

Mila Kathryn Aduli is an eighth grade student at Christ Episcopal School, where she proudly serves as Beta Club President. A passionate advocate for children and families of all abilities, Mila is the founder of The Kindness Corners, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting compassion, accessibility, and inclusive opportunities throughout Louisiana.

In 2025, Mila was honored as Louisiana's Youth of the Year by Governor Jeff Landry in recognition of her outstanding advocacy and leadership in advancing disability inclusion. Through her nonprofit and community partnerships, she has helped support the development of the inclusive playground at Fontainebleau State Park, where she hosts inclusive seasonal events that bring families together in an environment centered on belonging and joy. Mila also played an instrumental role in helping create a teen hangout space at We Rock the Spectrum to foster inclusive social opportunities for youth of all abilities.

Mila is also the author of LuLu's First Mardi Gras, a children's book celebrating culture, kindness, and inclusion. Proceeds from the book support STEM and arts programming for children of all abilities at We Rock the Spectrum in Mandeville. In addition, her annual crayon drive raises funds to expand educational access for children with profound disabilities who are unable to attend traditional school settings.

As a member of LYAC, Mila is committed to using her voice to inspire positive change across Louisiana. Through advocacy, service, and youth leadership, she hopes to empower other young people to lead with compassion, embrace inclusion, and create stronger communities where every child feels seen, valued, and supported.

Ja'Ryan Berryhill is a student leader at Edna Karr High School in New Orleans. He currently serves as vice president of Junior Zulu and is an active member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, where he works alongside city leaders to advocate for young people and address issues impacting youth in New Orleans. As chairman of the Juvenile Justice Committee, he has helped lead discussions focused on youth empowerment, community engagement, and policy reform.

Ja'Ryan is also a member of Kappa League and has participated in several leadership and professional development initiatives centered around civic engagement and public service.

Passionate about law, leadership, and public speaking, Ja'Ryan hopes to continue using his platform to inspire young people to become involved in their communities while creating meaningful change through advocacy and service.

Davin Berwick is an incoming senior at Hackberry High School in Hackberry, where he is involved in Student Council, Senior Beta Club, and serves as Junior Class Vice-President. Coming from a small community in Southwest Louisiana, Davin has developed a strong passion for leadership, public service, and civic engagement. He is passionate about creating greater opportunities for Louisiana's youth and believes young people should have a stronger voice in conversations that shape their future. He also advocates for domestic violence awareness within his community and hopes to continue promoting awareness and support for those affected. Davin plans to pursue a career in law with interests in civil rights law and constitutional law, and eventually hopes to become

a civic and law educator. He is especially interested in encouraging more young people to become involved in government, leadership, and public service. While he has strong ambitions for his own future, he also has ambitions for the future of Louisiana and is passionate about helping young people across the state reach their full potential. As a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, Davin hopes to collaborate with fellow student leaders from across Louisiana to discuss important issues, develop meaningful solutions, and help inspire the next generation of leaders.

Samara Bryant is a senior at Baton Rouge Magnet High School, where she serves as both student body president and an EBR Magnet Docent/Ambassador. She is a University of Chicago Woodson Summer Scholar, a Carleton College Liberal Arts Experience Scholar, and a national finalist in the Marshall-Brennan Moot Court Competition. Samara is passionate about volunteering and is actively involved in community service through Key Club International and Hustle and Grow, an initiative focused on cultivating fresh produce for local families. Inspired by her experiences as a fellow with Baton Rouge Youth Coalition (BRYC), she hopes to work with her peers to advocate for educational opportunity and resource equality for students across Louisiana as a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Ha Bui is a junior at Sulphur High School in Sulphur. As a dedicated student leader, she served as class vice president her first two years of high school and is currently serving as Student Council secretary. Additionally, she is also the historian for Sulphur High's Future Business Leaders of America chapter. Ha sings in the Sulphur High's Advanced Treble Choir and Mixed Choir as well as serves as the Choir's Parliamentarian. Ha was also selected into Sulphur High's LEAD Council; a program where students are entrusted with a \$20,000 grant by Woodside Energy to decide on community impact projects. As a part of the first all-female LEAD Council, Ha & her group decided on a project to empower women and spread awareness about domestic violence in gender roles. She served as the LEAD Council Secretary & Purchasing Manager. Beyond leadership positions, Ha is also an active member on different clubs at SHS like Interact Club, Mu Alpha Theta, P7 Bible Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and National Honor Society. She also likes to stay physically active by being involved in on-campus sports like tennis, cross country and track. Ha is working towards bringing a Youth and Government Club to Sulphur High to uplift civic engagement within her school with a goal of empowering student voices and strengthening connections between young people and lawmakers. As a member of LYAC, she hopes to advocate for the voice of students within her small but prideful community of Sulphur.

