



My name is Lily Holloway and I am a 21-year old English and Ancient History student at the University of Auckland. I am passionate about reading and writing (mostly poetry but also essays, plays and short fiction) and enjoy op-shopping and walking in the native bush with my girlfriend. I am interested in intersections of identity and, in particular, how best to utilise my privilege to support communities I am not a part of. I am also interested in literature/language as a form of revolution and an instrument of belonging. I like small towns, video games and New Zealand literature. My favourite teletubby is Laa-Laa (naturally).

What made you want to join the RY board?

I believe I have the time, energy, dedication and skills to contribute to the already amazing work that Rainbow Youth does. I am passionate about challenging the ingrained structural inequities of the status quo and actively working to make Aotearoa a safer and happier place for all who live here. I think that organisations like Rainbow Youth are incredibly important for fostering community, advocating for queer rights/well-being and examining/challenging the problems that lay both within and outside of rainbow spaces. It would be a privilege to be a part of that work.

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

It is every pākehā's responsibility to educate themselves on Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the innate privilege that comes with being pākehā in Aotearoa. Pākehā communities take for granted the labour that goes into educating them about Te Tiriti and other concepts that are important when it comes to understanding racism. Not having to understand or confront the cultural inequities of your country is a privilege that not all people have. I would contribute to Rainbow Youth's journey by challenging both myself and other pākehā to be active in their allyship, amplify minority voices and then listen to minority voices. A decolonised Aotearoa is one that honours the commitments made by Te Tiriti.

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

I have had experience on the East Coast Bays youth board and was the 2019 Tāmaki Makaurau representative for the Young Greens.

I dedicate myself fully to all tasks, take initiative and am always (at least) five minutes early to meetings. I am a whizz with a to-do list and have a good 'phone voice'.

I have experience writing articles and content for social media, websites and emails and I genuinely enjoy proofreading (I am a current editor for UoA's Interesting Journal).

I currently work as a mentor for youth from lower decile schools and enjoy engaging with young people. I have experience in organising and facilitating events.