

details!

Make sure we have your current email address and stay tuned for more

active.

Join professionals in the political field at the Microsoft campus in Redmond for a forum and information session on how to become more politically

Interested in how to get involved in a political campaign?

Have some free time during winter break?

ATTENTION ALL ALUMNI AND CURRENT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



A program of the YMCA of Greater Seattle

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**What can you do to teach democracy to the next generation?
Donate or volunteer today!**

CAPITOL QUARTERLY



YOUTH & GOVERNMENT

YMCA Youth & Government
PO Box 193
Olympia, WA 98507
www.youthandgovernment.org

FALL 2011

JOIN US. DONATE TODAY. The best political contribution you'll make this year.

At Youth & Government strengthening communities is our cause. By encouraging teens to be active and engaged in their communities, by fostering debate and problem solving about local issues, and by inspiring a sense of civic responsibility we build informed and service oriented leaders. Over the past year more than 1200 teens in 70 communities around Washington gained a better understanding of how government works. If you have been involved in the past you have seen young people from different places, backgrounds, and political points of view come together to find common ground, creative solutions and mutual understanding.

The issues currently facing our state and nation are vast and it is easy to become disheartened. Those of us involved in Y&G programs, however have a great deal of hope. We are inspired by the passion, energy and ingenuity of teens around our state and confident they will be prepared to take on the incredible challenges that lay ahead.

Democracy must be learned by each generation; and with their responsibility to learn it is our responsibility to teach. We count on the generosity of our supporters statewide to ensure that the generations to come can find their voice and understand the power they have to make our communities stronger, more sustainable and thriving places to live. Join us in creating a vibrant future for our state. Donate today.

Inside This Issue

New Board Members	2
Alumni Message	3
Conference on National Affairs	4
Program Calendar	6
Mock Trial Case Preview	6
Fall Trainings	7

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

October 1	Advisor Training
October 15	Mock Trial Training
November 18	CONA Apps Due
December	Alumni Event

DONATE TODAY!
FIND OUT HOW ON PAGE 7

NEWS FROM THE STATE OFFICE

Y&G Says Farewell to Two Familiar Faces

Long-time Board members Enid Layes and Jim Bricker both stepped down in June after years of dedication and service to the organization. Their advocacy and support has been invaluable to the success of our programs and we wish them the very best in their future endeavours.



Jim Bricker & Enid Layes at the 2011 Board Retreat

Welcome New Board Members Dave Fisher & Bill Collins

Bill Collins was welcomed to the Board during the June Board Meeting. Bill retired from the Washington State Attorney's General office in 2010 after 33 years of service. During his tenure with the Attorney's General, Bill served as Deputy Solicitor General, Senior Assistant Attorney General, and Assistant Attorney General. In 2001 Bill was Counsel to the Washington State Redistricting Commission and is currently a fellow with the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, a member of the Washington Appellate Lawyers Association and a member of the Supreme Court Historical Society. Bill is a graduate of the University of Washington's School of Law.



New Y&G Board Member, Bill Collins



New Y&G Board Member, Dave Fisher

Dave Fisher was also welcomed to the Board in June. Currently a consultant, Dave has worked at Intel and in Public Affairs. Dave has also been an active leader in Washington's business and education communities, serving on various boards. These include the Association of Washington Business, the Washington Roundtable and the Partnership for Learning where he served as Board President. Dave is a graduate of the University of Puget Sound.

FALL HAPPENINGS

YOU ARE INVITED!

YOUTH LEGISLATURE & MOCK TRIAL TRAININGS

WHAT: An opportunity for coaches and advisors to receive hands-on training, updates for the current year and an opportunity to network with other advisors and programs. Mock Trial coaches will also receive the 2012 Case .

WHEN:

Youth Legislature: Saturday, October 1, 2011

Mock Trial: Saturday, October 15, 2011

WHO: All new and returning Mock Trial & Youth Legislature coaches & advisors

WHERE: Cherberg Building on the Washington State Capitol Campus, Olympia, WA

REGISTER: Call the State Office at 360-357-3475 for registration information or email Jane Wall at janewall@seattleyymca.org

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!

2011 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Please cut and send checks to:
 Seattle YMCA, c/o Donation Processing; 909 4th Ave; Seattle, WA 98104
 or donate online at www.youthandgovernment.org

Yes, I would like to support YMCA Youth & Government with a financial contribution of:

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000 (Governor's Cabinet)	This donation is in honor or in memory of: _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500 (Sustainer)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250 (Friend)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50 (Supporter)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____	

Billing information:
 Name: _____ Title: _____
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 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
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I would like my contribution to support:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth Legislature
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mock Trial
<input type="checkbox"/>	CONA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Area of most need
<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth & Government endowment

2012 MOCK TRIAL CASE PREVIEW

Our 2012 mock trial case involves an investigation into the circumstances of the death of a former bicycle messenger and alleycat racer named Millicent Alyssa Tennyson, known to many as "Mennacin' Tennyson." Although they both may have been cool in their own ways, things got a little heated on the fatal day she tangled with a former state legislator behind the wheel of a Cadillac Escalade. In handling this case, we can all expect to learn a lot about the battle between urban bicyclists and motorists, the principles of contract law, freedom for fringe religions and the poetry of Alfred Lord Tennyson.