Coco Culpepper is a rising senior at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in New Orleans. She is actively involved in athletics, competing in varsity cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track. Coco has demonstrated leadership through her work as a summer camp counselor and manager, aftercare counselor, and National Honor Society historian. Passionate about service, she has volunteered extensively with organizations including Covenant House New Orleans, Hearts of Passion, Girls on the Run, and animal shelters, and participated in service trips to Chinandega, Nicaragua, focused on improving access to clean water in rural communities. Academically and creatively, Coco earned 1st in state in the eCYBERMISSION competition and placed in the top five in computer science at the Louisiana State Rally. She is also a published award winning writer through the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, earning both Gold and Silver Keys for her poetry. Additionally, she helped create Nola Volunteer, a website connecting New Orleans residents with

volunteer opportunities throughout the city.

Charlotte DeClouet is a Senior at Lafayette High School in Lafayette. She's been in the Gifted and Talented Program for six years and in the Health Academy at Lafayette High for 3. Within the Health Academy, she will participate in an internship at a local hospital in the upcoming Fall semester. She served as HOSA- Future Health Professionals president as well as the Louisiana HOSA Region 2 vice president this past year. Charlotte is also an active member of Youth and Government, FBLA, and NHS. She brought Louisiana Health Care issues to light at the capitol during her time at the Washington Leadership Academy in 2025. She hopes to work with her fellow members to advocate for policies that support women's reproductive rights and to expand health care access across Louisiana.

Owen Esté lives in Abita Springs and is a rising senior at Fontainebleau High School in St. Tammany Parish. This past spring, he served as a Republican Page for the United States Senate in Washington, D.C. Owen also worked with State Representative Kim Carver on HB 379, which allows 17-year-old high school juniors to serve as poll commissioners. He was recently elected senior class president and represents FHS on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. Owen is a member of the swim and soccer teams and enjoys working with the Bulldog Buddies club, which promotes friendships between typical students and students with special needs. Owen is involved in the Talented Theatre program at FHS, where he has played "Shrek" in Shrek The Musical and "Orin Scrivello, DDS" in Little Shop of Horrors. This summer, he looks forward to participating in Louisiana Boys State. Outside of school, Owen loves serving as a youth soccer referee. This past spring he was honored to be named Male Youth Referee of the Year by the Louisiana Soccer Association. Owen is excited to serve on LYAC for a second year. During his previous term, he was Education Committee Chair and helped implement SCR 40, which established a K-12 School Safety Task Force. He hopes to continue his mission of increasing youth civic engagement and improving educational policy.

Riley Fitzhugh is a rising senior at St. Thomas Aquinas Regional Catholic High School, proudly representing District 5. Riley currently serves on the St. Thomas Aquinas Student Council as a Class Representative, along with various other roles at her school. She served as Co-Captain on St. Thomas' inaugural Mock Trial Team, as well as a Captain on the Volleyball team. Additionally, Riley is an STA Ambassador, and a member of the Golf team, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Beta Club, Light Team, Key Club, Chick-fil-a Leadership Academy, Catholic Identity Club, Spanish Club, World Culture Club, and Prom Committee. Riley also serves as an Ambassador for the National Society of High School Scholars and BigFuture. Riley has recently been selected to attend the American Legion Auxiliary's Girls State program. To stay involved in her faith, Riley serves as a lector and an altar server for both her school and church parishes. Academically, Riley has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her entire career as a student, and is a member of St. Thomas Aquinas' Veritas ACT 30+ Club. She is also a dedicated Dual Enrollment student at Southeastern Louisiana University, and has been recognized as a Southeastern Scholar. As a member of LYAC, Riley looks to expand educational policies for the youth of Louisiana, and to promote advancements that will benefit all citizens of the state.

Ava Galambos is a senior at Northwood High School in Shreveport. She serves as President of the

NHS Student Council, President of the Falcon Academy of Medicine and Engineering, and co-president of the National Honor Society. Additionally, Ava represents students on the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and serves as a major on the Northwood Falcon Line Dance Team.

