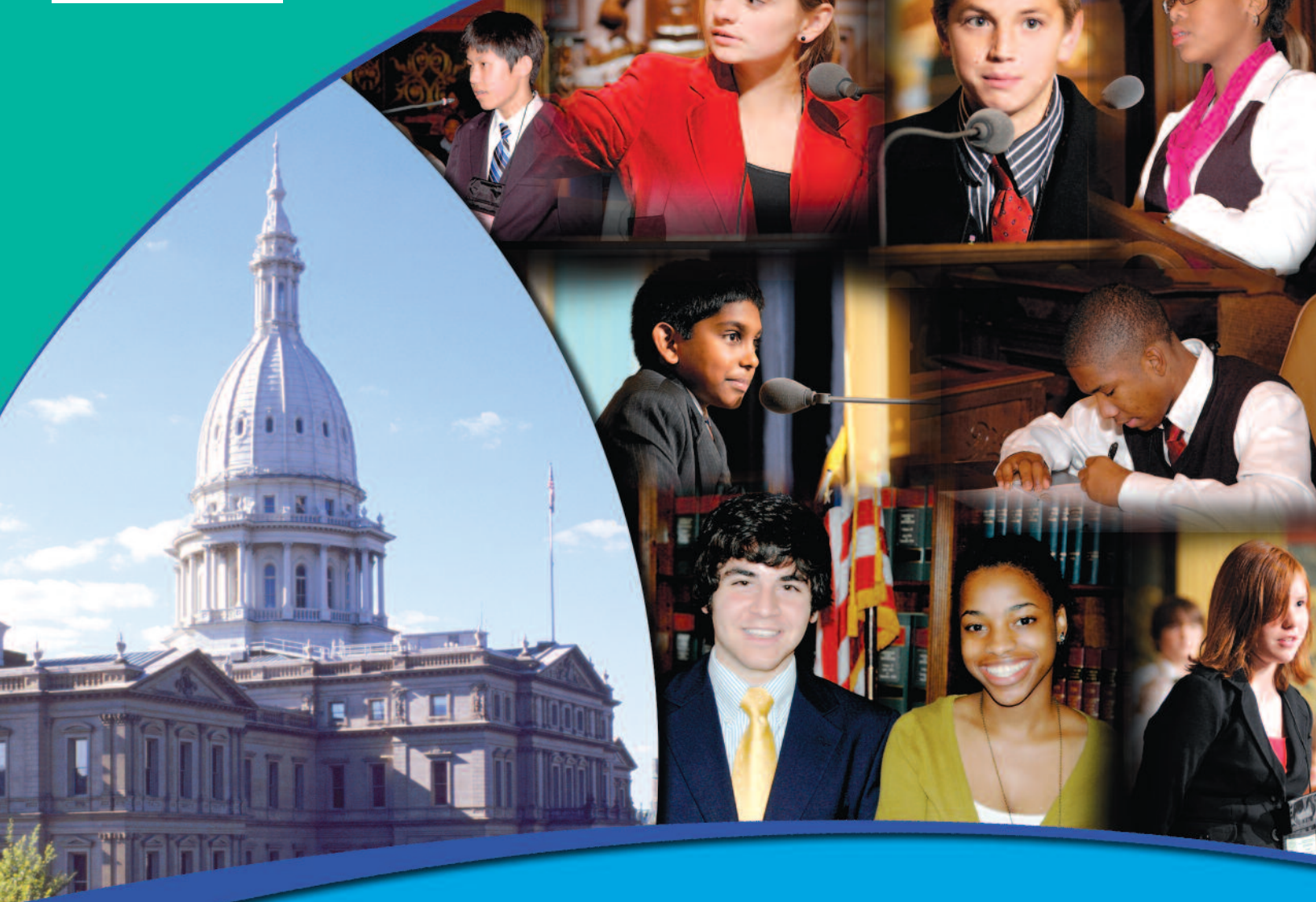




For Youth Development

For Healthy Living

For Social Responsibility



2010 YMCA MICHIGAN YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

MIDDLE SCHOOL



Mission

To strengthen young people and communities by emphasizing character development and the values of "Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility in all that we do."

