

# North NJ DSA Executive Committee Candidate Questionnaire - January 2021

Please use this form to submit your candidacy for one of the positions on our executive committee.

For full descriptions of all executive committee positions, please view our by-laws:

<https://north.dsanj.org/chapter-by-laws/>

Full Name \*

Katia Oltmann

Position you are running for \*

Treasurer

Why are you a member of DSA? \*

I started becoming more politically radical after the 2016 election, and I wanted to join the DSA so that I could be involved in agitating for socialist political change at the local level.

What will you bring to this Executive Committee position? \*

I have held the treasurer position for the Mutual Aid Working Group's "Brick City Mutual Aid" Project for the past 7 months, working closely with our current treasurer Ed to collect receipts and pay people who make grocery deliveries. I believe that this kind of work has given me the experience to be an effective treasurer for the entire chapter.

What is your vision for North NJ DSA and how will you work to achieve it? \*

I hope we can continue to be active in local struggles against the carceral state. Our Immigrant Justice Working Group has done great work agitating for people detained by ICE in New Jersey and has helped make this an issue that has garnered national coverage. I hope this kind of local activism expands and that we can win concessions in funding affordable housing and defunding police departments

If you could change one thing about our chapter, what would you change? \*

I think we can expand on two things 1) holding more protests and rallies. I have been really inspired by Ridgewood for Black Liberation, who have been holding daily rallies at the Bergen County Prison to protest the county's contract with ICE. I think it would help our cause if we could build a stronger street presence 2) more door to door canvassing. I think canvassing is vital for building a broader base of people who can oppose the local status quo

Is there anything else you'd like to share with fellow chapter members? \*

I am also active in a leftist Jersey City group called Solidarity and Mutual Aid Jersey City

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