In addition to her leadership roles, she is a dance ambassador for Bayou Belles Spirit and a junior coach for two teams. Ava is a Platinum Renaissance Scholar and a regional finalist for Poetry Out Loud. As a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, she plans to advocate for meaningful initiatives while raising awareness for student mental health and public health issues.

Josiah Hardy is a rising junior and IB Diploma Programme candidate at LSU Laboratory School, where he is involved in Mock Trial, the school's Cub Ambassador program, and the tennis team. He serves as the representative for Louisiana's 5th Congressional District on the Legislative Youth Advisory Council and is the founder of Project 2028, a youth-led initiative focused on civic engagement, advocacy, and leadership development. Josiah also serves as president of Top Teens of America and as the organization's Area I Mentoring Chair for a multistate region, where he helps lead mentoring and leadership initiatives for students across multiple chapters. In addition, he is a Carnegie Young Leaders for Civic Preparedness Fellow, collaborating with student leaders from across the country on issues related to civic participation and democratic engagement. Through his academic, leadership, and service experiences, Josiah has developed strong interests in law, public policy, and youth advocacy. He hopes to continue creating opportunities that encourage young people to lead, engage in their communities, and make meaningful change.

Jack Hill is a rising sophomore at Mandeville High School. He is passionate about government, public policy, and political engagement, with a growing focus on campaign finance and legislative affairs. Jack has already gained hands-on experience through work with a state senate campaign and continues to pursue leadership opportunities both in and outside of school. Alongside his academic and political interests, he is a dedicated student-athlete who competes in track and field, demonstrating discipline, resilience, and a strong work ethic. Through LYAC, Jack hopes to expand his understanding of state government, strengthen his leadership skills, and help represent the voices of young people across Louisiana.

Jaden Hoang is a rising senior at Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy and is honored to be working with LYAC this year. Jaden currently serves as the HOSA State Executive Council's Outreach Ambassador, advocating for quality health and education of all Louisiana HOSA members. He is also extremely involved within his school's chapter: after serving as chairperson this past year, he became an advisor to the incoming executive board. In debate, he has garnered numerous regional and state level awards and was the first student in his school's history to become a District Champion and attendee of the National Tournament in 2025. Additionally, he serves as the co-founder and vice president of Asian Student Alliance, vice president of NHS, Historian of SNHS, and Parish Representative on the Wellness Council. Jaden has forged an exceptional understanding of the crossroads between civic engagement and public health. In LYAC, he hopes to continue to explore the needs of his community, amplifying voices from rural and small-town communities and working with young advocates to solve problems faced by past and future generations alike.

Amanda Irizarry, a rising senior at East Ascension High School, is proud to represent District II. With an enthusiastic and determined mindset, Amanda is committed to excellence and community involvement. While maintaining a rigorous 4.6667 GPA, she is engaged in extracurricular activities as a dedicated member of National Honor Society and a varsity cross-country athlete while also serving as a Fellowship of Christian Athletes student leader, Student Council class senator, Beta Club president, and 4-H president at her school. Amanda was selected to compete in Psychology at the District Literary Rally and qualified for the State Literary Rally, as well as being selected as a Louisiana Girls State representative. In addition, she is proud to have completed individual academic research on the effects of parental attitudes on the mental health of adolescents and is on track to earn the AP Capstone Diploma. Statewide, Amanda serves as the civic engagement chairperson of the Louisiana 4-H Citizenship Board, where she launched the first annual statewide "Act to Impact" initiative, a competition in which 4-H Junior Leader clubs may earn points for club-led community service and involvement. Alongside her Citizenship Board peers, she developed and led civic education tracks for seventh and eighth grade students during the Spark Action Change Summit. Amanda was selected to present the "Act to Impact" award at 4-H University, where she previously won first place in the Tiger Tank Entrepreneurship "Up and Running" category and was featured twice on the This Week in Louisiana Agriculture television channel during 4-H Week. Her small business, Clay Corner, has given her the opportunity to be featured in 225 Magazine as well. Recently, she campaigned before more than 7,000 attendees at the Louisiana Senior Beta Convention as a Louisiana State Beta secretary candidate, where her skit team placed fifth and she independently placed third in Spanish. Through her service on LYAC, Amanda is determined to elevate the voices of Louisiana's youth and work to promote meaningful legislative change across the state.

