

# 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



Today's Date \*

MM DD YYYY

02 / 22 / 2024

Last Name \*

Holden

First Name \*

Brian

Preferred Pronouns

He/Him

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City \*

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## Nominating Board Member

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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. \*

I was born and raised in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where I went to Louisiana State University to get my bachelor's and master's in Electrical Engineering. I've been here in the DC area for almost five years now where I work as an electrical engineer for Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab in the space sector. I am currently working on my MBA in the weekend executive program at Duke where I plan to graduate in May 2025. I hope to one day get my PhD in math or African American history in hopes of becoming a professor someday.

My time in Baton Rouge was filled with many volunteer opportunities that allowed me give back to many communities throughout the city. My first opportunity was with a local nonprofit called The Gardere Initiative. This nonprofit was led by a community leader in hopes of providing resources to children from low-income families. I joined The Gardere Initiative as a tutor mainly for math. It was here where I got my first experience with tutoring and where I got to see firsthand how important of a job this was for myself and the children in the community.

In addition to doing work with The Gardere Initiative, I also did work with another nonprofit called The Futures Fund that taught kids coding and photography skills. This nonprofit worked to provide middle and high school students with opportunities to develop the skills with real life projects in hopes to create opportunities of employment upon graduation. Students would meet every Saturday for eight weeks and be instructed on various topics in coding and photography. This group did a lot of work to get students started early in emerging fields to help provide better outcomes for the futures of the students and their families.

My parents emphasized to me at an early age how important education was to myself, my future, and my community at large. Education has been a central part of my life since first starting school when I was a child. I can attest to the positive influence it has had on me and how I view the world around me. Knowing that schools face daunting challenges in today's world, I hope to be part of the solution to give back to schools that help educate our future leaders. I've been blessed to be in the position that I'm in today and I hope to be able to be a blessing someone else.

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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. \*

In the past almost five years since moving to the DC area, I've wanted to do more to help in the local community. Education has been one of the main ways that I've volunteered in Louisiana and it has always been a passion of mine. That's why this opportunity to join the governing board of Girls Global Academy is one that I believe I would excel at. The work being done at GGA is not only courageous but it also very bold and I hope to be lucky enough to be a part of it.

What I will be able to contribute is a fresh perspective on how to best service the students and the community. While the students are the main focus of the school, making a connection with their parents is just as important to the success of these young women. I think there's an opportunity for the school to invest in the parents just as much as they do in the students. The school, in my opinion, is underutilized in just serving the students. I hope to be able to start initiatives to get parents involved with meeting other parents to see how they all can be a resource for each other.

I also look forward to joining the Risk and Audit committee to help ensure GGA continues functioning in a fiscally secure position. I realize I don't have to be an expert in accounting or finance to take on this role, but I do hope to be able to better understand the finances of GGA and see where some chances can be taken to improve the school. I am currently getting my MBA from Duke and I hope to gain real world experience from the classes I've been taking recently.

While I'm still relatively new to the DC area, I think this will provide me with the opportunity to learn more about DC's education system in depth. There's much I've heard pertaining to education in DC but seeing it firsthand will help me get a better understanding of what the challenges are. I also hope to get the chance to work with like-minded individuals to help improve the futures for many young women in the area. All of these opportunities will be great experience for me and hopefully I will be able to provide significant value to the GGA and its students.

This form was created inside of Girls Global Academy.

Google Forms