

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

I declare my candidacy for the position of:

Deputy Speaker of Assembly Liberty

Name: Angelica Hernandez

Year in school: 11

Number of years in Y&G: 3



Previous Youth and Government experience and/or other qualifications:

When I first joined Youth and Government my freshman year, I was fascinated by creating bills and voicing my opinion as well as hearing others voice theirs. The first time I debated, I was encouraged by many upperclassmen and state officers. From that moment, I knew that I would be in this club for the rest of my high school career. As the year went on, I continued to debate, learn new things, meet incredible people, and form my own strong opinion. I then knew that I wanted to contribute more to Youth and Government and inspire others. My sophomore year, my bill ranked first at district conference and eighth at our conference. Ranking extremely high was a total surprise but my group's hard work, dedication, knowledge, and passion pushed our bill to first. After this experience, my love for Youth and Government blossomed and my passion for debating flourished. This district conference, my bill ranked third and I had the incredible honor of serving as a committee chair. Serving as a committee chair at my district conference and at the state level while receiving leadership training at Camp Greenkill has been an amazing experience; I have felt privileged to lead my fellow delegates and be entrusted to create an atmosphere in which all delegates were comfortable to voice their opinions freely. Aside from Youth and Government, I am an active member of my Student Government's House of Delegates, Foreign Language Honor Society, and local ambulance company's Youth Squad which has afforded me the opportunity to train to become a NYS Certified First Responder. As Deputy Speaker of Assembly Liberty, my goal is to motivate and encourage my fellow delegates to grow not only as debaters, but as individuals.

If you were faced with a bill topic that goes against your personal standpoint, how would you effectively handle the matter?

Being so heavily involved in my school and community has taught me about the diversity of opinions and lifestyles, which has shown me the importance of an equal and diversified debate. I believe that everyone should be granted the opportunity to voice their opinions based on their own personal experiences and as Deputy Speaker of Assembly Liberty I hope to further that belief not allowing my personal biases to interfere with my decision as to who to select during debate.

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

Servant leadership is placing others' needs before one's own with the purpose of benefiting the greater good. This conference is always filled with controversial, debatable, and thought-provoking bills. As Deputy Speaker of Assembly Liberty, I will have to handle this with the utmost professionalism. If elected, I will be a diligent servant leader and place the needs of my Assembly before my own. This means that I will strive to provide every delegate with the opportunity to defend their position and contribute to the outcome of bills.