



I'm from New Zealand, but have had the opportunity to do a lot of travelling throughout my life. In this time I have interacted with and developed a love for learning about new cultures. It has also helped me to realise my passion for teaching, as I worked at a children's camp in Canada for four years. I have many passions, including fitness, theatre, reading, writing and learning. I am currently attending the University of Auckland, where I am studying towards a Bachelor of Arts in English and Drama. My end goal is to become a teacher, where I can help guide students in not only their education but personal development.

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

Being queer is an important part of my identity, but I have struggled to find a community where I am comfortable discussing it openly. I believe joining the RY Board would not only provide a safe space where I can learn and grow, but where I can help work towards change. Through my experience working at a camp for many years, I have developed the ability to work effectively and efficiently with a team who are driven by a love for what they are doing. As someone who is passionate about helping to guide youth, I believe I could successfully combine my passion and experience in a role with Rainbow Youth.

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

As someone who identifies greatly with my Maori heritage, I aim to live each day in honour of New Zealand's bi-cultural foundation. I believe actions are just as, if not more important than words, and that to uphold the Te Tiriti o Waitangi is to actively seek to learn from past mistakes made by oneself, others or society, and implement change.

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

My passion to learn, and improve not only myself, but the world around me. I didn't have a community or resource like Rainbow Youth when I most needed it, and as I have gotten older, I have seen the profound impact it can have on young people. I have many years experience working with children, from babies to young adults, giving me a variety of skills - teamwork, empathy, the ability to listen and educate. I have held positions that have allowed me to critically analyse a program and implement changes that will have a positive impact on the youth it is designed for.