

City Beautification Board
Applicant Package - Member

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Term: 07 Dec 2023 - 01 Nov 2024

Positions Available: 2

Number of applicants in this package: 1

- Granto, Michael

Name: Granto, Michael

Address: 23806 NW 176th Ave, High Springs, 32643-9747

Email: michaeljgranto@gmail.com

Board Name: City Beautification Board

Please confirm Full Name, including middle initial, prefix, and physical mailing address:

Michael J Granto

23806 NW 176th Ave, High Springs, FL, 32643

In what city district do you live?:

I do not live in Gainesville

Employer:

University of Florida

Phone Number:

3522813778

Occupation:

Urban Planning Student/ Laboratory Assistant

Why are you interested in serving on this board? (Please answer separately for each board you are applying to.):

As an urban planning student, a deep passion of mine is to improve the quality of life in the community around me. The City Beautification Board would allow me to clean the environment around me, which is a desire of mine, as my undergraduate was in sustainability studies. I would be an excellent fit for the position because of my experience in community engagement, from Scouts BSA, where I am an Eagle Scout, to me helping found a grassroots environmental club at Santa Fe College, which was recognized by The Alligator. These experiences have equipped me with invaluable leadership and community engagement skills. I would love to share my knowledge and perspective with the city, including my conservation interests of including vegetative buffers, community gardens, green roofs, green infrastructure, and greenways. My proficiency in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can be invaluable for mapping and analyzing the city's green spaces and potential beautification projects. Additionally, my lab experience in biochemistry has honed my analytical skills, which can be applied to assessing environmental impacts and potential improvements. I am eager to leverage my knowledge and dedication to help create a more beautiful and sustainable city for its residents and future generations.

How many terms have you served on this board previously?:

0

Disclaimer:

Under Florida law, all information, including e-mail, written letters, documents and phone messages, sent to the Gainesville City Commission are subject to Public Records law. This includes the sender's e-mail address, home address or phone number if shown in the message, the content of the message and any associated attachments to the mail.

Do you claim any exemption to public record disclosure pursuant to FLA. STAT. Section 119?:

No

Have you been removed from any advisory board for attendance, behaviour or another reason?:

No

If you have chosen to self-describe in the question above, you can add your information here:

Nonbianary, biological male

Are you a City of Gainesville Employee?:

No

Are you a City of Gainesville Intern?:

No

Are you currently on a City Advisory Board/Committee?:

No

Some of the boards and committees appointed by the City Commission are required to comply with Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, the Financial Disclosure Law. If applicable, would you be willing to file the required financial statement?:

Yes

Do you affirm that your personal and business (if applicable) affairs within the City of Gainesville and Alachua County are in substantial compliance with all city and county regulatory and taxing authorities rules and regulations? *:

Yes

Do you agree with the following statement? Appointees to advisory board/committees are required to attend scheduled meetings as specified in the "Advisory Board Handbook." *:

Yes

Do you agree with the following statement? I understand that this completed application is the property of the City of Gainesville, is subject to public record requests and I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct. :

Yes

Time of Submission: 09/27/23 10:19:55 PM

Attachments:

- Resume 2.0.pdf

Granto, Michael J.

michaeljgranto@gmail.com · 23806 NW 176th Ave High Springs, Florida, 32643 · 352-281-3778

Objective: I am pursuing a career in sustainable urban planning.

Skills: GIS, biochemistry, leadership, lab experience

Interests: urban forestry, transfer of development rights (TOD), stormwater management, watershed management, living shorelines, community engagement coastal resilience and riparian buffers

Academics

Santa Fe High School (2016-2018)

As a high-achieving student, I earned the Presidential Scholar Award, AP Scholar Award, and was ranked #5 in my graduating class with a 4.806 weighted GPA.

Santa Fe College (2018-2020)

Dual enrolling for the second half of my high school career helped me earn my AA before graduating high school. My commitment to the school and community propelled me into the 2020 Hall of Fame, the “highest honor bestowed upon Santa Fe students” ([link](#)) available to the top 0.01% of students.

University of Florida 2020-

I earned my Bachelor’s in sustainability studies in the Spring of 2023. I worked in the [Maupin Research Lab](#), which studies bioinformatics and genetic engineering of Archaea. I have learned useful skills, such as genome neighborhood networks and protein modeling. I am pursuing my master's in urban and regional planning by 2025, which I began during my undergraduate program via the 4+1 combined degree program. I have previous lab experience with the [Wilson Agroecology Laboratory](#).

Professional

August 2018- August 2019: Hospitality

Working in the food industry taught me a variety of skills, including communications, sales, and routine maintenance. I worked in positions from waiting to management at the Great Southern Biscuit Company and El Toro.

January 2021-August 2022: Publix Deli

I am responsible for providing stellar customer service, according to Publix’s guidelines for customer satisfaction. Furthermore, I maintain regular functions and build upon these skills with regular training.

August 2022- December 2022: North Florida Evaluation and Treatment Center (NFETC)

I currently work with the Department of Children and Families as a direct care staff. I am responsible for creating professional relationships with residents to help them through the legal process. I also maintain safety, prepare meals, perform 30-minute checks, and monitor the progress of residents.

June 2023- Present: University of Florida: [Wilson Agroecology Laboratory](#)

Granto, Michael J.



I am responsible for maintaining laboratory experiments, which includes taking measurements, collecting samples, and analyzing them. This experiential learning opportunity has taught me various alternative farming methods, such as intercropping and split application of fertilizer.

Extracurriculars

2016-2018: Saints for Sustainability Senior Patrol Member

I am a founding member for Santa Fe College's largest sustainability club. For instance, our club was a part of the largest climate march in history, which put us on the front cover of [The Alligator newspaper](#).

2009-Present: Scouts BSA

Scouting has exposed me to community service and leadership experience. I sustainably renovated my hometown's museum to earn my Eagle Scout Rank.