

My name is Rosemary (Ro) Shmavonian and I am pleased to be nominated for the role of Vice President of GANYC. The year I have spent as a member has been full of connections and support and I truly appreciate the organization.

As VP I would like to focus on three areas: Integration, Efficiency, and Legacy.

By Integration I mean working with Committees and established members to help new members fully connect to the organization by tapping into resources as well as by finding places where they can contribute. The Mentorship Program I established this year as part of the Membership Committee is one example of a way for GANYC to connect with new joiners.

I'd like to promote Efficiency by looking at what people are doing across Committees and individually and determining where we can simplify or modernize some of the work being done. This would be a thoughtful process over time, not a sudden revamp of things just for the sake of change and would focus on lightening the load for the volunteers who work so hard for the organization.

The last area is around Legacy. There is so much information available in GANYC including New York history, Travel Industry contacts, and advice on Guiding as a profession. The Emeritus Status is a great first step as a way to keep people in the organization who otherwise might leave. This is a thought process I would like to further explore as a way to both honor people who have spent years as guides and support those who are newer to the profession and the organization.

Thank you