle school students
- Created and led month-long program to build literacy and math skills

Development Associate, Providence Public Schools

September 1998–June 1999

- Researched and identified potential funding sources and helped to compose and edit grant proposals
- Met with local nonprofits, corporations, and other grant-making and grant-receiving entities to identify priorities, benchmarks, and partnership opportunities
- Major projects include grants to provide the following: literacy resources and instruction, expanded afterschool programs, and technological innovation

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Founder/Educator, Write You Are!

2015–Present

- Lead group classes and workshops at community centers, libraries, and other locations
- Inspire students and clients through discussions of exemplary poetry and prose, exciting writing prompts, and thoughtful individualized feedback
- Provide private writing coaching to youth, teens, and adults to discuss and hone craft and to generate, refine, and discuss works-in-progress

English Teacher, 9th & 11th Grade, Honors, Crystal Springs Uplands School

August 2007–March 2009

- Collaborated with colleagues to select materials for year-long survey courses in world and American literature
- Instructed students in grammar, close reading, research, academic writing, and historical interpretation of literary texts
- Maintained website for students and parents to keep abreast of course materials
- Served as 9th Grade advisor

Teaching Fellow, “Formation of Modern American Culture,” Yale University

Spring 2003, 2004

- Led weekly discussion sections engaging students in dialogue about 20th century American cultural history
- Graded weekly response papers and 2 longer essays
- Collaborated with fellow instructors to present multimedia materials and other dynamic learning opportunities to students

Instructor, “Black Literature and the Urban Environment,” Yale University

Fall 2003

- Designed new interdisciplinary course for African American Studies Department based on dissertation research and teaching interests
- Met weekly with students to present and discuss course materials
- Facilitated and led students on historical walking tour of Harlem

Teaching Fellow, “Modern African American Literature,” Yale University

Spring 2003, Fall 2002

- Worked with Professor and co-fellow to draft syllabus and to select notable writers to serve as guest lecturers
- Led weekly discussion sections exploring new voices in African American literature
- Graded close reading exercises and research papers

Senior Essay Advisor, Department of American Studies, Yale University

Fall 2004–Spring 2005

- Nominated for position by American Studies department faculty
- Met individually with students to help select and refine senior essay topics; devise research strategies; and draft and edit essays

- Led group tutorials on brainstorming, information literacy strategies, writing and revision process, and bibliographic instruction

Afro-American Studies Teaching Assistant and Writing Advisor, Wesleyan University

Fall 2002–Fall 2003

- Met individually with 60 students on a weekly basis to discuss course materials, devise paper topics, and refine drafts

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Finalist, May 2019: *National Parks Arts Residency, Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park*
- *Alameda County Library Library Lit Contest February 2019: Winner, “Souls of My Feet”*
- John F. Enders Fund Summer Fellowship for Dissertation Writing and Research, 2005
- University Dissertation Fellowship, Susan Rhoda Cutler Fellowship Fund, 2004-2005
- John Perry Miller Fellowship, Summer 2003
- Mellon Fellowship in Gender History, Harvard University, Summer 2002

PUBLICATIONS AND DISTINCTIONS

- *“Making Our Words Matter: Reawakening the Radical Imagination*, unpublished. 2019.
- *A History of African Americans in Oakland, California: an Annotated Bibliography*, prepared for the African American Museum and Library at Oakland, AY 2016-2017
- “Data Retrieval, Information Literacy, and Knowledge Synthesis in the Age of Wikipedia: a Framework for Partnership and Progression.” Wiki site: Summer 2016
- “Using a Compass without a Map: the Journey of a Mother-Educator.” *Hybrid Pedagogy*, 10 May 2016, <http://www.digitalpedagogylab.com/hybridped/using-a-compass-without-a-map/>
- *Nourishing our Children and our World through Stories: a Book List that Promotes Awareness and Affirmation of Self, Others, and the Natural World*, January 2016
- Review of *Selling the Race: Culture, Community, and Black Chicago, 1940-1955*, by Adam Green, *Economic History Review*, 60 (November 2007): 862-864.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

Collage Poetry Mashup for Families. 4/24/2020. Berkeley Public Library, Central Branch, California

Canceled due to Coronavirus.

Collage Poetry Mashup for Families. 4/22/2020. Hercules Public Library, California

Canceled due to Coronavirus.

Tweens & Teens Creative Writing Meet-Up: Poetry. 4/14/20. El Cerrito Public Library, California. **Canceled due to Coronavirus.**

Picture Poems: a Workshop for the "Insiders Group." 2/27/20. Hercules Public Library, California

Tweens & Teens Creative Writing Meet-Up: What is Love?. 2/11/2020. El Cerrito Public Library, California

"Writing Strategies and Success for Homeschooled Families." 2/1/2020. Invited Talk, Bay Area Homeschool Moms Group.

Family Learning Sundays. 1/5/2020. Providence Public Library, Rhode Island

Flash! Fiction Workshop: a NaNoWriMo Event. 11/16/2019. Berkeley Public Library, North Branch, California

Spooky Stories Writing Workshop. 10/23/2019. El Cerrito Public Library, California

Write Your Way to Outer Space!: a Pre-Summer Reading Workshop. 5/21/2019. El Cerrito Public Library, California

Write Your Way to Outer Space!: a Pre-Summer Reading Workshop. 5/9/2019. Hercules Public Library, California

National Poetry Month: Collage Poetry Mashup. 4/27/2019. Berkeley Public Library, West Branch, California

Try Your Hand at Creative Writing: a Workshop for All Ages. 2/27/2019. Albany Public Library, California

Creative Writing for Young People. 12/9/2018. Albany Public Library, California

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- *Fierce Illumination: Elemental Revelations and Unravelings*
- *"Ain't Nothin' Wrong with the Way She Moves": The Experience and Influence of Women in the Grateful Dead*
- *Flight of the Beautiful Days: A Chronicle of the Radical Women Who Ignited Bay Area Social and Cultural Movements*
- *An Apprentice to Words: Why I Write, Why I Teach*
- *Ivy Grows in the Garden of Eden: Letters to my Older Young Daughters*

SERVICE

- Community Advisory Council member, Berkeley Farmers' Markets, Berkeley, CA
- Independent Publishers of New England (IPNE) Book Awards Judge
- Miriam Braverman Memorial Prize Jury, Progressive Librarians Guild

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Copyediting Society
- Association of Writers & Writing Programs
- Bay Area Editors Forum

- Editorial Freelancers Association

References available upon request.