The purpose of the Michigan YMCA Youth in Government program is to develop within youth a dedication to the values of democracy and leadership in the democratic process.

In order to accomplish the above purpose, the Advisory Board has established the following goals;

- To provide principle centered leadership training to meet the needs of a democratic society.
- To develop an understanding and awareness of Michigan State Government.
- To provide opportunities for participation in legislative, executive, and judicial branches of Michigan State Government with the central focus on the legislative program.
- To provide opportunities to become significantly involved in social issues.
- To develop an appreciation for the need of interdependence in today's society.
- To sponsor a sophisticated inter-association event attractive to school youth and provide stimulation for local associations in developing community leadership.
- To develop self-confidence and self-expression.
- To expose international students to the democratic process at work.

Democracy and all that it represents will remain only so long as its youth are exposed to its ideals and potentials. Those who would work to guarantee the right of every person to their voice in government are those who will perpetuate the democratic way of life. The youth of our nation are those upon whom this trust is placed.

Educational Organizations That Support MYIG

- Michigan Education Association
- Michigan Department of Education
- American Federation of Teachers - Michigan
- Michigan Association of School Boards
- Michigan Association of School Administrators
- Michigan Association of School Principals
- Detroit Federation of Teachers
- Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
- Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools

Character Development

- To provide a fellowship that makes for an understanding of others.
- To teach the application of ideas in civic life.
- To help develop the ability to take defeat without discouragement.
- To help stimulate the knack of learning from an opponent.

Objectives

Michigan State YMCA

Youth in Government Citizenship Education

- To add to the knowledge of government organization and structure through participation in some of its processes.
- To increase an understanding and appreciation of the governmental process.
- To expand interest in and knowledge of the current problems of the state.
- To contribute to an awareness of the effect of personal relationships on the three branches of government.
- To understand the role of vested interest in the governmental process.
- To augment the ability to organize ideas clearly, concisely and persuasively.
- To give added opportunities for articulate speech and writing.

Program in Brief

There are two ways to learn about government. The first is to read textbooks about what others have done. The second is to take that theoretical knowledge and apply it in an actual government setting. The State YMCA Youth in Government program provides students with a unique opportunity to become acting representatives & senators who are given the use of the actual Michigan House and Senate Chambers along with the committee rooms to debate the bills they have written.

However, not all students become part of the legislature. MYIG offers a standard debate program as well. Middle school students compete in teams of four with teams from across the state. Thomas M. Cooley Law School graciously opens its doors and classrooms to the debate teams, and Cooley Law students participate as coaches and judges for the teams.

The Youth in Government Program supports the YMCA'S effort in producing leaders through hands-on experience and teaching the YMCA's core values of honesty, caring, respect, and responsibility. Please join us as we build tomorrow-one young person at a time.

MYIG Promotes the Michigan Social Studies Curriculum Expectations

Students' engagement with government through MYIG will expose them to the Core Democratic Values of: Justice, Equality, Diversity, and Truth. Additionally, they will be exposed to the Constitutional Principles of: Representative Government, Individual Rights, and Separation of Powers (at the state level.)

Students' Social Studies proficiencies will improve through direct experiences with:

- Gathering and Understanding Information (bill writing)
- Analyzing Issues (debate within committees)
- Drawing and Justifying Conclusions (debate on the House and Senate floor)
- Organizing and Communicating Information (lobbying their position effectively)
- Learning and Considering Issues Collaboratively (forming legislative alliances)
- Acting Ethically (respecting the opinions of others during debate)



Youth In Government Board of Directors

The purpose of the Board of Directors is to assist the fiscal health of the program and to provide assistance in its organization, development and operation. The board meets four times each year to review and advise on the program. We express our heartfelt gratitude to the following persons who serve on the board and give their support and assistance to us throughout the year.

