

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 0:01

This is Kennedy interviewing Haylee on November 20. Are you ready?

Cogovan, Haylee 0:06

Yes.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 0:07

Okay. Can you tell me about your family background?

Cogovan, Haylee 0:10

Um, so I am from Medina, which is like, half an hour away from here. And that's like where my parents grew up their high school sweetheart. So, like, it's where like my family all is so that's nice. My family's Polish. So that's fun. And I'm technically a first-generation college student because my parents didn't go to college. My mom did, but then she got pregnant with me so she **couldn't finish**. So, yeah.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 0:41

What does your dad do?

Cogovan, Haylee 0:43

My dad is a **CO**.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 0:44

Okay. And then your mom what did, was she going to college for?

Cogovan, Haylee 0:47

She was going to college to be a teacher.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 0:49

Okay, awesome. did that affect your education at all?

Cogovan, Haylee 0:55

I don't think so. Because I never like, growing up. I never like realized that like my parents never went to college like it didn't seem like anything out of the ordinary but, and my parents were big on me going to school. So, I guess in a way, like it pushed me to go to school because they were very like for that.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 1:11

right. Do you have siblings?

Cogovan, Haylee 1:13

Yes, I have one sister,

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 1:15

older, younger?

Cogovan, Haylee 1:15

younger.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 1:16

And does she want to go to college? Or is she in college?

Cogovan, Haylee 1:19

Yes, she wants to go to college.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 1:20

Awesome. Um, can you tell me about your high school on your experiences in high school?

Cogovan, Haylee 1:26

Um, I'd say mine was pretty good. I was like one of the people in the middle group like I wasn't the popular kid, but I wasn't the like, not a popular kid. I was kind of, and I was friends with everyone in the middle. So, I feel like I had like, overall a pretty good experience.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 1:43

Did you do clubs or anything in high school that kind of came over to Brockport when you came college?

Cogovan, Haylee 1:48

No, I Medina didn't have very many clubs, but I did do sports. So, because the only thing

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 1:54

What did you think college is like before you came?

Cogovan, Haylee 1:58

Honestly, I was terrified. I was too nervous to come. I almost like didn't come my freshman year I was going to commute. But I pushed myself because I knew I needed to. But it definitely was like a better experience than I thought it was going to be.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 2:13

Right. um Why did you decide to come to Brockport?

Cogovan, Haylee 2:17

because it was 30 minutes away from my house. (laughs)

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 2:19

So, um distance? was a big factor in that?

Cogovan, Haylee 2:23

yeah

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 2:27

Did financial burdens kind of affect why you came to Brockport at all, or was it solely just how far away it was?

Cogovan, Haylee 2:35

Yes. Yeah. So, it's kind of like I also applied to Canisius and I got a scholarship there which would have evened out to Brockport in the end, but I also wasn't a fan of the inner city because like here is really similar to Medina. So, I think overall, that was it, but financially I don't think there was anything big.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 2:57

What were the biggest differences you felt during your first semester between high school and then jumping into like your freshman year of college? I know it was a while ago but

Cogovan, Haylee 3:04

yeah. I think like, are you saying like coming in my freshman year like what was, okay? I don't I personally was homesick like my entire first semester. So, like, that was hard. Even though I'm only half an hour away, I think it was just like, also being forced to meet new people because all my friends like went to different colleges. So that was hard, but I think like joining like I joined an LLC [Living Learning Community], so I think that helped because like, I was forced to, like make friends with people in my hallway right now.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 3:35

I know what an LLC is but for the sake of the interview, can you explain what an LLC is? And what one you joined?

Cogovan, Haylee 3:40

Yes, so I uuh, a living learning community within the Res Hall and I joined teachers of tomorrow.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 3:45

Awesome. What did you think you wanted to do? Coming into college?

Cogovan, Haylee 3:52

I knew I wanted to be a teacher.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 3:53

So, you've known since the beginning.

Cogovan, Haylee 3:55

Yep.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 3:56

So okay, what is your exact major and like specification for that major?

Cogovan, Haylee 4:00

So, I'm an arts for children major with a concentration in dance studies. And then I am getting my certification in childhood inclusive education.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 4:14

Awesome. Who do you consider a mentor in your decisions here at college?

Cogovan, Haylee 4:18

It would be my first resident director. Am I allowed to say names? (yep) Devin Bonner She was also BSG President my freshman year, but she was like someone that I like, looked up to a lot and she like kind of helped me guide me through my first year of being an RA and she just was like, very helpful in like with making like, life decisions to choose just like someone that I could like go to and like looked up to all the time.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 4:42

for sure. Okay, so trying to change it up a bit. What is it like being an RA here at Brockport?