Leena Jain is a junior at Benjamin Franklin High School in New Orleans, where she serves as co-chair of the New Orleans Children & Youth Planning Board, where she leads youth-adult collaboration efforts focused on improving services and accessibility for children and families across the city and contributes to the board's Dismantling Adultism Subcommittee, which works to strengthen youth engagement in local organizations and policy discussions. She speaks fluent academic and conversational Spanish and is in her school's National Honors Society. Leena is also president of Chemistry Companions and president of her school's UNICEF Club, where she leads peer tutoring, fundraising, and advocacy initiatives centered on education, public health, and humanitarian relief, helping raise nearly \$3,000 for UNICEF programs this year. She received the 2025 PeerKonnnect Tutor Award for completing the most tutoring hours at Benjamin Franklin, tutoring students in chemistry, physics, geometry, algebra, and Spanish, and also volunteers weekly at University Medical Center New Orleans assisting nurses and supporting patient care. In addition, Leena is a 3 year varsity tennis player, a volunteer with Second Harvest Food Bank, and an advocate for youth-centered healthcare policy and equitable access to care for underserved communities while maintaining a 4.0 unweighted GPA. She hopes to continue advancing youth voice and public health initiatives as a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council while pursuing a future career at the intersection of medicine, public health, and community advocacy.

Cat La is a rising senior at Saint Joseph's Academy in Baton Rouge. She serves as president/co-president in various clubs including Youth and Government, Criminal Justice, Coastal Roots, and Environmental club. In addition, she is the Ambassador president of her school and is the Junior Beta class president. She loves serving her community and consistently volunteers during her

free time by tutoring children on rudimentary lessons, planting trees, being a peer tutor at her school, and participating in Teen Court of Greater Baton Rouge. Internationally, she has given back to her community in Vietnam by teaching children English at a primary school. Cat has participated in civic engagement programs like Close Up in Washington, DC and Suit Up for the Future in New Orleans. She hopes to be an advocate for education, youth involvement, and environmental initiatives and is eager to work with her dedicated and hardworking peers to address and combat these issues.

Luke Langlinais will be a senior at Erath Highschool in Erath. He is the vice president of his student council class, as well as his Executive Board's Secretary for the upcoming 2026-2027 year. He is additionally the President of District V Student Council, serving as a member on the state board. Luke is a captain of the basketball team, being selected second team all-district. He also is a captain of the golf team this previous and upcoming year. He also is part of the talented and gifted program at his school. Luke hopes to work with his peers on enhancing and refining the education curriculum for the betterment of teachers and students, as a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Momin Mahmood is a rising senior at Destrehan High School and a returning member of the Louisiana Legislative Youth Advisory Council. During his first term, he served as Chairman of LYAC's Technology Committee, focusing on policy efforts to address AI-based harassment of youth. At Destrehan, Momin serves as President of Interact Club and National Art Honor Society, Secretary of BETA Club, and a Student Council Representative. He also represents students at the parish and school level through the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, Principal's Advisory Council, District Social Emotional Learning Taskforce, and District Art Steering Committee, while serving as a Wildcat Ambassador, Peer Mentor, and member of National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Wise Ecology Club, the Asian American Pacific Islander Club, and Wildcat Robotics. Passionate about combining STEM and the arts, Momin is a nationally recognized artist and successful Roblox developer whose work has reached millions, and he mentors aspiring young creators. Through creative media work in robotics and his broader technology initiatives, he explores how artistic vision and STEM innovation can work together. As a member of the Louisiana 4-H State STEM Board, he taught coding camps in rural Louisiana, guiding students through programming, AI ethics, and the creation of their own AI language-learning models. His honors include first place at the Nicholls MACH State Mathematics Competition, first place in the Congressional Art Competition, Louisiana state winner for Doodle for Google, a state placement in BETA 3D Design, and numerous top three finishes at local academic tournaments. He also advocated for the creation of Honors Physics at his school and became the first and only student in years from his parish to compete in the science fair, advancing to and placing at the Louisiana State Science and Engineering Fair with an original environmental engineering project. Outside of school, he founded two nonprofit initiatives providing free academic tutoring and English literacy support to non-native speakers. This summer, Momin will conduct research at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As a returning LYAC member, he hopes to continue advancing youth centered policy, educational opportunity, and student voice across Louisiana.