Jennifer Granholm, Governor of Michigan

John Cherry, Lt. Governor of Michigan

Regina Bell, Policy Division, Gov. Jennifer Granholm

A. Reginald Best, Schoolcraft College

Becky Best, Citizens Insurance Company

Mike Bishop, Senate Majority Leader

Ed Blews, Board Chair, Assn. of Independent Colleges & Universities of Michigan

Tim Bowlin, Director, House Business Office

Brian Broderick, Michigan Assn. of Non-Public Schools

Cameron Brown, Michigan Senate

John Brown, Jackson National Life

Evelyn Calogero, Cooley Law School

Mark Cook, Blue Cross Blue Shield

Andy Dillon, Speaker of the House

Kevin Elsenheimer, House Minority Leader

E. Thomas Fitzgerald, Judge, Court of Appeals

Mike Flanagan, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Colin Ford, Michigan State Medical Society

Sean Gehle, Ascension Health System

David Hildenbrand, Michigan House of Representatives

Lindsay Huddleston, Wal-Mart Inc.

Mike Johnston, Michigan Manufacturers Association

Wayne Kuipers, Michigan Senate

Rick Lantz, Delta Dental Plan of Michigan

Barbara Lezotte, Lezotte, Miller Public Relations

Tim Melton, Michigan House of Representatives

Carol Morey Vimenti, Secretary of the Senate

Kelly Muldoon, MYIG Alumni Association

Brian Peters, Past YIG Chair,

Michigan Health & Hospital Association

Mike Prusi, Senate Minority Leader

Eric Rule, Michigan Retailers Association

Ed Sarpolus, Michigan Education Association

Martha Scott, Michigan Senate

Mark Stadt, DTE Energy

Buzz Thomas, Michigan Senate

Tom Webb, Michigan Council for Social Studies

Cathy Wilson, Consumer's Energy





Quotable Quotes

"MYIG has changed the way I look at government, because it makes me understand that some things aren't agreed upon, and it is a difficult process."

Erin, Saugatuck MS

"It amazes me how much patience and leadership it takes to help Michigan and the people who live in it."

Noah, Cherryland MS

"In YIG I have learned a lot of things. One is not to be afraid to voice your opinion. Another is, if you think something needs to be fixed in your school, neighborhood, or country, do something about it!"

Felicia, Erie Mason MS

"I really want to feel like I'm making a difference in the world."

Olivia, Petoskey MS

"I believe that bills that maintain the beauty of the State of Michigan are the most important for our future."

Kevin, Ann Arbor YMCA

"I had a fun time debating, and I learned a lot about politics."

Laurence, Chandler Park Academy

"I got to hear many interesting views that I've never heard before."

Mariah, Onsted MS

"It has been a real honor to sit in 129 year old desks in the Senate chambers."

Carley, Union City MS

"This year at YIG I spoke numerous times, sharing my thoughts, beliefs, and feelings. I am pleased because my bill passed committee, House and Senate!"

Mariah, Legg MS

"I took in every bit of experience I could."

Grace, Cherryland MS

"Not many middle school students can say they have sat at a representatives' desk. This has been an amazing experience that I will never forget."

