

75th California
Model Legislature
& Court

DELEGATE
PROGRAM AREA
GUIDE





PROGRAM AREAS

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DATES & LOCATIONS

Training & Elections (T&E)

Camp Roberts - Paso Robles, CA

November 11-14, 2022

Virtual Program Workshops

From Home!

January 21, 2023

75th Model Legislature & Court (MLC)

California State Capitol - Sacramento, CA

February 10-13, 2023





#new-delegates #debate #writing #research #public-speaking

All 9th Graders! Forum offers every participant a well-rounded introduction to the Model Legislature & Court.

All delegates will participate in writing a bill on an issue they are passionate about, and will have the chance to debate and vote on bills in Sacramento. In addition, delegates will participate in specialized programming based on their interests and assigned roles, ranging from additional public speaking opportunities to a model Media program.

Forum delegates will select a committee based on a policy issue they are passionate about. Every delegate will work with their committee to develop a bill on their chosen topic, and will debate the final bills in Sacramento. Each delegate will also be assigned a role within their committee, and will participate in additional training and programming based on their interests.

Leadership Opportunities

Program Area Elections

Forum Presiding Officers
Forum Chief Clerks

Committee Selected Positions

Committee Co-Chairs



LEGISLATIVE HOUSES

#debate #public-speaking #group-work #large-sessions

Write and debate new bills as a representative within the California State Senate and Assembly.

In Legislative Houses, delegates write and debate new bills as representatives in the Senate and Assembly. The bill is drafted, revised in committees, and presented on house floors before being sent to the Governor's desk for their signature or veto. This program interacts regularly with the legislative analyst and lobbyist programs.

Delegates will engage in the entire legislative process, from writing and revising bills, to debating in committees, and presenting bills on the floors of the Assembly and Senate in Sacramento. Delegates will receive all instruction at the Training and Elections Conference, and will bring their skills back to their delegations to assist in the delegation bill writing process. Delegates will deliberate as to whether or not bills will pass into law.

Leadership Opportunities

Program Area Elections

Senate President Pro Tempore
Speaker of the Assembly
Chief Sgt at Arms, Senate
Chief Sgt at Arms, Assembly
Secretary of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Committee Selected Positions

Committee Chairs
Committee Vice Chairs



LEGISLATIVE ANALYSTS

#independent-research #writing #fact-based #public-speaking

Support bills in the Legislative Houses by researching their fiscal impact and presenting fact-based reports.

During sessions, delegates will spend their time researching their assigned bills, drafting reports, and preparing to present them to the houses.

Legislative Analysts will be assigned 2-4 bills each and prepare reports analyzing the financial impact of the bill. They will thoroughly read, research, and answer questions on their assigned bills and serve as a resource for bill sponsors throughout the bill writing process. After their reports are finalized and submitted, they will present their findings to the Leg Houses during committee and house sessions. Analysts receive a unique experience, as they get to participate in the entire bill process.

Leadership Opportunities

Program Area Elections
State Legislative Analyst

Appointed Positions
Deputy State Legislative Analyst



#law #research #argument #group-work

Legal argument and review of trial court decisions to ensure that proceedings were fair.

During session delegates will serve as attorneys in appellate court hearings.

Delegates will be divided into Appellants, appealing the ruling, and Respondents, defending the ruling. Delegates will learn to research legal issues and will use decisions from the state and federal Supreme Court to support their arguments. Delegates will then prepare and give a short legal argument supporting their position.

Delegates will also get the opportunity to preside over the legal arguments as Appellate Court Justices and rule on the legal issues.

Leadership Opportunities

Appointed Positions

Presiding Judge
Lead Appellant
Lead Respondent



#law #research #argument #small-group #intensive

Oversee cases within The Supreme Court, the highest appellate court of review in the state of California.

Delegates will serve as Attorneys and Justices, arguing cases before the Supreme Court.

