As I run for Executive Vice President of RHA I keep thinking back to all my experiences as a delegate on RHA and a member of my resident’s hall e-board. I have fallen in love with residential life and RHA’s mission to make not only the resident halls home but making the community within Marquette home. I feel a great sense of pride watching Marquette students enjoy the incredible array of programs student organizations put on every year and knowing I played a small role in making that happen. I believe being on the executive board of RHA comes with the responsibility of sharing that experience with the members of the general body and bestowing in them the importance of the work they do on the council. Thinking back on my first few meetings in the fall semester I remember the excitement I felt from the e-board and the overwhelming sense of accomplishment when a program was being put on and enjoyed by the students. It influenced me a lot in my experience at Marquette. I have made a lot of my friends through this organization and I have memories that will continue to shape me and my growth here at Marquette while I become the difference. I have grown to be a lot more confident in myself, my actions and direction in life. I have improved as a public speaker, in delegating responsibility, taking initiative and managing my time to do so. What I see myself doing most in the Executive Vice President position is enjoying doing a lot of the hands on work of making a program come to life. I have chaired several small committees on Cobeen’s hall council e-board and my favorite part is going down the “to-do list” and knowing I personally sought to check items off as well as serving to help as a member of the Student Life committee in RHA, as well as HALloween and currently, Lil’ Sibs.

Being in student organizations that seek to make campus a home for every student is what I have found a passion for in my short first year at Marquette. I personally had such an amazing experiences being helped and guided by members of the Orientation staff, the E-board of RHA and every working member of events I have gone to, that I feel the desire and almost responsibility to do the same for as many new and returning students here at Marquette. I even happened to have volunteered for Family Weekend Staff where I was able to spread that positive experience onto the families of students on campus. Most importantly, since the recent WURHA conference I attended in February, I have found a real sense of belonging in the residential life on campus. I have shared the joy and accomplishments with other delegates from other schools and it has shown me that we make a real difference on campus. As an organization we literally build the community that exist on campus and we seek to make it
welcoming, encouraging and home for all our students. It has been a privilege to be able to be a part of doing so, and I would be astounded to be able to continue as the Executive Vice President of RHA.
Dear Selection Committee:

I am writing this letter to support Lauren Jones in running for the Executive Vice President Position for Marquette’s Residence Hall Association. Lauren serves as a member of the Hall Council for Cobeen Hall, which I advise, and is currently one of our RHA representatives. Although I have only worked with Lauren for a little over a semester I have been fortunate enough to witness her growth from a first semester freshman to extraordinarily mature leader. Lauren is extremely responsible and dependable and will follow through on any task given to her. Lauren is able to be a strong leader, but also recognizes the importance of giving other the opportunity to shine. She brought fresh and exciting ideas to the building, works well with other people, and is able to manage a full-time academic course load.

Lauren’s role as a Hall Council E-board member offered her the opportunity to work on individual projects and as a member of a team. She has successfully planned and presented programs including small hall social programs to larger programs that involve the entire building such as Love Your Body – Defend Your Body and Cobeen’s Swing-a-thon. Her ability to connect with the people she works with is admirable and not only does she give respect to everyone she works with; her team members respect her in return. Lauren holds herself and the team she works with to high expectations. She is very good at respectfully holding her team members accountable, and is always willing to lend a helping hand. Lauren is usually the first to volunteer for any task, and I would have to say that her biggest strength is connectedness. She constantly went above and beyond to make sure that the team was successful in all their tasks and that everyone felt included. This year, Lauren attended her first conference and really fell in love with Residence Life and Programming through attending WURHA. She has a passion for being involved and ensuring that the Residence Halls truly feel like home for the residents who live in them.

Administratively, Lauren is very sound. She will take on her fair share of any work load, but is also astute at delegating responsibilities. She has successfully led her standing committee on Cobeen’s Hall Council, and by doing so has had a lot of success in the programming they have put on. Where I have seen Lauren’s growth the most, is her communication skills. In the beginning of the year, Lauren was shy and uncomfortable with public speaking. Now Lauren is able to grab the attention of a group and eloquently give reports or express tasks that need to be done. Lauren is able to balance her involvement superfluously with her academic course load, which she would continue to do if elected to RHA E-board. She takes ownership in her work and truly cares about helping others.

Sincerely,

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