

# **New York State YMCA Youth & Government 2018 – 2019 OFFICER NOMINATION**

I declare my candidacy for the position of:

**Governor**

**Name: Katie Lindley**

**Year in school: 11      Number of years in Y&G: 3**

**Previous Youth and Government experience and/or other qualifications:**

Throughout my Youth and Government career, I have been most captivated by our program's history in fostering one's voice and individuality. I have had the opportunity to serve the past two years as a Committee Chair at my District Conference and at last year's State Conference. I have also attended multiple Camp Greenkill training conferences where I have gained a variety of skills to effectively lead large groups. Last spring, I had the privilege to attend the TED-Ed conference where I learned the value of creativity and the communication of meaningful ideas. At this year's conference, I am honored and extremely excited to serve as your Speaker of Assembly Freedom. As a Presiding Officer, I have witnessed firsthand the numerous amount of hours, work, and commitment that this conference requires. These wonderful opportunities have prepared me with the background and leadership skills to be your next youth Governor. In conjunction with my fellow Presiding Officers, I would use this platform to effectively communicate with as many delegates as possible to advocate on your behalf, making our conference organized and successful, but most importantly, as enjoyable as possible.

**In regards to your platform, what are 2-3 issues you deem important to the delegates of New York State and how do you plan to support their advancement?**

One prominent issue in New York State is environmental conservation. New York has one of the most diverse environments, yet New Yorkers continuously take advantage and abuse their beautiful surroundings. Recently, Suffolk County passed legislation that implemented a 5 cent cost on plastic bags. The amount of plastic bags used and bought has rapidly and significantly decreased. Another issue facing New Yorkers that I am passionate about is equal pay among all people. Lack of equal pay for equal work in the country as a whole is alarming. Environmental conservation and social equality will allow us to create a future for New York that we can be even more proud of. As Governor, I would encourage legislation promoting social equality and environmental conservation at our Conference.

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

Servant leadership is the desire to serve others and the choice to lead by example. To demonstrate and promote servant leadership, as your Governor I will make myself available to all Youth and Government members across the state. To maintain an open door between officers and delegates, I will distribute a public email which any delegate could access to voice any question or concern to the Presiding Officers. My ultimate goal as a servant leader is to promote communication within the program, and promote personal connections prior to the state conference.

