Who are the Community Advocates?

The Community Advocates are rising sophomores, juniors, seniors, and graduate student leaders who have the shared goal to prepare Rensselaer students for global citizenship by promoting an understanding and appreciation for diversity and inclusivity.

They accomplish this by:

- Providing information and promoting healthy discussion about the issues of understanding and accepting diversity
- Exploring some of the myths and misperceptions that we hold that may have shaped our thoughts and attitudes about persons different than ourselves
- Opening our personal/professional doorways to learning more about our diverse culture
- Creating an environment that is safe and encourages openness, honesty and that values the individual

Requirements for the position:

Currently enrolled and matriculated students who have attended Rensselaer for at least one semester, may file an application for a Community Advocate position. Candidates must be in good academic and judicial standing, and must agree to attend scheduled training sessions set forth in the application packet and participate as a Community Advocate.

Position Terms:

- Attend all bi-monthly Community Advocate meetings
- Attend all events sponsored by the Community Advocates
- Work with fellow Community Advocates to plan and execute campus events
- Participate in discussion
- Welcome ALL students to events
- Respond to needs and concerns as they arise
Please answer all demographic and essay questions completely. Please attach typewritten responses to the application upon submission. You may also email smithc@rpi.edu to receive an electronic version of this application. Completed applications should be returned to the Dean of Students Office.

An open house will be held during the Community Advocate meeting on Tuesday, September 17, from 5-6 p.m., in the Academy Hall 4th Floor, Dean of Students Office Conference Room. You may also email questions to smithc@rpi.edu or call DOSO at 276-3098.

Selection Process:

The Community Advocate selection process will consist of a thorough committee review of materials (application and recommendations) presented by each applicant as well as an interview. All applicants will be notified of their final status by letter, which may be picked up in the Dean of Students Office, 4629 Academy Hall, beginning Friday, October 4 at 9:30 am.

Important Application Dates:

- Tuesday, Sept 10 – Applications available electronically and in DOSO, 4629 Academy Hall
- Tuesday, Sept 17, at 5 p.m., Open House during the Community Advocate Meeting - Academy Hall 4th Floor, Dean of Students Office Conference Room.
- Tuesday, Sept 24, 6 p.m. – Deadline for submitting application: students will sign up for an interview upon submitting an application
- Friday, October 4, 9:30 am. – Applicant status letter of notification available for pickup in DOSO, 4629 Academy Hall
- Friday, October 11 – Applicant deadline to accept position

Important Training & Meeting Dates:

- Training – Date to be determined based on students’ schedules.
- Meetings – Tuesdays at 5 p.m.
- Program dates will be decided upon by the members
Application:

Ms./Mr. ______________________________________

Last    First    Initial

Institute/Local Address: __________________________________________________

Institute/Local Phone: ___________________ Email address: ________________

Permanent Address: ______________________________________________________

Permanent Phone: ______________________________________________________

School/Major Program: _______   Expected Graduation Date: _______

Entered Rensselaer as a:  Freshman_____ Transfer_____ Graduate Student_____

Do you have any active judicial sanctions?  Yes_______ No_________

Is your overall GPA a 2.25 or higher?  Yes_______ No_________

Identify 2 Rensselaer professional staff or faculty members whom you have worked with or have been supervised by that we may contact as a reference. Freshmen may list the name of two references from their senior year in high school who could speak to their character.

Name and title: _______________________________________________________

Phone: ______________ How long have they known you: ________________

Name and title: _______________________________________________________

Phone: ______________ How long have they known you: ________________

Please list any campus jobs, affiliations, organizations, officer positions, sports, special committees/programs, etc. in which you are involved on campus at RPI. Freshman should list activities from their senior year in high school, and at RPI.

____________________________________________________________________

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Essay Questions:

1. Why is understanding and accepting diversity so important in our world, and how have you benefited from diversity?

2. What is your vision for Rensselaer as a unified and pluralistic campus? Please describe at least one specific program idea that develops/discusses your vision.

3. In regards to diversity, what are some of the issues that students face here at Rensselaer? Please list specific ways that you could address these issues as a Community Advocate.

4. What unique qualities do you have to offer as a Community Advocate? What do you think would be the most enjoyable aspects of the position?

5. Please rate yourself in the following areas:

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<th>Above Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comfort level with meeting new people:</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td>Ability to speak publicly:</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td>Time management skills:</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td>Organizational skills:</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td>Project Management &amp; Design:</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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<td>Ability to work independently:</td>
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<td>Ability to work in a group:</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
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Please briefly explain any 5’s you circled.

________________________________________________________________________

If you are not selected as a Community Advocate, would you still be interested in sharing your program ideas and/or getting involved in another way?  
Yes _____ No_____