Cogovan, Haylee 4:49

I personally enjoy it. It's something that I've always enjoyed doing. And I knew I wanted to be an RA coming in. Just because I had friends that went here and they were RAs so like, I just felt like it was something I would enjoy doing. I love getting to connect with my staff like each staff is different every staff I've had, for the past two and a half years pretty much has been, like, wildly different. And I think it's like a great way to like get to know other people too. So.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 5:18

So, what made you take on this role specifically? Was it influenced from your friends? Or is it something personal? Or, you know,

Cogovan, Haylee 5:25

yeah, I think it was more influence on my friends and like, obviously, kind of like idea of how I wouldn't have to pay for room. So, like, that made an impact. But I also like, felt like it was like a way to also make me more involved on campus because that's what I was nervous about is that I'd come here and I like wouldn't get involved and yeah, so

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 5:46

how did you feel about the training?

Cogovan, Haylee 5:50

I felt like sometimes I feel like it's a little long, but I feel like in the end, it's like, good that we have it. I think my first training ever was like the biggest one for me and that I felt was the most useful but then sometimes like over the past, like I've been to three summer trainings and those are like our longer ones and I just feel like sometimes it's so repetitive and I already know a lot, but I think it's good to like refresh, but sometimes it is just long.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 6:15

so, they do the same trainings year after year even if you are an experienced RA,

Cogovan, Haylee 6:19

yeah, so like in the summer and then we have winter training, we have to come back for two but it's usually shorter.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 6:24

Okay. If you plan to use this in the future, how do you think it can be a resume builder type of thing?

Cogovan, Haylee 6:34

Well, I think like that's like something my RD and I have talked about a lot is like transferable skills like I have found like so much within the RA role that I can use in teaching like the idea of like working with a staff like you're working with your, like teachers in the same grade level, or like having to have conversations with like residents that are like harder to have and sometimes you might need to have those conversations with like your Students too so I just feel like I've realized like how many skills I can like transfer over to a teacher.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 7:09

So, what are some challenges and rewards of being an RA?

Cogovan, Haylee 7:13

I think some challenges is just the title of being an RA I know that's happened to me a few times where it's like I'm looked at as just the RA and like sometimes my residents don't see me as like a student to in a way. But I think some rewards is like, this year gotten like a really close bond with a lot of my staff members. And I think like, I haven't had that yet. So, like that's like something that's been really rewarding for me. So...

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 7:41

that's awesome. Is there anything interesting you can share like stories?

Cogovan, Haylee 7:46

Um, (pause) I think the only thing that pops in my head is I think the most exciting thing that has happened was during training we do night at the SERC, we pretty much go to the SERC each team is like they all come dressed up or not team but each res hall. And so, my whole staff is new this year and my RD has never been to this and I'm the only one on my staff that's ever been, and we ended up winning like there's nothing to do with...

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 8:13

no but yeah!

Cogovan, Haylee 8:14

but I just like it was just like find funny, I think in the end so,

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 8:17

so many inexperienced people but then yeah, yeah, that's really funny. Um, so you've worked with a lot of different students. You said the first year on the on your pre interview form, first year, second year and then transfer. What are the different challenges you face between them?

Cogovan, Haylee 8:38

So, sophomores, was my first-year sophomores and transfers because I was in Harmon. And with that, I was like coming in as an RA like a freshman RA wanting to be and very different vibe with freshmen and sophomores' transfers because they're more of like, I know what I'm doing. I don't really like need you as much so like, that was kind of like hard to handle with because I was like putting myself out there but not always getting like the response, I want it back.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 9:07

Yeah.

Cogovan, Haylee 9:08

Freshman I think just sometimes they think they know what they're doing, and they don't. It's like kind of funny to watch. It's like trying to figure out where the best like if I should step in or let them or kind of go in whatever direction they feel.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 9:26

for sure. Um, can you explain to me what an SRA is?

Cogovan, Haylee 9:33

Yeah, so it's a senior resident assistant and you don't, with it being senior, you don't have to be a senior because like I was one last year and this is my second year being one. It's more of like so like you have your RAs and then your resident director and you're kind of like the middleman of it. So, we don't get any more like pay or anything. It's just kind of like a step up that like if you are interested in doing and I enjoy it because I like getting like I've liked being able to get closer to the RD and see more Like the RDS role and stuff.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 10:03

is there anything significant about being an SRA that you can differ from being a normal RA that you'd like to share?

Cogovan, Haylee 10:11

Yeah,

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 10:11

Like being a liaison

Cogovan, Haylee 10:13

Yeah, so like my RD gives me a lot more like stuff to do like then maybe they will or like, well, she has like more she expects more from me a little bit than the other ones just because I like know more and I'm like an SRA I don't know. She's like more the title thing like the idea of like us being there,

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 10:33

for sure for sure. Okay, switch it up a little bit more. How did you meet your friends here on campus?

Cogovan, Haylee 10:39

Um, my first group of friends was from my LLC. So, they were just all there. We were all going to be teachers at the time. It's kind of like we've all kind of drifted in our own different ways. But I know like we still like meet every now and then to chat. But yeah, or Res Life too. So

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 11:00

How is your current friend group different from the one you had in high school?

