



NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS CONFERENCE

The National Young Leaders Conference (NYLC) is a unique leadership development program that offers outstanding young people from across the United States the opportunity to analyze and discuss current events and top issues with today's national and international leaders.

Built on the theme - *The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today* - NYLC utilizes the resources of Washington, D.C. to give participants a greater understanding of their roles in democracy and the responsibilities of leadership. As these students meet with the men and women who shape laws and policies, they gain an insiders' perspective on key issues. Through interaction with Cabinet secretaries, members of Congress, diplomats, lobbyists, journalists and academicians, NYLC scholars receive direct experience and guidance that cannot be found in textbooks.

NYLC SIMULATIONS

As part of the conference curriculum, NYLC participants work through various role-play activities. Simulations such as Testing the Constitution, If I Were President and the Model Congress focus on topics carefully chosen to represent issues facing legislators and national leaders today. In these hands-on exercises, NYLC challenges students to assess problems, contribute to group discussions and assume leadership roles. Through these experiences, participants also develop important skills by learning to evaluate critical information, develop and advocate positions and make decisions.

NYLC SCHOLARS

The opportunity for students to exchange ideas with their peers, who are among the brightest young minds in the country, is one of the most enduring benefits of NYLC. As students take part in the program, they learn about their colleagues' diverse backgrounds and perspectives and gain confidence in expressing their own views.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Background - NYLC is sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council (CYLC), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan, educational organization founded in 1985 and located in Washington, D.C. The Council is dedicated to fostering and inspiring young people to achieve their full leadership potential. To date, over 100,000 young people have participated in the Council's programs. In support of CYLC's mission, over 400 members of the U.S. Congress and 25 embassies representing countries around the world serve on its Honorary Boards. For more information on CYLC and its programs, visit www.cylc.org.

Participants - High-achieving high school juniors and seniors attend each NYLC session. Six-day sessions are offered during the academic year and 11-day sessions are offered during the summer. Participants are selected on the basis of their scholastic merit, community involvement and leadership experiences.

Funding - NYLC is funded by student tuition. Many conference participants conduct local fundraising with assistance from the Council's Guide to Community Fundraising. CYLC also awards scholarships to financially disadvantaged students.