Lourdes Maristany is a senior at St. Mary's Dominican High School in New Orleans, Louisiana. She served on the 2025-2026 Legislative Youth Advisory Council and chaired the Civic Engagement Committee, where she led local service initiatives and community outreach efforts. Dedicated to

serving her community, Lourdes volunteers in the Oncology Department at LCMC Health and leads "Happy Feet", a nonprofit organization that distributes new and gently used socks to individuals experiencing homelessness throughout Greater New Orleans, donating between 6,000 and 11,000 pairs annually to local donation centers. She is actively involved in numerous school organizations, including Student Council, Las Adelitas, the Biomedical Club and Mu Alpha Theta. At the Louisiana Mu Alpha Theta Convention, she placed 5th overall in the Hustle competition and earned 5th place individually in Trigonometry. In addition, she is a pianist and a member of Dominican's varsity tennis team, advancing to state yearly. As a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, Lourdes seeks to strengthen civic education in her community and advocate for greater student representation in policymaking.

Jimmie McKnight is a member of the Class of 2027 at Zachary High School and will serve as the elected class president for the 2026-2027 school year. He is an active leader dedicated to academic excellence, civic engagement, and youth advocacy. Entering his senior year in August 2026, Jimmie has distinguished himself through leadership and service both in and outside the classroom. He has been selected to attend the 2026 American Legion Louisiana Boys State program and is actively involved in the Beta Club and the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) Drill Team. During the 2025-2026 school year, he also served as an intern with the Zachary Community School Board. In the spring of the 2024-2025 school year, Jimmie was selected to attend the Alpha Phi Alpha Mentorship Program Leadership Conference and the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Conference. He plans to study political science in college and pursue a career as an attorney. As a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, Jimmie hopes to collaborate with fellow student leaders to address economic barriers to educational opportunity and advocate for the needs of Louisiana's youth.

Elizabeth Monier is a junior at Dutchtown High School in Geismar. She is president of the Youth and Government club, student class secretary, secretary of Rho Kappa, and treasurer of National Honor Society. She is additionally part of her school's gifted honors program, a member of the BETA club, Spanish club, Mu Alpha Theta, Allied Health, varsity girls soccer team, and a freshman mentor. Elizabeth recently represented Louisiana at the FBI National Academy Youth Leadership Program in Quantico, Virginia. She was also selected to represent her school at The American Legion Auxiliary's Louisiana Girls State program. As a member of LYAC she hopes to work with her peers on various topics promoting voter education and creating guidelines to combat the intense media pressure surrounding youth today.

John Parker is a senior at Covington High School in Covington. A returning member of LYAC, John previously served as Parliamentarian. He used his four years of experience as Chairman of his school's FFA Parliamentary Procedure team, in which having led them to back-to-back state finalist finishes, to advise the council on Rules of Order. He also served on the LYAC Technology Committee, focused on protecting minors from AI-generated harassment, and testified multiple times before the legislature as an active council member. John was later selected to serve as a Page in the Louisiana House of Representatives, working directly alongside state legislators during the session. Outside of civics, John is co-founder of the Parker Storylight Foundation, a registered nonprofit that has collected over 1,000 books and distributed them to Title I K-8 schools across Louisiana to support student literacy. His commitment to service extends to his school community, where he has

been elected president of the National Honor Society two years in a row and serves on his district's Superintendent's Student Advisory Council. John was also named one of just seven high school students in Louisiana to receive the 2026 Louisiana Public Broadcasting Young Hero recognition, and was one of only two students selected from Covington High to attend Louisiana Boys State. Beyond academics and service, he plays soccer and tennis at Covington High and is actively working toward his Private Pilot's License through the Experimental Aircraft Association. As a returning LYAC member, John plans to run for council office and continue advocating for educational equity and literacy for students across Louisiana.

Alexandra Poole is a senior at Denham Springs High School and represents Louisiana's 5th Congressional District on LYAC. Diagnosed with epilepsy at two years old, Alexandra has used her lived experience to write a research paper exploring the connection between epilepsy and music, earning her collaborative partnerships with Dr. Phillip Pearl at Harvard University, Amanda Mitchell at the Epilepsy Alliance, and Terri Pajares at the Epilepsy Awareness of America Foundation. With 16 years of training in dance, acting, and singing, Alexandra has grown deeply informed in her understanding of how music and creative expression can impact neurological health, serving as the foundation in her research. Academically, Alexandra has completed the AP Capstone program and earned AP Scholar with Distinction. She is also an active member of BETA Club, National Honor Society, FCA, FBLA, and Key Club. Alexandra's political awareness has been supported by her father's service on the city council and her mother's involvement with special education, giving her a firsthand understanding of how policy impacts everyday lives. Along with her service on LYAC, Alexandra is in the process of publishing her paper, continuing her research, and completing an awareness campaign centered on youth with hidden disabilities. She believes that diagnosis should never be a barrier to opportunity, and she is committed to ensuring that Louisiana's youth are seen, no matter what invisible challenges they carry.

