


**Governments Engaging Youth:  
Preparing Our Future Generation**

League of CA Cities  
City Manager's Department Meeting  
Institute for Local Government  
February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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**ILG is the non-profit  
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**Governments Engaging Youth**

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



*Elk Grove youth participate in a mock council meeting and serve as the City Attorney, City Manager and City Clerk*

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## Governments Engaging Youth

- **Strategy:** Create strong partnerships between school districts and local government entities to offer students opportunities to gain 21<sup>st</sup> 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, National Academy Foundation, Linked Learning Alliance, Council for Strong America

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## 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.

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## Governments Engaging Youth – Program Goals

- Create a high school to career pipeline to ensure a more diverse and prepared public sector workforce.
- Students learn civic and 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce skills.
- Students learn how to become active citizens.
- Strengthen school and city partnership.
- Strengthen intergenerational relationships and improve adult knowledge of youth.

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## Today's Presenters

- Jay Schenirer, Councilmember, City of Sacramento
- Steve Kroeger, City Manager, Yuba City



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## Summer at City Hall



City of Sacramento Model  
Councilmember Jay Schenirer



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## Program Structure

- 6 weeks
- 8AM–12PM: Instruction by certificated teacher
- 1PM–5PM: Internships
- Breakfast and lunch provided
- Weekly bus passes provided
- \$300 stipend for 36-hour internship
- 5 high school credits earned



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## Curriculum

- Week 1 – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce Skill Development
- Week 2 – What it means to be an Active Citizen
- Week 3 – Local Government Basics
- Week 4 – Advocacy -Issue ID and Research
- Week 5 – Advocacy continued & Financial Literacy/Goal Setting /College Exploration
- Week 6 – Present Advocacy project to Panel of Council members

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## Internships

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City Council Offices</li> <li>• City Attorney</li> <li>• City Clerk</li> <li>• Teen Services</li> <li>• Human Resources</li> <li>• Fire Department</li> <li>• Police Department</li> <li>• Revenue Division</li> <li>• Crocker Art Museum</li> <li>• Business Partnerships</li> <li>• Regional Transit</li> <li>• Office of Congresswoman Matsui</li> <li>• Bank of America</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School District Office(s)</li> <li>• Engineering</li> <li>• NextEd</li> <li>• Economic Development Department</li> <li>• Animal Care</li> <li>• Recycling &amp; Solid Waste Division</li> <li>• Sacramento Tree Foundation</li> <li>• Parking Division</li> <li>• Sacramento Employment &amp; Training Agency (SETA)</li> <li>• Sacramento Zoo</li> <li>• Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency</li> </ul>
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## LAUNCHPATH: A Web-Based System

- Matches internship opportunities with students
- Enables students to develop resumes
- Enables students to record skills and gain badges
- Reduces administrative burden of processing student applications

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## Advocacy Project

- Purpose: To develop student civic leaders who can effect direct change in their community.
- Structure:
  - Student led group projects organized by City Council Districts
  - Students ID and research problems, develop and advocate a solution
  - Students present recommendations to officials from the City, County, and School Districts

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## Returning Youth

Several students return after their participation in the program to act as mentors and team building facilitators for the next class of Summer at City Hall students.



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## Program Outcomes

Skills and Knowledge Acquired by Students:

- Financial literacy
- Research and advocacy
- Local government and citizenship
- Workforce readiness
- Communication
- Professionalism
- How to use public transit
- Work environment
- Importance of networking

Other Outcomes:

- Become interested in public service careers
- Build relationships with adults
- Identify ways students can impact their community
- Become aware of voting process and registration rules

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## Adult Outcomes

Adults report:

- Better understanding needs/perspectives of youth
- Seeing youth as resources
- Stronger interest in hiring youth from the community
- Teachers better understand city government
- Teachers learn inquiry based SL method
- City/schools experience positive relationships

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## Yuba City



**Steve Kroeger**  
City Manager  
Yuba City

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## 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.

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## 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.



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## Curriculum

- Introduction to local government
- Role of the city council
- State capitol site visit
- What it means to be an active citizen: vote, volunteer, advocate and lead
- Job ready skills
- Mock Council meeting
- Job shadow
- Tours of courts, hospitals, registrar of voters, city facilities

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## Q & A



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## GEY Statewide Effort

- Online toolkit
- Engaging local government leaders around the state about the value and opportunity of GEY
- Upcoming:
  - Community of Practice
  - Clarifying core civic and 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies
  - Digital badging information
- Identifying models of existing GEY programs in California
- Seeking new sites to implement tailored GEY programs

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## ILG Resources/Contact

### Governments Engaging Youth

[www.ca-ilg.org/GovernmentsEngagingYouth](http://www.ca-ilg.org/GovernmentsEngagingYouth)

### Contacts:

Hang Tran, 916-658-8255

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