

# HER CAMPUS TEMPLE

## JENNIFER NGUYEN STRIVES TO MAKE TEMPLE'S BRANCH THE BEST IT CAN BE

Jennifer Nguyen, a senior journalism major here at Temple, never thought she would become the president of a nationally recognized publication for college women, but she's doing just that as the editor-in-chief of Her Campus Temple.

Her Campus is a national online magazine and website that includes many different chapters at different universities around the country. The main idea of the publication is to advocate for women to express themselves and to give them a platform to speak their minds.

Nguyen got started with the publication during her second week of college when Alyssa Brindisi, a student in Nguyen's political science class, decided to start the Her Campus Temple branch and asked if anyone was interested in being a part of it.

Nguyen sent in a rough resume and ended up becoming the fashion and beauty editor. At the end of last semester, Spring 2013, she became President.

"I find that we're a lot about the underdog because there are a lot of people around campus or just in general that don't get the shine they deserve," Nguyen explains. "One of my favorite parts of being involved is just seeing that boost in people who we give the spotlight to. There are so many students on campus and they need to be recognized."

As president, Nguyen's job is two-fold. She manages the Her Campus Temple website by overseeing and scheduling its content and also writing for the site as well.

Nguyen also does the event planning for Her Campus, which she says can be a lot of work.

The event-planning side is a lot of work for Nguyen because Her Campus conducts many events every semester that spotlight different issues or topics.

"Last semester we held a suicide prevention night, and every spring we hold a café night where we honor different women who are doing great things around campus," Nguyen said. "We also speak to leaders of cultural organizations, clubs, sororities, and fraternities, because we are always trying to find different students to honor."

Although the title of the magazine can be misleading, the purpose of Her Campus is not just geared towards women, but is meant to honor all students. Men are not excluded from the magazine. In fact, Her Campus Temple will soon have a male columnist.

"The media has a tendency to try to put women against each other," Nguyen said.

"I think the biggest message we have is to inspire other women to help each other," Nguyen says.

Nguyen has a lot of internship experience under her belt that has helped her in her position. She interned at Philly.com in summer 2013, where she learned a lot about managing online media.

"There are many things from my experience at Philly.com that I took with me and use now as president," Nguyen says. "We advocate many different voices around campus. Even if maybe

I personally don't agree with something, we still respect other people's opinions."

Kaitlin Manion, secretary and Arts & Entertainment staff writer for Her Campus Temple, had been reading the national Her Campus site for a few years before college.

To Manion, Nguyen is extremely passionate about Her Campus Temple and is consistently trying to make it better.

"She never really takes no for an answer and always plans ahead to make sure we get what we need," Manion says. "Whenever we have an issue, Jenn is always 10 steps ahead to figure out how to fix it."

Her Campus Temple is all about giving people the freedom to express themselves, Nguyen says. Upon her graduation, Nguyen hopes to pursue her dream and find magazine work in New York.

"That's my dream, but I'm pretty much open to whatever comes my way," Nguyen says.

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