

OGDEN CITY DIVERSITY COMMISSION NEWSLETTER



Back row from left to right: Tom Szalay, Juliana Woodbury, Vernon Jackson, and Fernando Morales

Front row from left to right: Shardae Jones, Christine Ipsen, Haille VanPatten, and Monica Gil

Not pictured: JuanCarlos Sanristeban, Lucia Madrigal, and Amir Jackson



Diversity Commissioner Haille VanPatten

Haille Van Patten is the Marketing and Public Relations Manager at the Ogden Downtown Alliance. Haille attended Weber State University, where she joined the Student Association and held various positions including Student Director of WSU's Alternative Breaks program. Haille volunteered on service trips centered around hunger justice, urban sustainability, and rebuilding communities.

Working with diverse populations fostered Haille's love for her community. Since graduating with her Bachelor's Degree in Communications, Haille has remained passionate about Ogden, volunteering at public events and serving on committees such as the College Town Marketing Committee.

Diversity Commissioner Monica Gil

Monica Gil is the Equity and Access Family Engagement Administrator/Supervisor of Ogden School District. After 7 years as a social worker, Monica began her career within Ogden School District as a school counselor when she earned her Master's Degree of School Counseling. For the past six years she has worked at Ben Lomond High School as the counseling department head and transitioned to the Equity and Access Family Engagement Administrator/Supervisor at the beginning of 2022. As a first-generation college student and second-generation immigrant Monica is passionate about diversity, inclusion, equality, and education.



May 13, 2024

Vol. 3

“Society is unity in diversity.”

- George Herbert Mead

Upcoming Events:

EAC Art Pantry - Free Art Supplies for Students

Thu, May 30, 2 – 4:30pm
Eccles Art Center, 2580 Jefferson Avenue, Ogden, UT 84401

16th Ogden Music Festival

Fri, May 31
Fort Buenaventura, 2450 A Avenue, Ogden, Utah 84401

Cornerstone Ceremony

Fri, May 31, 5 – 9:30pm
Ogden Union Station, 2501 Wall Ave, Ogden, UT 84401

For a full list of events happening across Ogden City, visit www.ogdencity.com/2385/Full-Calendar-of-Ogden-Community-Events



INDEPENDENCE

TODAY IN 1960

On May 13, 1967, Minnette Carter, Debbie Jackson, and Valerie Brooks boarded the train from Ogden to Salt Lake City as part of 30 Ogden Girl Scouts and Brownies from Troops 439 and 446 to visit the Utah State Capitol and Hogle Zoo. It was all part of the girl's scouting program.

Roads To Independence

Roads to Independence (RTI) is a non-profit community-based organization providing services and advocacy by and for all persons with disabilities. RTI was formed in 2000, to primarily serve people with disabilities in Davis, Morgan, and Weber Counties. Its staff is dedicated to working with individuals with disabilities to identify and remove barriers, and to assist with living independently in their own homes and communities. RTI serves all ages and types of people with disabilities. Services include, but are not limited to, independent living skills training, advocacy services, peer mentoring, assistive technology, recreational activities, youth services, etc.



When the artist Suzanne Storer asked me to film her for her exhibition about homeless people I was all in. Her exhibit I'm Roofless NOT Homeless is on display now through May 31 at Eccles Art Center where attendees can witness her in action. Witnessing Suzanne's gentle demeanor and viewing her ceramic sculptures imbued with feelings is a privilege. Her art education came from colleges and great artists alike. She was especially influenced by the late sculptor Akio Takamori. Suzanne was born in Corvallis, Oregon, attended Oregon State University for two years, and earned a BFA at the California College of the Arts in Oakland. She says, "My main education in addition to art school was living in Berkeley in the sixties and protesting the Vietnam War." She went on to tell me, "We knew then that the Vietnam War was wrong just like we know now that the existence of so many homeless people is wrong."

Meet Your Neighbor

Suzanne Storer

As a child, Suzanne became a champion tennis player in the northwest using the excellent eye/hand coordination she was born with. This coordination also helps her to create accurate likenesses, drawing and sculpting people. I encourage readers to see her art at the Eccles Art Center. The film "At The Shelter" is in the gallery and on the EAC YouTube channel. - T. Szalay

Contact Details:

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