

How to start and maintain YOUTH COUNCILS

April 18, 2018

#FLCityYouth


#FLCU



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**A Guide for
Creating a City
Youth Council**


Coming Soon!

Compiled by the Florida League of Cities, Inc.
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The Power of
Youth Leadership

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Why You Should Have a Youth Council – To:

- Show young people how local government functions
- Produce strong leaders & civically engaged voters
- Show that your city values young people **EVEN THOUGH** they can't vote
- Get fresh, outside the box ideas
- Provide unique learning opportunities
- Help young people find their voice
- Enhance economic development and invest in your city's future

IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO!

How Do You Start?

1. Find a staff person & local youth to plan the program.
2. Determine how many members, term of office & how they will be selected.
3. Vet your plan through your legal and risk management departments.
4. Establish rules and regulations – accountability is **THE** key!
5. Allocate funding, find sponsor/s.
6. Recruit applicants, conduct interviews, make selections.
7. Launch!

In the Beginning...

- The concept of a "youth corps" was part of the 2003 Iorio for Mayor campaign
- The Youth Corps is sponsored by the City of Tampa and JPMorgan, the presenting sponsor



What is the Mayor's Youth Corps?

The Mayor's Youth Corps provides a forum for teens to:

- Engage with city leaders
- Do community service, while learning about community needs
- Learn about city government
- Enhance their leadership skills
- Learn television production/social media from the ground up
- Grow & develop into successful young adults



What is the Mayor's Youth Corps?



Up to 40 students in grades 9, 10 & 11 who attend a public or private high school within the City of Tampa limits or live within the city limits and attend school elsewhere



Learning About the City Intro to City Government & City Council



MYC MO-JO (Mobile Journalism)



Leadership 101

Etiquette & Protocol



Ethics



Financial Literacy



True Colors



Open Forums with the Mayor



Serving the Community

Paint Your Heart Out



Trinity Cafe



A Brighter Community



Feeding America Tampa Bay



Special Opportunities

Serving the City



National League of Cities



Florida League of Cities



The Impact ~ MYC Members Speak

I don't think I have ever been involved in something quite as wonderful as MYC. It truly instilled within me a passion for serving the community.
Christina Warner, Class of 2006

It taught me a degree of independence and empowered me to take more control and more initiative in every area of my life.
Jackie Frenkel, Class of 2009

I have discovered the person that I am and the person that I strive to be.
Drew Valenti, Class of 2015

For me, and many others, the MYC and MYLC accomplished exactly what it sought to do. It forms leaders, builds character, and prepares a generation for the future ahead of them. *Cole Fisher, Class of 2012*

The Impact ~ Parents Speak

This experience has made her more mature. She has become more self-sufficient and more organized.
Nancy Peterson parent of Morgan Peterson, MYC Class of 2015

I liked that she applied and was selected in a competitive process and I liked that she had program obligations and was expected to manage them on her own.
Joe Wiley parent of Mica Wiley, MYC Class of 2014

Joseph is learning how to problem solve and manage his time. He better understands the importance of accountability. In addition, he is experiencing leadership opportunities above and beyond the norm for a sixteen year old boy.
Laura Hanis parent of Joseph Hanis, MYC Class of 2015

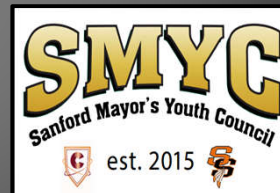


There is always one moment
in childhood when the door
opens and lets the future in.
Graham Greene

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Florida League of Cities
Youth Council
Webinar
April 18, 2018

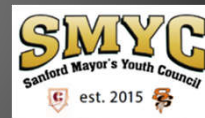


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How Sanford created a Mayor's Youth Council (MYC)?

- ❖ Communications Officer designated as the liaison to the Mayor's Youth Council.
- ❖ Mayor and I met with local High School Principals and they agreed to partner with the City to create a MYC.
- ❖ Both Principals designated a Teacher Representative who attends every meeting – very important to the program's success.
- ❖ City Resolution created, formally recognizing and describing the Mayor's Youth Council. *The Mayor's Youth Council is a group of ad hoc students allowed to use City space and work with City staff in collaboration with the School District.*
- ❖ Created Line item in Mayor and City Commission budget set aside for MYC.
 - Communications Officer can utilize the City Purchasing card to pay for MYC needed items
- ❖ City Manager approved a designated Mayors Youth Council room at City Hall.
- ❖ An Application was created – sent out near the end of the school year at school.
 - ❖ Student does not have to be a Sanford resident, but preferred.
- ❖ Mayor's Youth Council term is one full year, beginning in May and ending in May, the following year.
- ❖ City reviews the applicants w/teacher liaisons and decide together who will be chosen. Current Council members have to re-apply – it's not an automatic confirmation.



How Sanford created a Mayor's Youth Council? Cont.:

- ❖ The MYC consists of 12 dynamic, outgoing and exceptional students who are in grades 9-12 (6 from each Sanford High School). Introduce new members to the Mayor.
- ❖ Intro meeting with the City Manager and Department Directors.
- ❖ MYC members meet twice a month at 3:30 pm-5pm the Tuesday after City Commission meetings – (also meet over summer break).
 - City Name badges created.
 - Generic business cards created.
 - Polo-shirts ordered.
 - Phone line designated in their office.
 - Pres. VP, Secy. Designated by their peers.
 - Discuss top project ideas/initiatives.
- ❖ In September the MYC introduce themselves and present their initiatives for the upcoming school year at a City Commission meeting.
- ❖ Students on council can accrue volunteer hours for their Youth Council time for Bright futures Scholarship.



