



DELIBERATIVE YOUTH SUMMIT

NOVEMBER 10-13, 2026 | DALLAS, TX

INSPIRING STUDENT LEADERS TO TURN TOUGH TOPICS INTO THOUGHTFUL CONVERSATIONS

This November 10-13 in Dallas, Close Up and the Stanford University Deliberative Democracy Lab (DDL) are hosting a NextGen Roundtable national deliberation for high schoolers, part of Close Up's series of local and national deliberative events, summits, and trainings bringing a culture of deliberation to schools and communities nationwide.



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PROGRAM DETAILS

Dates: Tuesday, November 10, to Friday, November 13, 2026

Location: The program will take place at a hotel in Dallas, Texas.

Program Highlights: Throughout this three-day deliberative experience, students will consider multiple perspectives on policy issues, critically examine their own views, explore the values and tensions that shape opinions, hear from expert panels, and work with a diverse cohort of peers to reach consensus. Along the way, students will build deliberation and facilitation skills and develop recommendations and proposals they'll bring back to share with their own school community. Students will be eligible to earn a Deliberative Dialogue Badge through Close Up and DDL.

Students will:

- Develop facilitation and listening skills, empathy, and an understanding of how to bring deliberation and civil discourse back to their schools.
- Deliberate on the role of AI in education using a portfolio of balanced and vetted materials.
- Learn from panels of experts in relevant education, technology, and policy fields.
- Hear from and engage with DDL leaders.
- Work and build relationships with students from across the country.
- Share key takeaways and draft recommendations to bring back to their school.

ELIGIBILITY

This event is open to high school students in grades 9-12 who have an interest in public policy, civil discourse, deliberation, and facilitating challenging conversations back in their school communities. We ask that schools bring a cohort of 4-12 students. A faculty advisor must accompany students by attending the concurrent **Educator Summit: Building Student Deliberative Skills**. Close Up will provide all participating educators with tangible ways to support student leaders as they bring this important work back to their schools and communities.

TUITION

The all-inclusive fee is \$1,785 per student. This covers all summit sessions, evening activities, meals, hotel accommodations, and daytime and nighttime supervision and security.

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Please visit [our website](#) for more information and registration details.

ABOUT CLOSE UP

Close Up is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, civic education organization that informs, inspires, and empowers young people to become active citizens. Since 1971, we have partnered with school districts nationwide to serve more than one million students and educators through experiential learning programs in our nation's capital and in local communities, professional development, and curriculum design and consulting. Our goal is to connect what students learn in class to the real world around them and help them articulate their own views, listen to those of others, and engage with people of different backgrounds with tolerance and understanding. To learn more, visit [CloseUp.org](#).

ABOUT THE STANFORD UNIVERSITY DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY LAB

The Deliberative Democracy Lab at Stanford University is devoted to research about democracy and public opinion obtained through Deliberative Polling®. The method of Deliberative Polling has been used in over 50 countries around the world through over 150 projects, at varying levels of government and society. To learn more, visit <https://deliberation.stanford.edu/>.