Joseph "Joey" Power is a senior at Benton High school in Benton. He is a Cadet Chief Master Sergeant in Civil Air Patrol, Barksdale Composite Squadron. Within his CAP squadron, he serves as both the Safety Noncommissioned Officer and one of two Flight Commanders. Joey runs on the Benton HS Cross Country and Track teams. He is a member of the National Honor Society and Beta Club. In the community, Joey is an active participant in various St Jude Catholic Church ministries including altar serving, youth group, and Souper Saturday. As an active duty military child, Joey has moved 8 times and lived in 6 states. As a member of LYAC, Joey is excited to share his unique perspective, learn from his peers, and elevate issues affecting Louisiana's youth.

Benjamin Richert is a senior at Lafayette High School. He has maintained an unweighted 4.0 GPA throughout high school and has been a member of the French Immersion and Gifted programs for 11 years. He currently serves as vice president of his school's Youth and Government club and was able to pass two resolutions unanimously at the Model United Nations Conference. He is also the president of the Ping Pong Club and a member of National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, and the LHS Principal's Advisory Council. Additionally, as a member of Future Business Leaders of America, he qualified for nationals in both Entrepreneurship and Personal Finance. Ben is a member of the varsity swim team. He has earned two All-District and two All-League selections and has been a seven-time finalist at the LHSAA Division I State Championship. As a member of LYAC, Ben hopes to work with his peers to address issues facing today's youth, particularly improving access

to mental health resources for at-risk youth.

John “Johnny” Rinando III is a rising senior at Metairie Park Country Day School. His fellow students elected him student body president as a junior and re-elected him to serve a second term his senior year. As president, he leads the Student Senate and helps ensure student voices are reflected in schoolwide decisions. He has earned a 4.75 GPA and serves at Country Day as a Peer Leader, Student Ambassador, and Honor and Discipline board member. Johnny is a member of the Cum Laude Society and National Honor Society and has received the Harvard Book Award. In addition, Johnny is a varsity baseball letterman and a two-time First Team All-District honoree. After completing the City of New Orleans Junior Civic Leadership Academy, The New Orleans Mayor’s office selected Johnny for the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council. He is passionate about economics and youth financial literacy, pursuing those interests through the nonprofit Foundation for Teaching Economics (FTE) by attending its Economics for Leaders program, preparing to attend its upcoming Entrepreneurship in the Global Economy program, and serving as an FTE Ambassador. He also serves as a teen ambassador for Fidelity Bank’s Teen Ambassador program, and he founded his school’s Finance Club along with the Future Funds Program, Inc. to promote financial literacy among young people. Through YMCA Youth & Government, Johnny was a delegate to both Model United Nations and Youth Legislature, where he gained firsthand experience with international diplomacy and the state legislative process. Johnny also volunteers with Greater New Orleans Little League, where he enthusiastically serves as a Division Coordinator. As a member of LYAC, he hopes to strengthen youth civic engagement across Louisiana and advance financial literacy education for kids throughout the state.

Blake Stanfill Jr. is a rising junior at St. Augustine High School in New Orleans. He is a three-time Most Valuable Advocate at the Allen Ray Bolin Trial Advocacy Workshop Trial Competition and has earned numerous honors in the National Speech & Debate Association and the Future Business Leaders of America, including qualifying for and representing the state of Louisiana at the national tournaments of both competitions. Blake maintains a 4.7 GPA and has earned two merit scholarships at St. Augustine. He is also a graduate of Tulane University's Young Entrepreneurship Academy, where he developed Check Ball, a social mapping app focused on connecting young people through recreational sports and community engagement. Blake is interested in policies related to youth representation, redistricting, and expanding access to safe after-school and community spaces for young people across Louisiana. As a member of the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, he hopes to help ensure that youth perspectives are meaningfully included in the policymaking process.

Alvin Su is a rising junior at Benjamin Franklin High School in New Orleans. He serves on the Superintendent's Student Leadership Council and previously worked as Communications Officer for the New Orleans Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. As co-founder of Voices in Motion, a youth-led organization focused on sustainability, civic engagement, and community service, he leads initiatives that connect environmental advocacy with community impact.