All parties are presented with a complex legal fact pattern; Attorneys spend long, arduous hours researching and preparing their arguments; Justices review these arguments and prepare questions for the Attorneys; the culmination of efforts occurs in an intense closed-door session during which Attorneys argue their case to the Supreme Court Justices, who deliberate and write their final decision.

Leadership Opportunities

Statewide Elections

Chief Justice

Appointed Positions

Attorney General

Justices (6)

Attorneys (4-8)



MEDIA

#journalism #interviewing #collaboration #technology

Explore the modern dissemination of information through two departments: Communications and Journalism.

In Communications, delegates will learn how information is conceptualized and managed in today's political sphere. Delegates will be separated into Agencies that design and execute campaigns, generate branding around public affairs and candidacy, learn to collaborate and engage with Journalists, and help redirect delegates' interests to various program initiatives.

In Journalism, the Press Corps will be separated into competitive media companies to investigate breaking stories and publish their work on a deadline. Multiple desks will cover topics in criminal justice, environment, health, and politics. Journalists will conduct interviews with candidates & leadership, write about current events, and generate creative video & mixed media infographics — all to put news into context for their readers.

Leadership Opportunities

Program Area Elections

Editor in Chief
Chief of Communications

Appointed Positions

Desk Editors
Communications Managers



DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

#research #presentation #competition #money #exciting

Competitive and like to argue? Draft and debate Budget Proposals in order to gain the Governor's signature!

Each team will be led by a Deputy Director, and the program as a whole will be led by the Director. As part of their budget team, delegates will research the components of a successful California state budget, draft budget proposals, and work within their groups to pass these proposals.

Each delegate will conduct research both during and away from the conference in order to create compelling budget proposals. During conferences, delegates will present and debate the proposals to determine which proposals are included in the budget. Lastly, each budget team competes to have their California budget signed by the Governor.

Leadership Opportunities

Appointed Positions

Director
Deputy Director
Chief Auditor
Chief of Staff



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

#debate #group-work #writing #presentation #competition

Propose educational policy related to diversity Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Safety, and Belonging in schools.

State Board of Education is the education-based governing and policy-making body of Youth & Government. This area will brainstorm current educational priorities, form groups around those priorities, and propose solutions within committees to implement in schools. These policy solutions will be written about, presented on, and debated throughout the year in committee and board proceedings.

Participants within this program area will enjoy group collaboration, competing with their in-program colleagues, and public debate. Select delegates will have the opportunity to sit on presiding boards, alongside Deputy Superintendents, to engage in public deliberations and decide which Statewide solutions will be adopted.

Leadership Opportunities

Program Area Elections
Chief Deputy Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Appointed Positions
Deputy Superintendents
of Public Instruction



#research #public-speaking #competition #debate

Address critical problems that face our nation and develop innovative solutions.

The National Assembly focuses on national issues, with delegates investigating real-world solutions to 3-4 topics. They will also explore how non-government organizations and businesses partner to create meaningful change. Delegates will work individually or with a partner to create a proposal solving one of the topic area problems.

Delegates will learn about various agents (corporations, government agencies, non-profits, etc.) that can solve these problems. They will develop their own innovative solution they feel best solves the problem. Then, they will then persuade other delegates through presentation, debate, and lobbying that their solution is the best. We will end our program having selected the best solutions to 3-4 problems facing our nation.

Leadership Opportunities

Program Area Elections

Nat. Am. Chief Executive

Appointed Positions

Nat. Am. Deputy Chiefs



CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

#debate #public-speaking #research #fast-paced

Build, amend, debate, vote, and ratify the new California Constitution... from scratch.

In this program area, participants are delegates at a California Constitutional Convention. In this role, they will brainstorm amendment proposals, ask their fellow delegates to endorse their ideas, and ultimately debate amendments proposed by themselves and their peers.

