

# DOMINIQUE JÜRRI AMBROS

*THEY/THEM*

APPLYING FOR GENERAL BOARD MEMBER

My name is Dominique, but I also have started to go by Jürri a historic Estonian name which is an important part of my identity as an Indigenous Uralic person. I'm 19 years old and since April last year have been facilitating RY's East Auckland group OUTeast, I am also on the ASD spectrum and want to create and make spaces which are more accessible for people like me. I am (hopefully) going to start studying classics and ancient history at the University of Auckland, and afterwards possibly doing a masters in Eesti traditional art.

## **What made you want to join the RY board?**

The ways in which I have interacted with the Tāmaki Makaurau queer community have been shaped by Rainbow Youth, and I have re-ignited and created new friendships through it as well. When I have had tough times Rainbow Youth were always there to support me and give me whatever help and advice they could, they have helped me to flourish as the queer person I am today, and without them I would not know where I would be.

## **RainbowYOUTH is on a journey to proactively and respectfully uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi. How would you contribute to this journey?**

Listening, respecting and uplifting Māori voices. As non-Māori it's our duty to listen to Māori and follow and respect what they have to say about Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Whether it is about land rights, or Te Reo Māori we listen. Māori have spent hundreds of years being talked over and oppressed by Pākehā, and anything that we can do as non-Māori to uplift and empower Māori should be done with out thought. And upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi is a base of this.

## **What particular skills do you think you have that would make you suitable for the RY board?**

I have spent the past year facilitating OUTeast, and have learnt skills in communication and teamwork which is unique and important to being a facilitator and that are easily brought into the role of being a board member.

This includes:

- Being able to hold a space which uplifts and empowers members of Tāmaki Makaurau's queer community.
- Talking about serious and meaningful issues in a non-hostile space where educating youth, while being mindful of boundaries is core to that discussion.