Rachel, Harbor Springs MS

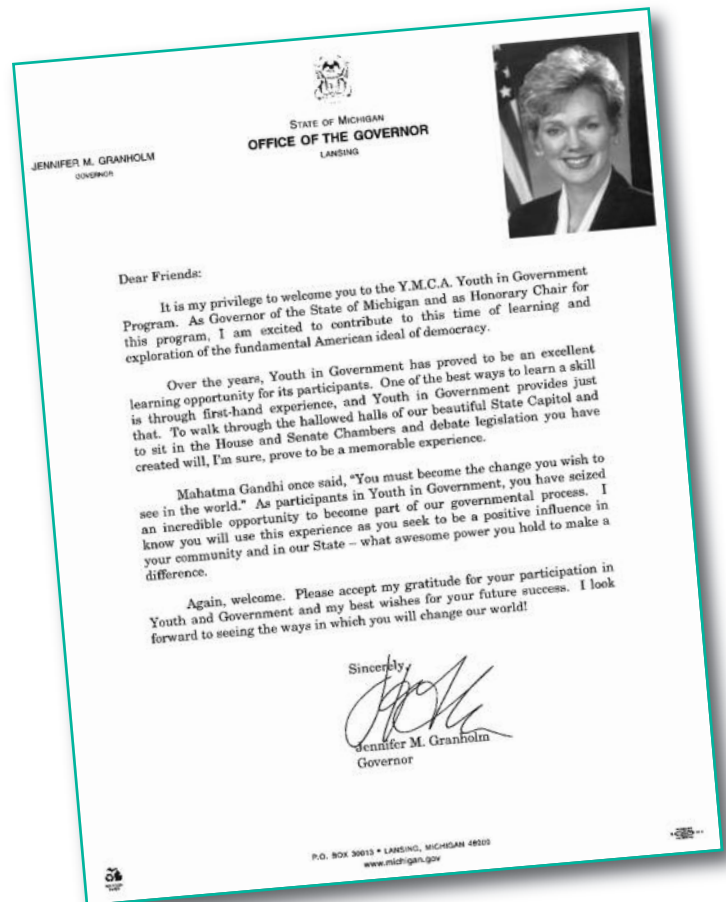
"I love the feeling I get when I tell everybody what I think about the bill we are discussing."

Josh, Milwood MS



The Purpose and How it is Achieved

Youth In Government educates students in leadership and the democratic process. In November the Youth In Government program meets in the legislative chambers of the state capitol where scaled-down versions of actual sessions of the legislature are conducted. Committees meet, debate is held, and bills are signed into model law. Debate teams will hold their debates in Cooley Law School.



Ways to Participate

SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES... research and present bills which are debated in committee and within the actual house and senate chambers in Lansing.

STANDARD DEBATE... research an issue of state or national importance to debate while at the Lansing Conference.

LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS... run for Lieutenant Governor, or Speaker of the House.

CHAPLAIN... opens and closes legislative sessions and other program events.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS... Eligible students can become committee chairs.

How You Can Become A Part of Youth In Government

Each fall, local schools and YMCA's select from their members those who are most interested in learning leadership skills and government. Any school or YMCA can participate by contacting the YIG state office.

Who to Contact

For more information contact the state office. Upon request, materials will be sent showing how you can get your students involved in this nationally recognized program.

MYIG PROGRAM STAFF:

Brent Veysey - Executive Director
Fran Bregger - Assistant Director
Gayle Brokaw - Program Coordinator
Sharon Chapel - Debate/MJP Director
Jennifer Henry - Alumni Director

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Quincy, MI 49082

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Phone: (517) 639-4480
Fax: (517) 639-3525

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E-mail: myig@charter.net
Web site: myig.org

When, Where, Dates, Costs, etc.

WHEN: November 20, 21 & 22

WHERE: Lansing, Michigan

COSTS: Students \$175, Advisors \$195

Costs include:

- Two nights at the Causeway Bay Hotel
- Banquet
- Conference T-Shirt
- Dance
- Student bill book and all program materials
- Transportation to Capitol Building



Investors In The Youth Of Michigan

We are pleased to acknowledge the following sponsors who generously supported the 2009-2010 program.

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Thomas M Cooley Law School.....	11
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General Wine & Liquor	1
Hasselbring-Clark	4
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Michigan House of Representatives.....	28
Michigan Retailers Foundation.....	27
Michigan Senate.....	28
Michigan State Medical Society	22
Speaker Andy Dillon.....	1
State Bar of Michigan Appellate Practice Section	3
U.A.W. Internat'l Union.....	26

Gold Level

Ascension Health System	8
Cliffs Natural Resources.....	16

Gold Level

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* Numbers indicate number of years of sponsorship.