# Mayor's Youth Advisory Council (MYAC)

## **New Orleans, LA**

MYAC directly advises on policies and issues influencing youth wellbeing. Council members develop recommendations through legislative research, constituent data review, and conducting an annual youth town hall to determine priority impact areas. Youth represent the various districts and the rich diversity of our city.



Mayor's Youth Advisory Council

## **Timeline**

- July-Early September: Applications open
- September: Selection process (includes interview)
- October-December: Junior Civic Leadership Academy
  - Open to MYAC + youth that did not get selected for MYAC
  - Curriculum covers departments and city resources and features guest speakers and interactive activities
- January-Early July
  - Election of board members
  - Selection of subcommittees (if applicable)
  - Youth Town Hall Planning and implementation
  - Impact project planning and completion
  - Memo to the Mayor
- July-Graduation and presentation of impact projects

#### **How to Connect with Youth**

- Public schools and private schools
  - Utilize email lists and strong relationships
- Youth Organizations
  - Utilize email lists and strong relationships
- Social media
  - Add collaborations with city, Mayor, and other city and program accounts to increase reach
  - Tag schools, youth-serving nonprofits, library, etc.
  - Encouraging our current members and alumni to share on their personal social media
- Youth Programs Directory (online directory)
- Newsletter
- Email list of partners and community members
- Add to other offices' newsletters
- Visit and table community events
- Outreach at libraries and schools
- Press release
- News channels and other media
- MYAC, Alumni tell their friends

## Meetings

- First Saturday of every month
- 3 hours in length
- Objectives:
  - Increase knowledge of city government (assessed through a pre and post-test)
  - Utilize Robert's Rules during meetings
  - Create a successful Youth Town Hall
  - Create at least 1 impact project
- Guest speakers when appropriate
- Feedback on quality, content location, etc. is taken from youth through Forms
- Subcommittees may have additional meetings between meetings

## **Impact Projects**

- Based on feedback from youth in the City, including those at the Youth Town Hall
- Can be either one project or one project per subcommittee
- Choose a topic and a final project-Varies from grant projects to city summit workshop to social media to research presentation
- Work to expand impact (through number of people reached, number involved, etc.)

# **Staying Connected**

- Youth continue to stay involved.
  - They provide feedback on surveys from other departments and city initiatives
  - Participate on Grant selection committees as with Youth Climate Action Fund
  - Participate on boards and commissions in the city
  - Act as moderators, panelists, speakers in city events
  - Invited to city events (Mayor's ball, parades, summits)