

Engaging Youth: The Journey of Three Cities

League of CA Cities Annual Conference
Institute for Local Government
October 7, 2016

**ILG is the non-profit
research and education
affiliate of**



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

Governments Engaging Youth

Vision:

Communities and schools collaborate to prepare students for civic life and college/career readiness.



Elk Grove youth participating as City Attorney, City Manager and City Clerk

Governments Engaging Youth

- **Mission:** Create strong partnerships between school districts and local government entities to offer students opportunities to gain 21st century work skills, build interest in public service careers, provide tools to become civically aware and engaged and bring authentic youth voice to local government issues.
- **Partners:** Sacramento County Office of Education, Council for a Strong America, Linked Learning Alliance

Why Target the Public Sector Service?

- Need for more diverse workforce to reflect community.
- Baby boomer retirements.
- Local governments offer a wide range of career paths.
- Civic engagement is problematic:
 - The United States ranks 139th in voter participation of 172 democracies around the world.
 - Less than 8% of registered 18-24 year-olds actually voted in the 2014 primary election.
 - 55% of all youth ages 12-18 volunteer; less for youth of color.

Governments Engaging Youth – Program Goals

- Create a high school to career pipeline to ensure a more diverse and prepared public sector workforce.
- Students learn 21st century workforce skills.
- Students learn how to become active citizens.
- Increase youth knowledge of how local government operates.
- Strengthen intergenerational relationships and improve adult knowledge of youth.

Speakers

- Preet Didbal, Council Member, Yuba City
- Mary Anne Rooney, Project Director, Ventura County Civic Alliance
- Yxstian A. Gutierrez, Mayor, Moreno Valley

Yuba City



Preet Didbal
Council Member
Yuba City

Summer at City Hall

- City Council Member Champion.
- A partnership of City of Yuba City with Yuba City Unified School District, Sutter County Superintendent of Schools and Northern California STREAM Pathways Consortium Grant Funds.
- Planning for project: a collaboration between City Council and City staff with schools and STREAM Board members.
- Process for application and interview to hire teacher.
- Process for application and interview students.

Program Components

- Started program in summer 2016.
- 18 students.
- 3 week program.
- 8:30AM – 3:00PM.
- Classroom instruction at City Hall.
- 2 half days of job shadows.
- Mock council meeting.
- Department tours/guest speakers.



Videos

- Summer @ City Hall Mock Council Meeting

<https://youtu.be/HxDclZwSq3U>

- Summer @ City Hall Promotion Ceremony

<https://youtu.be/4rfPMZsPhMU>



Oxnard



Mary Anne Rooney
Project Director
Ventura County Civic
Alliance

Summer at City Hall

- Started program in 2016.
- Built upon the City Council Resolution passed in March 2015 declaring itself a Linked Learning City.
- Engaged City champion in project design.
- Developed curriculum and calendar in collaboration with District Learning Design Coach, Teacher, City Liaison and Business Intermediary.
- Identified a corporate sponsor to pay for stipend for students.

Program Components

- 13 students completed.
- 5 week program.
- Internships at 7 different departments within the city of Oxnard: Fire, Police, Performing Arts Center, Library, Development Services, Parks & Recreation, and Public Relations.
- Students received presentations by other public sector individuals including Mayor and Councilmembers, County Supervisor, County and City Clerk & Recorder, City and County CEO, County District Attorney.

		Monday, June 27th	Tuesday, June 28th	Wednesday, June 29th	Thursday, June 30th
Week 1	OHS Classroom	Organizational Structure of City	Skills development. Enthusiasm and Attitude	Career Exploration	Organization of Departments
	1330-1430 hrs.	Welcome-CMO Representative	Work on	Tour of GREAT Facility	Work on
	1430-1530 hrs	Presentation of City Structure	internship	and	internship
	1530-1630 hrs	Introduction to Department	project	Water Reclamation	project