Cogovan, Haylee 11:05

I think the one in high school was more like I'm still like really close with all of them. So like, it's like, we've been friends for so long. It's like we can't really like not be friends. Yeah. But I think like, here I meet friends and like sometimes they don't always like, stay as close but it's like, oh thing that like, even though we're like not talking as much I know, we're still friends, right type thing. So I think it's like, how much we communicate with each other? Yeah, for sure.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 11:32

What roles do your friends play in your life?

Cogovan, Haylee 11:35

Um, they're not like I don't talk to my college friends on the daily, but I do talk to like a lot of my home friends. So, I think it's just like, there's someone I joke around with or like or talking to honestly all the time. It feels like Right, right.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 11:52

Okay, how do you see the dating culture at Brockport?

Cogovan, Haylee 11:55

Um, I think it's very different for everybody, because I think everyone has their own experiences and like their values coming in. So, like, I think you have some people who are like looking for someone to date and then those who are like kind of like waiting for the right person. But I don't know if there's like one way to describe it. Yeah, no, yeah.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 12:20

Do you have a relationship here at Brockport?

Cogovan, Haylee 12:23

Um like, he's on... he or she's on campus?

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 12:27

whatever and however you want to interpret the question.

Cogovan, Haylee 12:29

so, I do have a boyfriend, but he goes to RIT.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 12:34

Okay, um, how did you meet?

Cogovan, Haylee 12:36

high school

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 12:37

Okay, so yeah, he's from Medina as well.

Cogovan, Haylee 12:39

Yes.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 12:39

So, um, how do you think your social academics and academics spheres affect your relationship? him being RIT, you being here?

Cogovan, Haylee 12:48

Yeah. At first, I think it was really hard because it was very different. But I think like now it's like kind of got us to learn that we can live independently and still like, have a good relationship. But like, I think we're getting to the point in our lives where we want to, like, eventually get back, like closer together obviously or like live together. So, I think it's like it's been a good like, distance tests, even though it's only half an hour away, it's still like I don't see them. Oh, for sure much as I did in high school because high school so every day, so very different,

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 13:19

I understand. Um, so do you participate in extracurricular activities? And if you do, what are they? What do you do?

Cogovan, Haylee 13:29

Not as much this year last year and my freshman year to last year I was in the arts for children Club, which I mentioned. And with that we did like little events like on campus, we do them with Lyft bridge on Main Street. We did some with my mom's Girl Scout troops, like they'd come to campus and stuff and that was always cute. But it was just like something that like, I kind of like just didn't have time for this year. So

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 13:55

understandable, you said you have not studied abroad but do you ever want to? Is that something that interests you?

Cogovan, Haylee 14:03

Yeah, I think so. But I think I'm kind of in the mindset, like, I'm just a very homey person. So, I get nervous that if I go somewhere, I'm going to like, just wish I was home. Yeah. But um, so I think I've kind of decided that it's going to be more of like, I'm going to travel once I finished school and like, yeah, travel with somebody,

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 14:20

yeah! if you could study abroad, what would you want to do? And where would you want to go?

Cogovan, Haylee 14:25

Um, I would want to do one of the Greece ones, because that's just somewhere I've always wanted to go. And I had one of my friends. They used to go here. She went, and she did like photography there, which I think is like, cool. It's like not anything like specific to like my major, but it's like, I think it'd be fun to go around Greece and just having to take pictures for class.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 14:50

Yeah, so new experiences. Yeah. So, what do you plan to do with your degree?

Cogovan, Haylee 14:55

Um, so I plan on being a teacher but then I want to go to my, get my masters and do all that, but I hope eventually become like a school principal. So that's where I'm going in my life.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 15:07

So, if you want to get what's it called... administrative in your masters?

Cogovan, Haylee 15:11

Yeah.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 15:14

So, what do you want to be when you grow up? Would you say a school principal? Or...

Cogovan, Haylee 15:19

I'd say teacher first because I think that's like really important. It's like, for me, it's important that I understand the life of a teacher to be able to like, lead them in a way because I think it's like hard if you've never liked been in the teacher shoes.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 15:32

So not to step right into the authority.

Cogovan, Haylee 15:34

Yeah,

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 15:35

For sure. Yeah, So, who has the biggest influence in your college experience?

Cogovan, Haylee 15:57

I'd have to say right now is my current RD just because like literally before this interview her and I are having a conversation about like, having to, like make more decisions like for me because I'm very like, I'll make decisions to like make people happy type thing and I think like, from that like even just like now I've realized that like, I should have been doing that more like throughout college so I think like, I wish I would have had her sooner in a way so she could have told me that. But yeah, I think right now in my life she's one that's had a lot of impact throughout college so far.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 16:33

So lastly, is there anything you tell your younger self to do differently?

Cogovan, Haylee 16:39

I'm kind of like I just said is really do stuff for me and not to like make other people happy or to like please others anyway so...

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 16:49

Is there anything else you want to add?

Cogovan, Haylee 16:51

Nope.

Platter, Kennedy M (kplat2) 16:52

Awesome. Thank you.

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