



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

May 22, 2024

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have reappointed Ms. Karen Winnick to the Board of Zoo Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2029. Ms. Winnick's current term expires on June 30, 2023.

I certify that in my opinion Ms. Winnick is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon her, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass".

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Karen Winnick
Commission: Board of Zoo Commissioners
End of Term: 6/30/2029

Appointee Information

1. **Race:** Caucasian
2. **Gender:** Female
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** 5 - West LA
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** B.A., Design, Syracuse University
7. **Occupation/profession:** Author & Illustrator
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Reappointment
10. **Current composition of the commission:**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Race	Gender	Term End
Vannatim, Elnie	West LA	5	API	F	6/30/2027
Silva, Bernardo	Central	4	Latinx	M	6/30/2026
Smith, Daryl	North Valley	12	African American	M	6/30/2025
Winnick, Karen	West LA	5	Caucasian	F	6/30/2024
Mikita, Justin	South Valley	4	Caucasian	M	6/30/2028

Author | Artist | Philanthropist

Bringing history and animals to life for young readers, while supporting literacy, animal welfare and educational organizations

Author, Artist and Philanthropist who has published more than a dozen children's picture books; exhibited paintings in LA galleries; served on the boards of universities and non-profit organizations; and leads a philanthropic foundation that has provided millions of dollars in grants to local, regional, and international literacy, animal welfare, education, healthcare, conservation and Jewish advocacy groups.

Publishing History

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR—Los Angeles, California

1977 – Present

Children's Book Author and Poet

Published more than a dozen children's picture books about animals and American history during 35+ years as an author and artist. Additionally, published poetry in magazines and anthologies; exhibited paintings in galleries in Los Angeles area. For more information, visit www.karenbwnnick.com. Titles include:

- ***Can You Spot the Leopard? An African Safari* (Greenleaf Book Grp., 2022)**
- ***How Lucky Got His Shoe* (Santa Barbara Zoo, 2017).**
- ***Good Night, Baby Animals, You've Had a Busy Day* (Henry Holt & Company, 2017); Text only.**
- ***Hank, The Ballpark Pup* (Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Team, 2014/2015); Text only.**
- ***Sparrow Sings for Bear* (IsraAID, 2013).**
- ***Gemina: The Crooked-Neck Giraffe* (Santa Barbara Zoo, 2013). Included in the "Literally Healing" program at Children's Hospital, Los Angeles.**
- ***Lucy's Cave: A Story of Vicksburg, 1863* (Boyds Mills Press, 2008).**
 - Named one of the "Best Books of the Year" by the Children's Book Committee of Bank Street College of Education.
- ***Cassie's Sweet Berry Pie: A Civil War Story* (Boyds Mills Press, 2005).**
- ***The Night of the Fireflies* (Boyds Mills Press, 2004); Text only.**
 - Nominated for the 2009 – 2010 Georgia Children's Book Award.
- ***Barn Sneeze* (Boyds Mills Press, 2002).**
- ***A Year Goes Round: Poems for the Month* (Wordsong, Boyds Mills Press, 2001).**
- ***Sybil's Night Ride* (Boyds Mills Press, 2000).**

- Named one of the “Best Children’s Books of the Year” by Bank Street College of Education and one of Los Angeles’ “100 Best Books” (2000).
- ***Mr. Lincoln’s Whiskers*** (Boyds Mills Press, 1996).
 - Featured on ABC’s *Good Morning America*’s “American Snapshot” in segment called “Girls’ Letter Changes Face of Lincoln.”
- ***Sandra’s Dolphin*** (Lothrop, Lee and Shepard, 1980).
- ***Patch and the Strings*** (J.B. Lippincott, 1977).

Board Appointments & Civic Affiliations

Serve on the boards of leading national, regional and local education, environmental, animal rescue, cultural and historical institutions and non-profit organizations.

Select appointments include:

- **Los Angeles Zoo Board of Commissioners** | President, 2008 – Present; Member since 1999
- **Brown University Corporation Board**, Providence, Rhode Island | 1999 – 2005
- **Syracuse University Hillel Board of Governors**, Syracuse, New York | 2001 – 2004
- **The Jewish Museum Board of Trustees**, New York, New York | 2000 – 2006
- **The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Board of Directors**, Washington, D.C. | 2001 – 2006
- **Fauna & Flora International, American Board of Directors**, Washington, D.C. | 2010 – Present. 2010-2024 **Wild Earth Allies**
- **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Board**, Springfield, Illinois | 2008 – 2011
- **Penn Center USA West Board of Directors**, Los Angeles, California | 2003 – 2006
- **Lange Foundation**, Los Angeles, California | 2012 - Present

Philanthropy

WINNICK FAMILY FOUNDATION—Beverly Hills, California

1983 – Present

President (2009 – Present) & Co-Founder (1983)

Created and established Winnick Family Foundation with husband Gary Winnick to provide support for local, regional, national and international organizations focused on education, literacy, healthcare, art, culture, animal welfare and the needs of the worldwide Jewish community. It also encourages project-specific programs. As President, review proposals and approve grants. For more information, visit www.winnickfamilyfoundation.com.

