Hello there! My name’s Rumi Natanzi, and I am a first year student here at UVM. I’m a Global Studies major, and am so excited to be part of such an integral and important program. I have decided to run for a senate position this year for three main reasons:

1. First, to increase the already established community of diverse students, meaning those of different cultural backgrounds as well as the many other defining qualities “diverse” encompasses.
2. Second, to cultivate an atmosphere where each and every student feels safe enough to express their ideas and opinions, regardless of what they are, and are open to hearing and validating their understandings.
3. And third, to listen and relay any and all ideas and opinions expressed to me on a “professional” stage, so everyone feels, regardless of their position, that their voices are heard.

In high school, I was part of the International Bacclaureate program, one that taught us the value and overriding importance of examining issues and claims from each and every side of a story, not only to better understand it for ourselves, but to understand where the other person is coming from, and why. I think this, as well as my experience being the president of a couple clubs during my high school career, equip me with the experience and skills necessary to adequately represent the student body. By open mindedly hearing each ideal and suggestion brought to my attention, as well as diplomatically mediating any arguments that may arise, further suggests that my leadership would be as fair and unbiased as possible. If elected, I would make sure to truly encompass the phrase, “a candidate for the people,” making the voices and opinions of my peers, a large part of where my work is dedicated and implemented. I hope this illuminated a few of my main campaign ideologies, and that this Friday, regardless of who it’s for, you get out and vote. The other people running are brilliant individuals, with really amazing ideas for change, and each and every one would be a wonderful choice. Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I look forward to (maybe) representing you this year!