

Hello fellow GANYC members,

I am a fairly recent member of the organization, and just starting my guiding career (got my license in September of 2024). I've been overwhelmed by the acceptance and support from long-time members, and I am always so thrilled to meet newer guides as well.

GANYC has enriched my life professionally and personally, and I welcome the opportunity to share the experience with others by participating in the board. I believe deeply in the power of nonprofits and community groups - I currently serve on the board of the WithinReach Foundation, which seeks to help adult learners in NYC achieve a college education. I also volunteer with Facing Our Risk Of Cancer Empowered (FORCE) as a support group facilitator and social media outreach liaison for those with genetic risks of multiple types of cancers.

I have been a longtime project manager for live entertainment. This role has me managing large teams of people with varied backgrounds and skills, scheduling large-scale installations, and running meetings frequently in person and on Zoom, as well as taking and distributing detailed notes. I am adept in most web and desktop applications that are used in offices, such as Google Drive, Dropbox, Zoom, Microsoft Office, etc.

In my guiding life, I currently work for 3 different companies - Tasty Tours NYC, Lincoln Center Tours, and Funky Experiences - and I am launching my own company in December with tours of holiday sights in Manhattan. I love the work, and I love the community.

I currently serve on the membership committee of GANYC (which is new for me as of this past month), and it is my goal to help attract younger and more diverse folks to the world of guiding as well as to GANYC itself, to help enrich the organization with new perspectives, and to provide support to those who might not feel like guiding or GANYC is for them - yet. I want to lift up the next generation!

At 43, I'm hoping that a year from now, I can come to one of these meetings and NOT be one of the youngest three people in the room. Will you join me in this quest?

Please consider voting for me for secretary!

Many thanks.

Daria Walcott