Recent grantee organizations include:

- **National Parks Foundation**
 - **Fauna & Flora International**
 - **Los Angeles Zoo**
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- Simon Wiesenthal Center
- Read to a Child (literacy program)
- Literally Healing, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles
- African Wildlife Foundation
- Koreh LA Literacy Program
- Jerusalem Zoo Animal Assisted Therapy Program
- Museum of Contemporary Art (Los Angeles education program)
- Fowler Museum (funding for school visits)
- Best Friends Animal Society
- Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
- Beit Issie Shapiro
- Los Angeles Opera
- TreePeople
- Aquarium of the Pacific
- Turtle Conservancy

- Book Ends (children's book drives)
- Endangered Wolf Center
- Jewish Family Service
- Jane Goodall Institute
- Gibbon Conservation Center
- WildAid
- The Painted Turtle
- David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust

Major named projects include:

- Winnick Family Clinical Research Institute at Cedars Sinai Hospital
- Winnick Children's Zoo in Los Angeles
- Winnick Board Room at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City
- Winnick Winners Mentoring Program for the Los Angeles Unified School District
- Winnick Faculty Scholar at the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University
- Winnick International Conference Center of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, Jerusalem
- Winnick Hall at the Skirball Cultural Center
- Winnick House and Arnold S. Winnick Student Center at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University
- Karen B. Winnick Children's Library at the main branch of the LA Public Library
- Scholarships at Brown, Cornell, Stanford, Syracuse and Tufts Universities

Education & Award

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES—Los Angeles, California

Poetry and Writing Workshops, 1980 - 1994
Painting Workshops, 1978 - 1984

SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS—New York, New York
Courses in Design and Painting, 1972 - 1977

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY—New York, New York
Graduate Studies—Painting and Education, 1970 - 1971

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY—Syracuse, New York
Bachelor of Fine Arts, Design, 1968

Received Syracuse University's highest alumni honor, "The George Arents Award," presented annually to alumni who have made outstanding contributions to their chosen fields: "Karen B. Winnick, Excellence in the Arts and Literacy Advocacy"





May 22, 2024

Dear Ms. Winnick:

I am pleased to inform you that I am reappointing you to the Board of Zoo Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2029, subject to confirmation by the City Council.

To begin the reappointment process, please review, sign, and return the enclosed Remuneration Form and undated Letters of Separation **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensure the most efficient, open, and accountable city government possible.

As part of the reappointment process, Katy Yaroslavsky, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, the Chair of the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee, may wish to meet with you to answer any questions they have. Our office will assist with arranging these meetings.

Additionally, you will be required to attend public meetings at City Hall where your reappointment will be considered. You will be hearing from our office and a City Council Clerk who will let you know when your reappointment will be considered by the Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified of the date when your reappointment will be presented to the full City Council. Immediately following the meeting, you will again be required to take the Oath of Office in the City Clerk's Office located in Room 395 of City Hall. If you require parking for these meetings, please contact my Commissions team by email at myr-commissions@lacity.org.

Ms. Karen Winnick
May 22, 2024
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Per the City Charter, most commissioners must be registered voters of the City of Los Angeles, and must therefore reside within Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, or your contact information changes, please contact my Commissions team immediately at the email listed below. While we hope that you complete a successful term, if for some reason you intend to resign, please do so in writing to my Commissions team at myr-commissions@lacity.org.

Congratulations, and thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and the last name "Bass" clearly distinguishable.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I
Ms. Karen Winnick
May 22, 2024

Nominee Check List

I. Within 7 days:

- ☐ Email the below completed documents, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: myr-commissions@lacity.org OR mail them to:

Office of the Mayor
Attn: Thomas Arechiga
200 N. Spring Street, Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

- Remuneration Form
- Undated Separation Letters (2)

II. The Mayor's Office will notify the below Councilmembers of your nomination, so that they may reach out to schedule a meeting with you should they wish.

- ☐ Your City Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky
- ☐ Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination

III. Public Meetings at City Hall:

- ☐ Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee Hearing
- ☐ Full Council Hearing