

New York State YMCA Youth & Government 2018 - 2019 OFFICER NOMINATION

I declare my candidacy for the position of:

Chief Justice

Name: Maille Bowerman

Year in school: 10 Number of years in Y&G: 2

Previous Youth and Government experience and/or other

qualifications: As a freshman, I joined and fell in love with the judicial Youth and Government program. After demonstrating my abilities in practice debate, I was assigned to be a Case C Respondent; however, I chose to be on Case B Appellant due to a need for attorneys. I was chosen to attend the state conference, where I had a life-changing experience and even won my case. After many late nights spent working hard on my argument, I was truly honored to receive the Best Attorney award. Currently, I serve as one of only two sophomore justices in my district. For Camp Greenkill and District Conference, I ensured that I was well prepared by reviewing all cases and creating review documents which I also distributed to fellow justices and attorneys. Outside of Youth and Government, I was the only freshman to compete on my successful Mock Trial team and I presented a legal argument in front of federal judges through Moot Court at the competition Semi-Finals. I am also an active member of the Sophomore Class Council, the Varsity Quiz Bowl team, and a senior in my Girl Scout troop with my Silver Award for community service. Lastly, I am a member of Tri-M Honors Society due to my involvement in music, Foreign Language Honors Society, and National Honors Society. I believe that these experiences have fully prepared me for the responsibilities and duties of serving as Chief Justice.

Describe a situation in which you were a member of a group engaged in discussion in order to reach a decision. What steps did you take to ensure the quality and fairness of the

outcome? As a Justice, I have been involved in many discussions where I had to put aside personal bias or feelings to ensure a fair and rational decision. For example, after District Conference I was a part of a conversation on who deserves to attend the state conference. To do this, I made sure to discuss the performance and arguments of the attorneys over my friendship with them in order to guarantee success for my district. I sided with attorneys who had presented with a higher level of quality over those who I were friends with, no matter the longevity of our relationship. In addition, I ensured that all the Justices were equally represented and had equal input in our final decisions by listening to their opinions and asking questions.

Define servant leadership and describe how you plan to incorporate this if elected into

office: Servant leadership is of utmost importance to me and starts with fulfilling one's duties, followed by helping others through strong leadership, communication, and guidance. If I am elected as your Chief Justice, I plan on incorporating servant leadership by ensuring that every attorney and justice has the materials they need to succeed. In past years, some justices and attorneys have not had adequate time to prepare due to miscommunication, but with my leadership I will make it my duty to ensure no one is forced to endure that fate. I plan on utilizing technology to completely eliminate these issues by creating open lines of communication with all advisors, principal justices, and other justices within the program. Through this, I wish to serve and lead my fellow club members to a conference that is as historic and memorable in 2019 as my first conference was.