This program area is full of debate, with delegates working in small groups to convince their colleagues to endorse their amendments, and debating in larger settings to get their proposals passed. Delegates in this program area should look forward to participating in debate, and have a creative and inquisitive mindset.

Leadership Opportunities

Program Area Elections
Presiding Speaker

Appointed Positions
Adversary General



#advocacy #policy #persuasion #public-speaking #research

Legislative outcomes are based on informative, persuasive, and strategic networking. Be the voice of delegation's bills.

Lobbyists are the conductors of the political world. They use their power and influence to guide individual interpretations into a single, unified thought. Like a conductor, a Lobbyist can dramatically change the tempo, rhythm, and tone of any great work.

As a Lobbyist, you have the opportunity to be an advocate and conduct this great symphony known as the California Model Legislature and Court. Each Lobbyist will be trained in how to understand bills, committee procedures, public speaking, and how to write and pass an initiative. A group of Lobbyists will be placed in a political action committee (PAC). Every Lobbyist will get at least two bills to Lobby, one for and one against. The idea is to try and push your bills through the process, from committee all the way up to signing by the Youth Governor.

Leadership Opportunities

Committee Selected Positions
PAC Chair
PAC Co-chair

STATEWIDE ELECTED LEADERSHIP

GOVERNOR

The Youth Governor of California serves as the official representative of the YMCA Model Legislature & Court program - The Governor addresses the entire MLC program during Joint Sessions; appoints fellow youth members to Y&G's Governing Board; appoints their Governor's Cabinet; reviews legislation passed by the legislature to sign or veto; serves as the Youth Division Manager on the Annual Support Campaign; attends the National Youth Governor's Conference; and leads the CA delegation during the Conference on National Affairs.

SECRETARY OF STATE

The Secretary of State administers, monitors, and certifies elections by adhering to the MLC Election rules - The SOS helps develop and fine-tune rules for the following program year; runs the polling booths, voting contests, and meet-the-candidate sessions; builds the ballot and ensures that voting rules are enforced; keeps an official record of all of legislation within each house and tracks legislation on the official dockets; manages a team of Deputies to ensure the office runs smoothly; and enforces all election rules and works through any disputes or conflicts.

CHIEF JUSTICE

The Supreme Court Chief Justice is the highest elected judicial position in Model Legislature & Court - Chief Justice presides over the Supreme Court Sessions and ceremonial Oaths of Office; assists in the selection of Supreme Court participants; introduces the Court at the opening sessions of the MLC; and administers the Oath of Office to all elected officers at the MLC. Further, Chief Justice will preside over Joint Sessions and serve as a full member of the Youth & Government Governing Board.

STATEWIDE APPOINTED LEADERSHIP

CHAPLAIN

A Chaplain's role is to foster positive relationships and community amongst all delegates (4 Positions) - Chaplains are called to provide motivational speeches to the entire program at the beginning and end of all joint sessions, check-in with delegates who may need additional support, and become exemplary mentors who are comfortable displaying Y&G core values. Chaplains will participate in a program area in addition to their duties as a Chaplain, though they may not hold any other statewide leadership roles, sponsor a bill, etc. to better allow for flexibility and prioritization of their duties.

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

Deputy Secretaries of State collaborate within the office of and support the Secretary of State (4 Positions) - SOS Deputies assist in running the polling booths, voting contests, and meet-the-candidate sessions; help build the ballot and ensure all voting rules are enforced; keep official record of all of legislation in each house; and track legislation on the official dockets.

GOVERNOR'S CABINET

Gov's Cab is a collaborative group that works together to support the Governor's various agendas (7 Positions) - Specific roles may be involved in setting policy, drafting legislative priorities, advocating for or against key bills, overseeing the Governor's communications and PR needs, and connecting with delegates to improve the overall Youth & Government program.

