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Youth Leadership America Announces the Inaugural Youth Leadership Summit & Expo at the Anaheim Convention Center

With the support of the city of Anaheim, YLA aims to provide thousands of students with this unique, one-day opportunity.

ANAHEIM, Calif. (March 22, 2022) — Youth Leadership America (YLA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, announces that its inaugural leadership summit and expo hall for high school students and parents will take place on August 20, 2022 at the Anaheim Convention Center. The complimentary one-day event (9am-5pm) will feature multiple workshops ranging from mental health and well-being to public speaking and networking.

“YLA is ecstatic about this event because it’s going to be planned and run by high school students for their peers which is the foundation of our organization,” says John Nguyen, co-founder of Youth Leadership America. “We’re committed to supporting the youth board as they put together an amazing event.”

Some tentatively planned Workshops include:

- Gaining Influence
- Achieving Goals
- Teamwork & Diversity
- Financial Literacy
- Volunteer & Service
- Authenticity & Purpose
- Community Resources
- Career Preparation

“I’m very excited because it’s an ambitious project that will finally be able to connect our youth in one event with lots of opportunities for personal and professional growth for both students and parents,” said Victoria Rodriguez, a sophomore at Loara High School and an Anaheim Youth Commissioner, “I’m really looking forward to collaborating with my peers across the city to put together this free event.”

The summit will also include an expo hall (which opens at 12pm) for students to network with other students as well as colleges and universities, and youth serving non-profit organizations and businesses. In addition, there will be a parent-track of workshops, specifically for parents and guardians of high school students.

Over 20,000 students are expected to attend the leadership summit and expo.

Tentative Summit Schedule:

- *10am - Keynote/Welcome*
- *10:45am -12:30pm - Workshops*
- *12:30pm - Lunch/Expo Hall*
- *2pm – 4pm Workshops*
- *4pm - Closing Keynote*
- *Expo Hall Open - 12-5pm*

Call for Sponsors: YLA is seeking businesses and non-profit organizations to exhibit, sponsor, and/or get involved in making this event a success.

Call for High School Student Volunteers: YLA is seeking students from all over the community to help plan, staff and ultimately make this event a success! After all this event is be put on *by* high school students *for* high school students (& parents)!

Call for Adult Volunteers: YLA is seeking adult volunteers to be advisors, mentors and/or staff members to support our youth. This project will require a big collective effort from our local community.

If you're interested in sponsoring, exhibiting, and/or volunteering, please contact Carlos Leon at carlos@ylamerica.org.

About Youth Leadership America (YLA): YLA is the outgrowth of Youth Leadership Anaheim, a program that was founded in 2002 by a group of high school students in Anaheim, CA. These youth created a leadership development program that was operated by high school students for high school students.

In January of 2006, with the support of our youth members, community partners, and Youth Leadership Anaheim, Youth Leadership America was officially founded as its own 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. To this day, we continue to excel as Anaheim's premier youth leadership program and aggressively pursue our vision of exporting our community-centric leadership development model throughout all of America. Everyone who is apart of YLA embraces a culture of personal development through peer-to-peer support and community engagement. YLA focuses on youth as the powerful leaders who run the organization.