



MAGDALENA ECKE FAMILY YMCA

Youth & Government

What Is Youth & Government

The California YMCA Youth & Government is a statewide youth educational program involving more than 2,300 high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors in a nine month "hands on" experience. Since its inception, the program has used a variety of activities to build, encourage, and strengthen those life assets and character traits that will help high school youth become involved responsible adults who are decent and respected citizens. The tool used is a high quality experiential and educational simulation based upon California's state government. The program is very comprehensive, and its impact on the youth participants is dramatic. The core purpose of this highly regarded program is exemplified in the motto "Democracy Must Be Learned By Each Generation."



**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
Youth & Government
VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

<http://www.calymca.org>

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**IT'S FOR
EVERYBODY**
MAGDALENA ECKE FAMILY YMCA
We build strong kids, strong
families, strong communities.

For more information please contact Marissa Cowan at 760.942.9622 ext.1443 or email at mcowan@ymca.org



High School Leadership Program

What do you do in Youth & Government

The program begins in September when 2,300 young people and 250 volunteers at approximately 80 locations throughout the state meet as individual delegations to discuss issues facing California. The program reaches its peak in Sacramento at the State Capitol with the convening of the five day Model Legislature and Court each February. There, "real" government moves over and the teen delegates "take over," using the historic halls, chambers, and offices of our State Capitol, Supreme Court, and Governor's Office. A key focus of Youth and Government is the building of friendships among its participants. During free time at conferences (which can consist of dances, games, or just relaxing) relationships are built that last a lifetime. It is extremely common for participants to refer to their "Youth and Government buddies" as the best friends they ever had. The key here is that Youth and Government uses the tool of a Model Legislature and Court session to provide its participants with the life skills that they will use even if they decide to pursue a professional career outside of government.

Democracy Must Be Learned By Each Generation!

WRITE BILLS

ROLE PLAY GOVERNMENTAL POSITIONS.

PARTICIPATE IN COMMITTEES

ATTEND STATE-WIDE TRAINING CONFERENCES

MEET OTHER HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE STATE

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

SPEAK YOUR MIND

ATTEND STATEWIDE SOCIAL EVENTS AND DANCES

DEBATE STATEWIDE ISSUES

GIVE SPEECHES

What does Youth & Government cost?

An entire year of Youth & Government includes transportation, lodging, staffing, supplies and some meals. Local delegations fundraise to help offset the costs of the program. Some need-based scholarships are also available.

\$1200 member

\$1300 non-member

You can pay the entire amount or make monthly installments

How do I join?

To sign up for Youth & Government, call 760.635.3050 or stop by the registration desk.

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