

## **BACKGROUND ON PARK RENAMING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Amelia (“Mia”) Eichel** – Mia was born and raised in Alameda. Moving back home after graduating college in May 2020 was not the plan, but when Covid hit, she decided to try and help her hometown during a time of great change. She spent a fair amount of time at "Jackson Park" in high school and sees its potential as a space for the community to gather and share ideas big and small. Mia is also an entrepreneur; she founded a startup and is building refill stations for products that usually come in plastic bottles. She loves Alameda and wants to help make it a sustainable and safe place for everyone.

**Antonio (AJ) Bustos-Arevalo** – AJ has lived his entire life in Alameda. He is a current sophomore at Saint Joseph Notre Dame High School. He has been a part of the Alameda Youth Committee for six years as a youth volunteer. He also participates in ARPDs summer volunteer program. He is currently a Boy Scout at the rank of Star Scout, on track to earning Eagle rank. AJ was also the recipient of the Youth of the Year Award in 2019 for the city of Alameda. He loves giving back to his community and has missed the opportunities during the pandemic.

**Jessica Santone** – Jessica Santone moved to California in 2015 and to Alameda in 2019, after living all across the US and briefly abroad previously. Since 2015, she has been Assistant Professor of Art, with a specialization in Modern and Contemporary American Art History & Visual Studies, at Cal State East Bay in Hayward. She teaches courses and publishes research on: race in American art; public art & monuments; climate emergency & environmental justice; gender & sexuality in contemporary art; and community art, pedagogical art & social practice. At Cal State East Bay, she serves on a number of committees, including the Council for Racial and Social Justice.

**Jim Manning** – Jim Manning is a retired family physician who moved to Alameda in 2010 from the Navajo Nation where he worked for the Indian Health Service. He and his wife live on the park being renamed, and he was a member of the citizens’ group which raised funds to restore the Isabelle Clark Memorial Bench in the park.

**Katherine Castro** – Katherine immigrated from Panama at seven years old, and after many moves later from the East Coast, through the states, and to the East Coast, she moved to Alameda to attend her fourth high school, Alameda High School. Thanks to Susan Irvine, a retired career counselor at AHS and now forever friend, Katherine was placed on a rapid-strenuous college track and is the first in her family to graduate from a four-year University. She has her master’s in career counseling and refined her coaching craft specializing in working with BIPOC at UC Berkeley. Fast forward, she is now a Diversity and Inclusion professional in the tech industry to bring in, retain, and coach BIPOC. She has a partner who is born and raised in Alameda, is Chamoru-Italian, and together, raise their son. She has a dream goal to be a first-time homeowner in Alameda.

**Philly Jones** – Philly moved to Alameda over 30 years ago, after growing up in Philadelphia, attending college in Texas and a short stay in Arizona. She met and married a sailor and had a daughter. During her daughter’s preliminary school years, Philly participated and held roles at her schools – PTA, School Site Council and Sports’ Boosters. Philly is one of the original founders of the Alameda Girls Softball Association program chairing as the player agent and tournament director. During her daughter’s high school years and beyond, Philly was the Sting fundraising coordinator for the Alameda High School boosters’ sports program.

Philly currently sits on the AHS Hall of Fame committee and liaison with AHS boosters. She currently manages the office of a local well known family business.

**Rachel Brockl** – A nearly 30-year resident of Alameda who was raised by a single mother and completed all grades through high school on the island. Thus, she has a deep connection to the Alameda community. Rachel identifies as a woman and of mixed ethnicity. Her mother immigrated to the United States from Indonesia when she was 14 years old and she built her way up from the bottom to provide for Rachel as a child.

Rachel is the first attorney in her family, a law professor, and the Director of the Litigation Center at Golden Gate University, School of Law in San Francisco. Previous to her current position, she was a Deputy District Attorney for approximately six years. Over the last few years, Rachel has involved herself in programs and committees to help underrepresented groups in different communities. For the Puente Program in Napa County, she mentored Latina women who were the first in their families to attend community college and assisted them in graduating in order to excel in the community and to pursue additional degrees. Rachel is also a member of the Race and Justice Task Force at her current job, which focuses on addressing racial inequality issues affecting students and faculty.

**Raquel Williams** – Senior and leader at Alameda High School. Community activities – Black Student Union President, Vice-President Youth Activist of Alameda, City’s Racism Subcommittee, Alameda High School Diversity Commissioner

**Rasheed Shabazz** - Rasheed is a journalist, historian, and urban planner. He grew up in the Buena Vista Apartments attended the following Alameda public schools: Washington and Longfellow Elementary, Chipman Middle, and Encinal High. He is currently in the Masters of City Planning program at the University of California, Berkeley. Rasheed is a member of the Rename Jackson Park group, and was involved in the effort to Rename Henry H. Haight Elementary School, which also honored a racist. He is currently writing a history focused on African Americans and housing in Alameda called “Alameda is our Home.” He also has a public history project called, “Rooted in Alameda,” which includes oral history, photography, and walking tours. <http://renamejacksonpark.wordpress.com>

#### **Non-Voting Members**

**Adrienne Alexander** – Chair, Alameda Recreation and Parks Commission

**Eric Robbins** – Vice-Chair, Alameda Recreation and Parks Commission

**Amy Wooldridge** – Director, Alameda Recreation and Parks Department