

Youth Programs Sponsored by the League of Women Voters

In addition to Students Inside Albany, local Leagues organize numerous other youth leadership and civic engagement programs, such as Take Me to Vote, Student Parent Mock Elections, Kids Voting USA, Running and Winning, and the Working Group on Girls.

For more information on how to participate in the *Students Inside Albany* conference, or any of our other programs listed above, please contact the League of Women Voters of New York State at 518-465-4162 or e-mail: lwnvy@lwnvy.org **or** contact your local League representative listed below.

Frequently Asked Questions About Students Inside Albany

How do you choose the students that will attend SIA? Since each student is a representative of a local League and their community, the local League sets the criteria for sending a student. Each student may be asked to write about the conference for their sponsoring local League's bulletin and may also be asked to be a special guest at one of their meetings.

Is there any cost to the student? No, LWNVSEF, along with our cosponsors pays for the entire conference, which includes lodging, meals and snacks. The local League that sponsors the student, is responsible for arranging and paying for transportation to and from the conference.

How much time will I miss from school? The conference starts on a Sunday afternoon and ends on Wednesday afternoon. So, the student will miss two, possibly three days of school.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
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 New York State
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League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc.

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. (LWNVSEF) is strictly nonpartisan, and works primarily on projects that enlighten the electorate, i.e., *empower through education*, without advocating for any particular cause or policy, party or candidate. LWNVSEF is committed to increasing citizen knowledge *of* and participation *in* their government. The LWNVSEF believes that the basis of a strong democracy is an enlightened, educated citizenry.



Students Inside Albany Conference

May 22-25th, 2016



Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc.

Also Supported By:
 Civil Service Employees Association
 Price Chopper's Golub Foundation
 New York State United Teachers
 Key Bank Foundation



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What is Students Inside Albany?

Students Inside Albany (SIA) is a conference sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. The program is designed to increase students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.

This interactive conference will bring together high school students from across the state to learn about New York State government and the process by which citizens can participate in the policy making arena.



What are the learning objectives of Students Inside Albany?

- To increase student understanding of public policy in New York State.
- To enhance student understanding of the roles of the various forces seeking to impact New York State legislation and policy development, enactment and change.
- To promote an increased understanding of the New York State legislative process through legislative shadowing experience



What SIA graduates had to say about the conference:

*"An inside look at how our government works was something I will never forget."
-Nathan Casey, 2013 Participant*

*"You learn so much important information in a couple of days, it's invaluable"
- Helen Barna, 2015 Participant*

*"It is an experience that is one in a lifetime and could possibly change your career choice."
-David Peterson, 2014 Participant*

*"Great introduction to the program! Barbara is amazing and I hope she never leaves!"
- William Westlake, 2015 Participant*

*"It makes me want to go and try to fix the problems with my school."
-Lisa Gotti, 2014 Participant*

*"I loved the interactive activities"
-Maggie Pedersen, 2015 Participant*

*"I now, more than ever, want to run/hold political office or become a member of a campaign."
-Seneca Anastasio, 2014 Participant*

*"I definitely want to become more involved in my state government because I now understand how it directly affects my family's life."
-Katie DuVal, 2013 Participant*

*"I've made great connections that encourage me to be an active citizen."
-Hannah Osborne, 2014 Participant*

*"I can't wait to register to vote!"
-William Delaney, 2014 Participant*

PAST CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday

Registration
Welcome
Overview of Program
How Does NYS Government Work?

Monday

Tips for Being a Successful Citizen Lobbyist
Lobby Role-Playing with Legislators
Tour of the NYS Capitol
Students Shadow NYS Assembly member
Media Perspectives on Public Policy Issues
Bowling and Social Activity

Tuesday

Open Government: Sunshine is the Best
Disinfectant
Political Activism: How Citizens Can Make a
Difference
Tour and Introduction to NYS Court of Appeals
Students Shadow NYS Senator
Cruise on Hudson River

Wednesday

Recognition Breakfast
Voter Registration Basics
Conference Adjourned

