

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

I declare my candidacy for the position of:

Deputy Speaker of Liberty

Name: Summer Foy

Year in school: 10 Number of years in Y&G: 3

Previous Youth and Government experience and/or other qualifications:

When I started 8th grade, I wasn't involved in the TR program. Fortunately, my advisor called me into his room and asked if I would like to be part of the conference with the high school students. My face was totally surprised and excited as he continued to communicate how he saw something in me and could really see me enjoying and growing from this program. Later that year, I was hooked. On my first day at Youth and Government, I was nervous. When we arrived, I grabbed my bill book, placard, and lanyard, and someone immediately came up and starting talking to me. Then, another person, and another; by the end of the conference, I started approaching delegates on my own. I made so many new friends and enjoyed the program so much that I couldn't stop talking about my experience for several days following the conference. I had no idea that Government processes, debates, and topics would be so interesting. I remain grateful for starting this program in 8th grade. The following year, 2017, continued to bring excitement and new challenges. I served as Committee Chair and attended camp Greenkill and this year's middle school conference. Now I am a leader in my district as well as a leader in this year's conference as a Governor's cabinet member as commissioner of labor.



If you were faced with a bill topic that goes against your personal standpoint, how would you effectively handle the matter? During my experience in Youth and Government, there have been a variety of bills that I have come to like and dislike. However, concerning that bill I would disagree with, I would listen to the sponsors and debaters with an open mind and consider their opinions. As a leader, I have no right to tell people that their opinions are wrong, and I need to hear their take on whatever subjects are being discussed. I would help them with their concerns in every way possible and hopefully create a strong presentable bill. As a presiding officer, I will not let my personal opinion of a bill influence voting or debate because my job is to make sure that no one feels attacked and that everyone's opinions are heard equally.

Define servant leadership and describe how you plan to incorporate this if elected into office: "The servant-leader is servant first... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first." - Robert K. Greenleaf. The very fact that I have initiated running for office demonstrates my desire for servant leadership. Another example that demonstrates my servant leadership style is my volunteering at the middle school conference and sharing my experience with young, intelligent up-and-coming delegates. The rewarding feeling that I had in helping the new YAG members was amazing and something I enjoyed immensely. I plan to incorporate servant leadership into the office position by influencing others by example, helping members any way I can, and putting other members' stresses ahead of my own and by helping delegates come out of their comfort zone to debate and meet new people.