Trustee Candidate Nomination Application

This form is used to capture contact information, basic profile, and intent for joining the Board of Trustees of Girls Global Academy from prospective members.

DC Public Charter High School
GIRLS GLOBAL ACADEMY
Today's Date *
MM DD YYYY
05 / 19 / 2023
Last Name *
Miller
First Name *
Maria

Preferred Pronouns She/her
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State/US Territory * MD
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Nominating Board Member

Maureen Colburn

In 500 words or less please tell us a little bit about yourself. Respond in any way you choose, including some professional history, general biography, or even just personal reflections.

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I am a life-long learner who is passionate about traveling and helping others, particularly those who are less fortunate. Originally trained a lawyer, I spent 10 years as a corporate attorney where I managed real estate and mergers and acquisition transactions. I followed thereafter with a stint in-house as a regulatory compliance officer for a Fortune 100 Wall Street firm. While the work was certainly challenging and financially rewarding, there was a certain void for me in terms of my ability to feel the impact of my labor on the lives of others. This desire to more directly touch the lives of others led me to transition the skills I'd developed on Wall Street and my passion for traveling into a second career in international development. I was able to parlay my legal experiences into a role as a private sector specialist at the International Finance Corporation, the private sector arm of the World Bank Group. As a private sector in over 20 nations to improve the enabling environment for private investment that has led to job creation and improved livelihoods for local citizens. I transitioned from the World Bank Group during the recent pandemic and now continue to do this work as an independent consultant.

In addition to my traveling bug, I am passionate about tennis – both playing and watching – and enjoy spending time with friends and family.

In 500 words or less please tell us why you would like to join the governing board of Girls Global Academy. Please also tell us what you think you will contribute and/or any particular things you would like to do as a trustee of the school.

"To whomever much is given, much is required" is a value that was instilled in me from birth. Over my life, I have been fortunate to have had a village of mentors, teachers, colleagues and friends who have generously poured into me. Through these relationships, I have benefited from educational opportunities and been exposed to different ideas and thoughts that have opened pathways for me that led to opportunities that I never knew existed. I cannot imagine using all that I am to do the same for others.

Who I am is a product of many things, but includes Spelman College, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., my extensive professional background and my commitment to supporting development of minority teen girls to ensure that they have access to all of the possibilities that might exist for them.

The pillars around which Girls Global Academy operates (i.e., Sisterhood, Service, Scholarship and Safety) align closely with those of organizations where I am already active, including Spelman College Alumnae Association and the Washington DC Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. In both of these organizations, I am actively engaged in programs that support teen girls and as such, have already begun to foster partnerships between the organizations and GGA. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute further by joining the governing board of GGA. In addition to my professional background as a global citizen who has supported governments all over the world in designing frameworks from the ground up, I feel that I could contribute significantly as a trustee of the school by further solidifying partnerships with both the Spelman alumnae network and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. I see opportunities in the Spelman network for career exposure, mentoring and possibly financial support. Through the Delta partnership, there are also potential opportunities for career exposure and mentoring, as well as partnering on service projects. It would bring me great joy and personal satisfaction to support these endeavors.

This form was created inside of Girls Global Academy.

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