Engaging Youth: The Journey of Three Cities

League of CA Cities Annual Conference
Institute for Local Government
October 7, 2016
ILG is the non-profit research and education affiliate of
Governments Engaging Youth

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

Elk Grove youth participating as City Attorney, City Manager and City Clerk
Governments Engaging Youth

• **Mission**: Create strong partnerships between school districts and local government entities to offer students opportunities to gain 21st 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, Council for a Strong America, Linked Learning Alliance
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.
Governments Engaging Youth – Program Goals

• Create a high school to career pipeline to ensure a more diverse and prepared public sector workforce.
• Students learn 21st century workforce skills.
• Students learn how to become active citizens.
• Increase youth knowledge of how local government operates.
• Strengthen intergenerational relationships and improve adult knowledge of youth.
Speakers

• Preet Didbal, Council Member, Yuba City

• Mary Anne Rooney, Project Director, Ventura County Civic Alliance

• Yxstian A. Gutierrez, Mayor, Moreno Valley
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.
• Process for application and interview to hire teacher.
• Process for application and interview students.
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.
Videos

• Summer @ City Hall Mock Council Meeting
  https://youtu.be/HxDclZwSq3U

• Summer @ City Hall Promotion Ceremony
  https://youtu.be/4rfPMZsPhMU
Oxnard

Mary Anne Rooney
Project Director
Ventura County Civic Alliance
Summer at City Hall

• Started program in 2016.
• Built upon the City Council Resolution passed in March 2015 declaring itself a Linked Learning City.
• Engaged City champion in project design.
• Developed curriculum and calendar in collaboration with District Learning Design Coach, Teacher, City Liaison and Business Intermediary.
• Identified a corporate sponsor to pay for stipend for students.
Program Components

• 13 students completed.
• 5 week program.
• Internships at 7 different departments within the city of Oxnard: Fire, Police, Performing Arts Center, Library, Development Services, Parks & Recreation, and Public Relations.
• Students received presentations by other public sector individuals including Mayor and Councilmembers, County Supervisor, County and City Clerk & Recorder, City and County CEO, County District Attorney.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Monday, June 27th</th>
<th>Tuesday, June 28th</th>
<th>Wednesday, June 29th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Skills development.</td>
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<td>1330-1430 hrs.</td>
<td>Welcome-CMO Representative</td>
<td>Enthusiasm and Attitude</td>
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<td>Presentation of City Structure</td>
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<td>Introduction to Department</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Monday, July 4th</th>
<th>Tuesday, July 5th</th>
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<tr>
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<td>HOLIDAY-OFF</td>
<td>Debrief of first week</td>
<td>Team Building</td>
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<td>Tour of County Clerk &amp; Recorder</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Talk from Mayor/City Council</td>
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<td>Discussion with</td>
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Video

• [https://vimeo.com/180628566](https://vimeo.com/180628566)
Moreno Valley

Yxstian A. Gutierrez
Mayor
Moreno Valley
Summer at City Hall

• Mayor: Champion for project
• Joint Resolution: City of Moreno Valley and Val Verde Unified School District
• Purpose
  1. Provide more opportunities for youth to develop leadership and career ready skills;
  2. Foster interest in civic engagement; and
  3. Teach youth how to use their voice to advocate for themselves and others, by addressing real community issues.
Program Components

• 6 week program.
• 14 students selected, 13 completed.
• 8:00AM – Noon (class) Monday-Thursday.
• 1:00PM – 4:00PM (internship) Tuesday/Thursday.
• 5 high school credits.
• $300 stipend.
• Curriculum:
  – Role and structure of local government
  – Financial literacy
  – Advocacy/voice
  – Soft skills/workplace etiquette
  – Leadership qualities
What Worked Well

• Student orientation.
• Use of Chromebooks (VVUSD)/ City Wi-Fi
• Guest speakers from both organizations as well as from leaders in the community.
• Workshops: Financial Literacy/ Public Speaking.
• Public facility tours.
• Each speaker and internship staff talked about their career pathways.
• Student Certificate Ceremony.
Challenges

• Internship capacity at City Hall
  – 23 interns with A.S.T.E.R.I.S.K. (MVUSD)
  – 13 interns with Summer at City Hall

• Length of days for the students
  – Internship days were long…especially for summertime

• Late selection of Instructor
  – Impacting daily planning and coordination

• Low interest among male students
  – Only 4 of 28 applications
Lesson Learned/Tips

• Start each process early.
• 6 weeks is too long.
• Introduce advocacy project earlier.
• Provide internship staff with an orientation.
Video

• www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHEaaPXEe1CY
GEY Statewide Effort

• Toolkit
• Networking meetings for sites
• Seeking ways to engage leaders around the state about the value and opportunity of GEY
• Upcoming: Community of Practice, Clarifying Core Civic and 21st century competencies, Digital Badging
• Identifying models of GEY around the state
• Seeking new sites to implement tailored GEY program
ILG Resources/Contact

Governments Engaging Youth
www.ca-ilg.org/GovernmentsEngagingYouth

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