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My name is LaDara Brydson. I am currently a freshman and pre-journalism advertising major looking to intern (and hopefully work at!) the esteemed Wieden + Kennedy company based in Portland. I am not a llama, but I am a music enthusiast and love practically all genres— including that old timey blue grass country— and dancing brings out a passion in me very few other things can. Anything with a fast pace rhythm and a good beat, which currently includes Argentinean Tango. (By the way: there are free milongas every Thursday in Lawrence 160 for those of you that ever want to learn how to tango!) I have been lucky enough to be able to travel to various places, one of my fondest being the Caribbean ( I’m determined to live on the island of Dominica for at least a year). Some of the other things that I love to fill my time with (mainly with friends and family) are: hiking, imgur, henna, white water rafting, painting, swimming, Reddit, and Sudoku puzzles. But for the most part, those could be some pretty generic things to say, and I’m not setting up a dating profile with you guys, so lets get down to business.

I love planning events. Yes, I know that this sounds like a ploy since I am running for the EAC position, but its true. I have had 5 + years figuring out in ins and outs on making an event successful and why I like doing it in the first place. From practice I believe I have become effective at organizing and leading a group to successfully complete the task at hand. I personally think it stems from the satisfaction of accomplishing something that many people can reap the benefits from- everyone likes a good event that is fun, educational, entertaining, and interactive. And coordinating events, or helping other succeed at coordinating events is honestly something that means so much to me.
Experience

- 5 + years within leadership class/ student government
- Hamilton East Hall Government
- RHA Finance Rep
- Dunn Hall events:
  - Term Birthday party
  - Catered dinner
  - Movie nights
- ASB VP for the Student Senate (in which a colleague and I brought back after 50 years)
- Experience coordinating numerous events– large and smaller
  - Carnival (for high school and including all feeder middle schools)
  - Common Grounds Karaoke
  - Awareness Week
  - Local PostSecret Event
  - May Fete Court assembly
  - All Pep assemblies
  - Half time rallies
  - Fundraisers
  - Etc.
- EMCEE for all assemblies junior and senior year
- Advertisements for all events held on high school campus
My plan for EAC is rather simple: I want to help rebrand RHA and expand the events to a larger scale.

If you were to ask a majority of the students living in the resident halls this year what the RHA is, they couldn’t tell you. I believe by upgrading our perceived and internal professionalism (through posters, events, and appearance), and by integrating RHA’s name into events highly popular that it would be a successful transition. I know that we have limited funds, but one of my specialties is creating well organized and fun events with very little cost; events that would allow students interested in many different topics to be as involved as possible (one possible idea being a photo scavenger hunt). I do enjoy the events that I have seen throughout the year, and would love to keep the most successful ones, but I also believe that innovation is key. I would like to re-brand RHA as the headquarters for everything fun and educational offered to the students living in the residence halls.

I also believe that we need more of a forum on what hall governments are planning and when. I understand that we have hall government updates with the RHA General Council meetings but I think there should be more interaction- regardless of whether it is an event just for their hall or campus wide. A easy solution to this could be Facebook, or a Google docs calendar accessible to everyone (much easier than trying to skim through the UO events page!). However, I believe it relies on the more rudimentary communication- presidents talk to the RHA VP (now leadership coordinator) about what their group is planning and how, and the VP may or may not work directly with the EAC, and the EAC may not directly work with the presidents. I believe this would be cleared up by high levels of communication (and a common meeting place- such as Google docs) so everyone is always n the same page and the likely-hood of miscommunication and or misunderstandings is decreased.

Overall, I would love the opportunity to provide the residential hall student body with more opportunities to make connections and discover new potential hobbies, and of course get involved!
April 8\textsuperscript{th}, 2014

Dear Residence Hall Association,

I am writing this letter of recommendation for LaDara Brydson to become the Events and Activities Coordinator (EAC) for the Residence Hall Association for this upcoming academic year. I am really excited to tell you more about LaDara and what she has done for the Dunn community as well as the greater Hamilton East community. LaDara has been an active member of the Hamilton East (Ham. East) Hall Government all year long, and holds a senator position with them as well. LaDara is an exceedingly determined, inclusive, and enthusiastic person, and these great qualities are echoed in all of the work she has done in and for her community.

During LaDara’s time as a senator for Ham. E. Hall Government she stepped it up and volunteered to be the Finance Rep. proxy for the rest of the year when no one else would. Her dedication and passion for the organization is beyond compare. She also is immensely dedicated to creating fun and inclusive environment where residents feel welcomed and supported. In addition, she has volunteered to help with every single event that Ham. East Hall Government has hosted thus far and has even planned an event (Common Grounds Karaoke) on her own for Hall Government. She has really gone to infinity and beyond what was expected of her.

LaDara has shown just as much dedication for planning events in her hall for her other hall mates. She has made door tags and planned many events including, a catered dinner, movie and board game nights, and a group birthday celebration. LaDara works hard to be inclusive to the needs of all residents and is successful at creating a warm environment.

While I have attended the Hamilton East Hall Government meetings, I have noticed that LaDara willingly and eagerly volunteers to be a part of everything that is going on. I have never met a resident more motivated, dedicated, and supportive than LaDara in my three years as an RA. I have learned so much from her, and it’s been a privilege to have had the opportunity to advise her and see all of the wonderful things she’s done in her community. I know LaDara will bring all of her hard work and dedication to RHA, and will make a phenomenal EAC.

Sincerely,
Abigail Kollar
Senior Resident Assistant
Hamilton East Hall, University Housing
University of Oregon