Why create a Mayor's Youth Council?



Walk for Peace



Citizens Academy



Youth Voice



Business Community



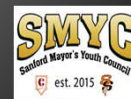
Environment



Job Fair



Community Outreach



Projects and Initiatives

JobFair

- ❖ CareerSource
- Successful event
 - Approx. 14 companies
 - Approx. 75 job seekers



Boys & Girls Club

- ❖ Wednesday After-school Mentor Program



Environment

- ❖ Keeping Sanford Sparkling
- ❖ Community Garden Project



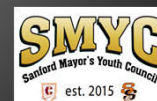
City Business

- ❖ Charter Review Committee - MYC non-voting Member
- ❖ City Comprehensive Plan review - Provided Youth Perspective



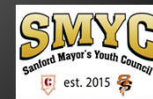
Miscellaneous

- ❖ Rotary Club Presentation
- ❖ Assist at Veterans Appreciation Luncheon
- ❖ Greeters for Citizens Academy
- ❖ Organized Peace Walk
- ❖ Organized Basic Care Packages

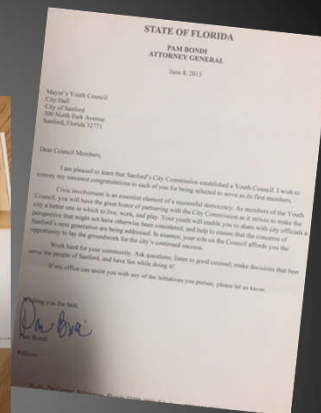
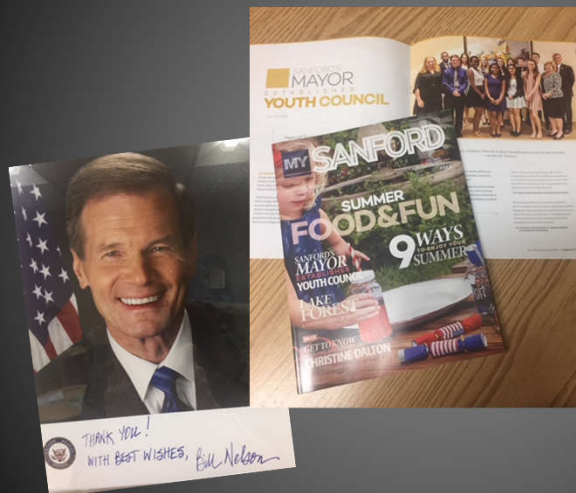


MYC Marketing, Promotion, Communication

- ❖ Created their own logo
- ❖ Social media - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- ❖ Mayors Youth Council Webpage on the City's website and video uploads to the City's Youtube Channel
- ❖ Polo-shirts – wear when out in the community doing events
- ❖ Promote their own events on inserts in City Utility bill envelopes and at Sanford's street festivals
- ❖ MYC Seniors wear MYC Chords at their High School graduation ceremony
- ❖ Communication with each other through Group me app and use Google docs to share information



Recognition and Publicity



Participation in FLC Contests, FLC Annual Conference and FLC City Government Week



Come walk & discuss the community with the Mayor's Youth Council & Mayor Jeff Triplett

April 30th @ 8:30 a.m.
Veterans Memorial Park
110 E. Seminole Blvd.
For more information follow us on facebook @ Sanford Mayor's Youth Council
www.Sanford.gov



Welcome! Municipal Youth Councils:

- City of BELLEVUE Youth Commission
- City of FORT MYERS Youth Advisory Council
- HILLSBOROUGH County Youth Leadership Council
- City of PALM BACH Youth Council
- PALM BEACH County League of Cities Youth Delegation
- City of PORT ORANGE Youth Advisory Board
- City of SANFORD Mayor's Youth Council
- City of ST. PETERSBURG Youth Council
- City of TALLAHASSEE Youth Council
- City of TAMPA Mayor's Youth Council & Mayor's Youth Leadership Council
- City of WEST PALM BEACH Mayor's Youth Council



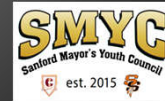
City Commission Meetings Presentations and Recognitions



The City of Sanford Mayor's Youth Council wishes you the best in creating your own Youth Council. We're here to help if you have any questions.



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Questions???





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**2018 FLC Youth
Council Day
August 18
Hollywood, FL
\$75**



The screenshot shows a web browser window at the URL floridaleagueofcities.com/resources/municipal-youth-councils. The navigation menu includes ABOUT, ADVOCACY, FLC UNIVERSITY, RESOURCES, RESEARCH, FINANCIAL SERVICES, and INSURANCE. A dropdown menu is open under 'RESOURCES', listing items such as Media Center, Open Local Government Positions, Municipal Directory, Publications, Grants & Funding Opportunities, Police & Firefighter Pensions, Constitution Revision Commission, Civic Education, Municipal Youth Councils (highlighted), Florida City Government Week, Ethics & Civility Resources, International Relations, Social Media Toolkit, Safe Cities, Safe Florida Resource Portal, Florida Regional Compact Initiative, Helpful Links, Wireless Deployment (5G), and Amendment 1: Homestead Exemption. The main content area features a header image of two young women and a section titled 'Municipal Youth Councils' with introductory text and links to resources like 'The City Government 101 Animated Video' and 'Youth Council Fun Facts'.

2019 FLC Youth Civic Days
March 26-27
Tallahassee, FL

The graphic features a photograph of a diverse group of young people standing in front of a building. A large sign in the foreground reads '#IHeartTally'. The background shows a clear blue sky and a large white building with a tower. The Florida League of Cities University logo is located in the bottom right corner.



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THANK YOU!