Alvin played a key role in developing a Zodiac-themed float project celebrating Louisiana Asian heritage during the Mardi Gras season. He also organized a community-wide bead reuse drive involving multiple schools and nonprofit organizations to promote sustainability and reduce single-use plastics in local communities as a recipient of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Youth

Climate Action Fund grant. In addition, he coordinated local business donations totaling thousands of pounds of food to Second Harvest Food Bank.

His accomplishments have been recognized through regional, national, and international awards in entrepreneurship, science, and writing. Through research and civic engagement, Alvin is committed to developing sustainable solutions that turn ideas into practical action and community impact.

Dev Tandon is a rising junior at Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies in Metairie. He serves as Vice President of his school's Youth and Government club and will also serve on the state board as a Security Council Presiding Officer. Through Youth and Government, Dev has passed multiple resolutions and bills and has received several awards, including Outstanding Resolution, Outstanding Country Profile, Outstanding Cultural Showcase, presenting at the plenary session, and Outstanding Bill. He was one of four students out of approximately 500 to earn Outstanding Legislation for his bill P.R.E.S.C.H.O.O.L which reformed Louisiana's early education system, he has also represented Louisiana for the past two years at the Conference on National Affairs. Dev is also Louisiana's sole Y-USA Congressional Youth Advocate, lobbying U.S. Congressional offices on issues such as drowning prevention, early education, youth development, and chronic disease prevention. He also serves on the Jefferson Parish Student Advisory and Leadership Council, representing over 50,000 students and helping develop solutions to issues affecting his peers. He is also a Civics Unplugged Fellow, where he has worked on designing solutions to challenges facing his local community, and has been nominated to the Jefferson Community Youth Leadership Program. Dev is a member of his school's Quiz Bowl team, competes in Mock Trial, and has qualified for the State Literary Rally after competing in District Rally for World Geography. In Academic Games, at the most recent national tournament, his team placed 1st in Equations, 4th in On Sets and Linguistics, and 3rd overall nationally. He is also a member and board member of Mu Alpha Theta. Dev has been involved in theatre for four years, he is a member of his school's theatre program and serves on the theatre board. As a member of LYAC he hopes to advocate for expanded youth involvement in government and to bring awareness about the educational inequality across the state.

Veer Walia is a rising senior at Isidore Newman School in New Orleans. He is the Student Body President at Newman and a captain of both the Newman and Louisiana World Schools Debate Teams. Veer is also captain of the Newman Varsity Soccer Team.

Veer is the creator of ShoreSafe, an AI-based coastal erosion prediction tool focused on helping Louisiana communities better understand land loss and climate vulnerability. He presented his research at the International Science and Engineering Fair this year, giving Louisiana's coastal erosion crisis a global platform.

In addition, Veer co-founded The Eye Initiative and is developing EyeCan, a bilingual at-home vision screening app designed to improve educational accessibility for underserved students. Through the Legislative Youth Advisory Council, Veer hopes to strengthen civic engagement and expand opportunities for communities across Louisiana.

Bailey Williams is a rising senior at Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies in Jefferson Parish, proudly representing District 1 on this year's council. She is the upcoming Senior Class President

on her school's student council, previously serving as Junior Class Vice President and Class Secretary for two years. Bailey is also secretary of her school's HOSA chapter and co-captain of the Varsity Cheer team. In 2025, Bailey was selected as an intern for the Louisiana State Bar Association, where she earned First Place Oral Argument of a legal memorandum. She was nominated for Best Witness and Best Attorney awards during last year's Louisiana High School Mock Trial competition. Bailey further serves her community as a member of the Jefferson Parish Youth Council, actively participating in monthly sessions and civic initiatives. For the 2026–2027 school year, Bailey was chosen by the Louisiana Association of Student Councils as the Alternate Student Representative to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. She has volunteered as an office assistant at Phelps Dunbar LLP and as a Junior Volunteer at Ochsner Medical Center. Bailey was selected as an Ochsner STAR Scholar, where she will spend this summer conducting lab-based research while developing community service projects. Alongside participating in indoor and outdoor track, Bailey is a Patrick F. Taylor Foundation Scholar and has maintained a 4.0 GPA through numerous Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment courses. As a member of LYAC, Bailey hopes to use her passion for education and leadership to expand STEM opportunities and amplify youth voices across Louisiana.