Name: Julianna "Julia" Patterson

I am currently Program Officer for the Global Classroom team at the [World Affairs Council of Seattle](). Through professional development, curriculum resources, classroom visits, etc. we help educators K-12 stay up to date on global education and global current events so that they can bring the world into their classrooms. My hobbies include dancing (teaching, taking class, and performing), traveling around the world when I can, movies, Marvel, and going to museums. I am someone who likes to learn something new every day! I always try to put myself in the shoes of others and I believe that education and taking the time to genuinely learn about peoples, cultures, religions, etc different from your own and building lasting and meaningful relationships out of that knowledge will help make for a better world. I also love animals! I have a cat named Astrid, she's been with me for 12 years!

I am interested in becoming more involved with the Lawrence community! I was born and raised in Lawrence, but have not been very engaged community wise because I have been living in Seattle for the past 4 years. Returning home I would love to help create enrichment opportunities for youth throughout East Lawrence, particularly youth of color, that focus vocational skills/opportunities, farming and sustainability, beekeeping, arts and culture, travel and international engagement, and more to provide an introduction to the potential opportunities they could have in the future. I really want more youth of color and people of color in Lawrence to feel seen and valued in this community and city, so that's what anything I do on this board would be founded in. I also have a general interest in the "tea" of Lawrence. This is the perfect way for me to stay up to date on initiatives, policies, volunteer opportunities, town halls, events, etc in Lawrence, so that I can be an active and engaged member of the community!

I would really love to learn sign language! I've been trying to teach myself through youtube for a while, but if there are classes that I could find here, I would dedicate time to learning!