		Monday, July 4th	Tuesday, July 5th	Wednesday, July 6th	Thursday, July 7th
Week 2	OHS Classroom	HOLIDAY-OFF	Debrief of first week	Team Building	Communications
	1330-1430 hrs.		Work on	Tour of County Clerk & Recorder	Meeting with PIO
	1430-1530 hrs	HOLIDAY-OFF	internship	County CEO Office	Tour of City TV Station
	1530-1630 hrs		project	Hall of Administration	Cultural Activities Director

		Monday, July 11th	Tuesday, July 12th	Wednesday, July 13th	Thursday, July 14th
Week 3	OHS Classroom	Skills development	Citizenship	Career Exploration	Rules of Law
	1330-1430 hrs.	Work on	Presentation from City Clerk	Tour	Presentation of City Attorney
	1430-1530 hrs	internship	Work on internship	Del Norte	District Attorney Office
	1530-1630 hrs	project	project	Transfer Station	intern project

		Monday, July 18th	Tuesday, July 19th	Wednesday, July 20th	Thursday, July 21st
Week 4	OHS Classroom	Consent of the Government	Equality Lesson	Career Exploration	Workplace rules/laws
	1330-1430 hrs.	Talk from Mayor/City Council	Tour of Housing Department	Tour of	Discussion with
	1430-1530 hrs	Work on internship	Diversity of Residents	Fire Station #8 and	HR Department
	1530-1630 hrs	project	intern project	OPD Special Ops	intern project

		Monday, July 25th	Tuesday, July 26th	Wednesday, July 27th	Thursday, July 28th
Week 5	OHS Classroom	Culminating project development	Culminating project development	Presentation of Culminating Project	Presentation of Culminating Project
	1330-1430 hrs.	Work on	Work on	Tour of the	Presentation of
	1430-1530 hrs	internship	internship	Channel Islands	Culminating Project
	1530-1630 hrs	project	project	National Park	to Mentors

Video

- <https://vimeo.com/180628566>

Moreno Valley



Summer at 
CITY HALL

Yxstian A. Gutierrez
Mayor
Moreno Valley

Summer at City Hall

- Champion for project: Mayor Yxstian Gutierrez.
- Joint Resolution: City of Moreno Valley and Val Verde Unified School District.
- Purpose
 1. Provide more opportunities for youth to develop leadership and career ready skills.
 2. Foster interest in civic engagement.
 3. Teach youth how to use their voice to advocate for themselves and others by addressing real community issues.

Program Components

- 6 week program.
- 14 students selected, 13 completed.
- 8:00AM – Noon (class) Monday-Thursday.
- 1:00PM – 4:00PM (internship) Tuesday/Thursday.
- 5 high school credits.
- \$300 stipend.
- Curriculum:
 - Role and structure of local government.
 - Financial literacy.
 - Advocacy/ voice.
 - Soft skills/ workplace etiquette.
 - Leadership qualities.

What Worked Well

- Student orientation.
- Use of Chromebooks: VVUSD / City Wi-Fi
- Guest speakers from both organizations as well as leaders in the community.
- Workshops: Financial Literacy/ Public Speaking.
- Tours of public facilities.
- Every speaker, including staff managing internship shared about their personal career pathways.
- Student certificate ceremony / post program celebration.

Challenges

- **Internship capacity at City Hall**
 - 23 interns with A.S.T.E.R.I.S.K. (MVUSD).
 - 13 interns with Summer at City Hall.
- **Length of days for the students**
 - Internship days were long.
- **Late instructor selection**
 - Impacting daily planning and coordination.
- **Low interest among male students**
 - Only 4 of 28 applications.

Lesson Learned/Tips

- Start each process early.
- 6 weeks is too long.
- Introduce advocacy project earlier.
- Add orientation for internship staff.



Video

- www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHEaaPXe1CY



GEY Statewide Effort

- Toolkit
- Networking meetings for sites
- Seeking ways to engage leaders around the state about the value and opportunity of GEY
- Upcoming: Community of Practice, Clarifying Core Civic and 21st century competencies, Digital Badging
- Identifying models of GEY around the state
- Seeking new sites to implement tailored GEY program

ILG Resources/Contact

Governments Engaging Youth

www.ca-ilg.org/GovernmentsEngagingYouth

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