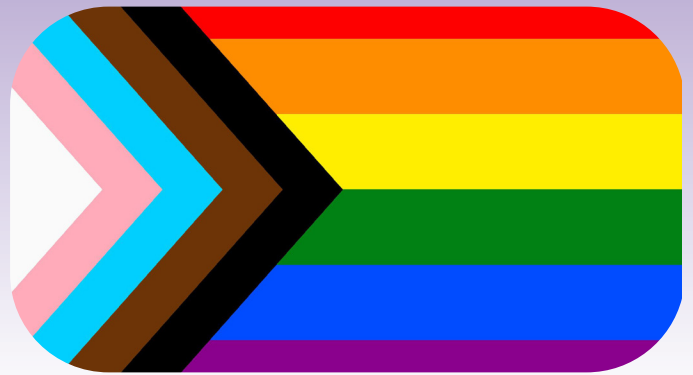
CAUCUSES

Caucuses are optional delegate-led social groups that host public discussions about concentrated interests.

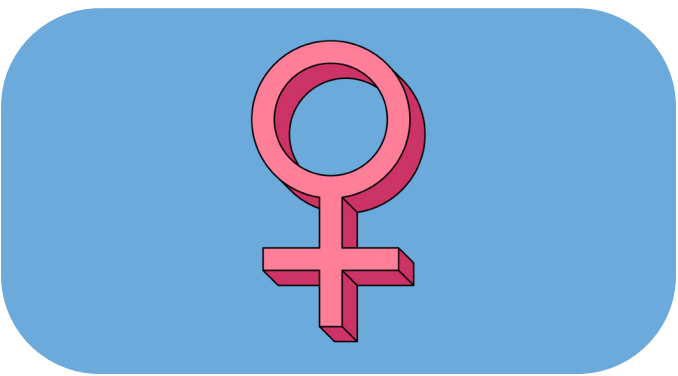
Caucuses that are offered may change from year-to-year, based on the delegate survey and available caucus leadership. All delegates are welcome to participate. The 75th MLC Delegate-led Caucuses are: The Delegates of Color Caucus, The Queer Delegate Caucus, Female Leaders in Power (FLIP) Caucus, and The Conservative Caucus.



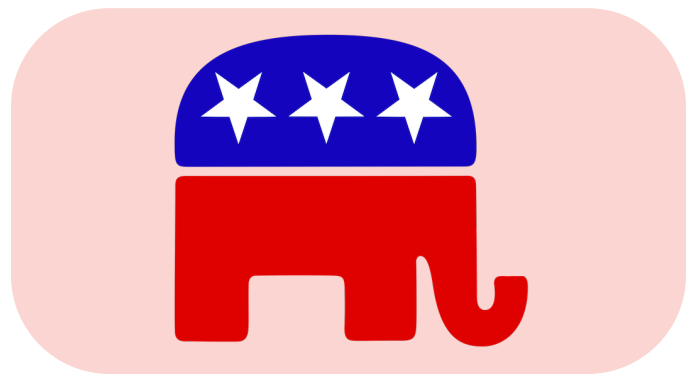
**DELEGATES OF
COLOR**



**QUEER DELEGATE
CAUCUS**



**FEMALE LEADERS IN
POWER (FLIP)**



**CONSERVATIVE
CAUCUS**

Y&G GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Ballot : A process of voting, in writing and typically in secret.

Bill : A draft of a proposed law introduced by a Member of the Legislature. (Assembly Bill 4000, AB 4000, Senate Bill 1, SB 1.)

Delegate : A person sent or authorized to represent others, in particular an elected representative sent to a conference.

Initiative : A method of legislating that requires a vote of the people instead of a vote of the Legislature for a measure. To qualify for a statewide ballot, statutory initiatives must receive signatures of voters equal to 5 percent of the votes cast for all candidates for Governor at the last gubernatorial election and constitutional amendment initiatives must receive signatures equal to 8 percent.

Legislation : Refers to the preparation and enactment of laws by a legislative body through its lawmaking process

Find more glossary terms and program-specific information on the [Y&G Curriculum Airtable](#)

