

COMMUNITY IMPACT & CIVIC LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

HIGH SCHOOL OVERVIEW & DETAILS



The Community Impact & Civic Leadership Symposium for high school students, a collaboration between Close Up and the National Network of Schools in Partnership (NNSP), brings together students from across the country in Washington, DC, to develop a shared vision of youth leadership, schools as civic hubs, and community engagement. Students will develop specific vision statements and action plans related to their own schools and communities, and present those plans to teachers, administrators, and other participants in the NNSP Annual Conference.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Dates: Wednesday, January 24 - Friday, January 26, 2024

Location: The Community Impact & Civic Leadership Symposium will take place at a hotel in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area.

Micro-credential: Participants will receive a micro-credential from Stanford University's [Deliberative Democracy Lab](#) upon completion of program.

Symposium Highlights: In this three-day program, students will...

- Network with a diverse group of their peers from across the country;
- Hear from issue experts and policymakers;
- Deepen their understanding of national issues and root causes;
- Deliberate about the barriers and structures that can make change difficult;
- Work in groups to create vision statements that incorporate tangible action steps; and
- Present their proposals to educators and experts at the 2024 NNSP Annual Conference.

ELIGIBILITY

High school students with an interest in current events, government, and/or public policy. We recommend a cohort of 6-8 students per school.

TUITION

Close Up & NNSP Member Schools: \$995 per student. This fee covers all program components, educational materials, lodging, and student meals.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Please complete this [interest form](#) for more information and details on how to register and [check out](#) the 2024 NNSP Annual Conference for educators.

CLOSE UP & NNSP

Longtime partners before merging in 2023, Close Up and NNSP share a steadfast commitment to civics and community engagement. Together, we offer curriculum consulting, professional development for educators, and Impact programming for schools and organizations seeking to enhance their community and civic engagement programs. Our customized, research-based approach to curriculum design, program planning, and implementation helps schools and organizations build sustainable civic and community engagement academic courses, programs, and partnerships.

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SAMPLE WASHINGTON, DC, SCHEDULE

Wednesday (1/24)

12:30pm - Lunch, Welcome, and Orientation
2:00pm - Homeroom Discussion
3:30pm - Equity in Community Engagement Panel
4:45pm - Debrief and Reflection
6:00pm - Dinner and Social Activity
9:30pm - Student Lounge
11:00pm - Room Check

Thursday (1/25)

8:00am - Breakfast
9:00am - Deliberation Activity
10:30am - Community Engagement Workshop
11:30am - Facilitation Training
12:30pm - Lunch and Neighborhood Exploration
2:30pm - Envisioning Community Leadership
4:00pm - Action Planning and Leadership
6:00pm - Dinner and Social Activity
9:30pm - Student Lounge
11:00pm - Room Check

Friday (1/26)

8:00am - Breakfast
9:00am - Develop Vision Statements
10:30am - Homeroom Discussion
11:30am - Finalize Presentations
12:00pm - Lunch and Presentations
2:30pm - Departures

KEY COMPONENTS

Homeroom Groups: Students will take part in daily discussions, debriefs, and feedback sessions with their homeroom, a core group of students led by the same instructor each day.

Community Engagement Panel: Students will learn from school leaders about best practices in community engagement and social impact as well as innovative approaches being employed by schools nationwide.

Community Engagement Deliberation: How can students more meaningfully engage the broader community in community engagement projects and program? Students will identify obstacles to community participation, consider strategies for involving more stakeholders, and develop proposals.

Community Engagement and Facilitation Workshops: Students will practice strategies and tools for understanding community issues, such as asset and power mapping, and skills for engaging multiple stakeholders and community members in solving community concerns.

Envisioning Community Leadership: In their homerooms, students will collaborate with peers to develop a shared vision statement that expresses how schools like theirs and students like them can help build more just, equitable, and inclusive communities.

Planning for Community Engagement and Leadership by School: Students will build on their experiences in the Symposium to develop specific plans of action for their schools and communities. These plans of action are distinct from calls to action; instead of saying "you should," students pledge "WE will."

FAQS

Do I need to arrange hotel rooms for my students? NO. Hotel rooms are included in the cost of the program and students will be grouped with other students from their school.

Do I need to provide meals for my students? NO. All meals are included in the price of the program. We will be sure to be aware of any food allergies and make all the necessary accommodations.

Do I have to check my students in at night and monitor them overnight? NO. There will be night monitors on each hall who will check the students into their rooms each night and are available should they need anything overnight.

Can I check in on my students during the program? YES. You can observe the students in action at any point and everyone will be able to hear their presentations at the end of the Symposium when they present to the NNSP Annual Conference.

What will the students do at night? Close Up will provide excursions for the students to keep them entertained. We will be sure to have them see a bit of DC but also allow them time to socialize and have some fun.

What can I do for the three days? Join the NNSP Annual Conference, of course! Please [click here](#) for more details.