-Judge William Downing, case author

2011 - 2012 CALENDAR

Date	Event	Location
October 1	Youth Legislature Advisor Training	Olympia, WA
October 15	Mock Trial Coaches Training	Olympia, WA
November 17	CONA applications due	
December 6	Youth Legislature Program Deposits due	
December 10	Youth Legislature Program Committee Meeting	Seattle, WA
December 23	Mock Trial District Registration due	
February TBD	Proclamation Signing	Olympia, WA
February	Mock Trial District Competitions	Statewide
March 1	Youth Legislature Registration due	
March 3	Youth Legislature Program Committee Meeting	Olympia, WA
March 10	CONA Orientation	Olympia, WA
March 23-25	Mock Trial State Competition	Olympia, WA
April 13-14	Youth Legislature Leadership Training	Olympia, WA
May 2-5	65th Youth Legislature	Olympia, WA
May 3-6	National High School Mock Trial Championships	Albuquerque, NM
June 28-July 6	Conference on National Affairs (CONA)	Black Mountain, NC

ALUMNI MESSAGE

The exciting part of Mock Trial was always the competition. In my experience, however, the part that really changed people was the endless preparation.

I was a member of the 1997 Franklin High School Mock Trial team. Our coach, Rick Nagel, never saw an opening statement, examination, or closing argument that could not be improved in some way. Any draft he received would be returned dripping red ink. Though he is an extraordinarily nice person, he would never sugarcoat the weaknesses in our work—he wanted us to improve and he knew he had to push us.

The results of our preparation always showed in competition. Franklin won many state championships and the national championship in 2000. Our success was largely because Mr. Nagel's work ethic and encouragement instilled in us a drive to always do better.

More importantly, Mr. Nagel's example of constant improvement helped me and countless classmates achieve far more after high school than we would have otherwise. When I went on to college at UW, and then law school at Harvard, I always knew my first draft of anything was not my best work. The only limit to how much I could improve something was how much time I was willing to devote to the effort.

After law school I had the opportunity to clerk for two outstanding legal professionals, Judge David Tatel on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals and Justice David Souter of the U.S. Supreme Court. With both, a draft opinion could go through dozens of iterations before being published. I was well prepared for the undertaking, as I had learned long before that even the best writing can always get better.

I am now in private practice at Perkins Coie in Seattle, and in my few years as a lawyer one thing has become obvious: the best lawyers are always learning new things, asking themselves how they can improve, and pushing themselves and those around them to do their best work. Those are the most important lessons I took away from Mock Trial, and they have served me and my peers well ever since.



Noah Purcell

-Noah Purcell
Mock Trial Alumni

CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS

This past June seven Washington students made their way to the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina for the Conference on National Affairs (CONA), a week-long conference where teens from around the nation gather to discuss and debate issues of national and international importance.

Before arriving on "the mountain," we spent a day and a half in beautiful Atlanta, Georgia taking in the sights and history of the city. The weather was hot and humid, but that did not dampen anyone's spirits. We toured the Atlanta History Center located on 33 acres in the heart of the historic Buckhead neighborhood. The Center included one of the Southeast's largest history museums, two historic houses, including the Smith Family Farm and historic gardens. There we enjoyed a delicious lunch in the converted carriage house where we munched on local cuisine and cooled off with a glass of sweet tea.

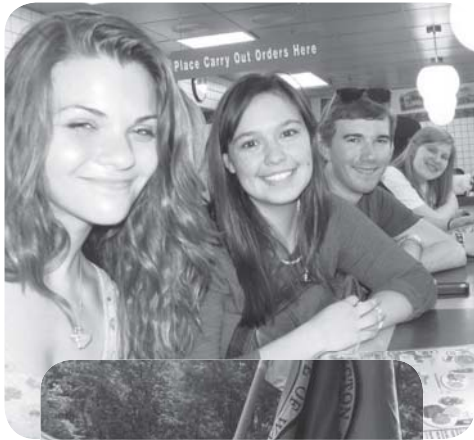
From Atlanta we joined the Georgia and South Carolina Youth & Government programs on their charter bus and made our way to the conference.

As always, our delegates represented Washington State with pride and dignity. The Washington delegation was named an "Outstanding Delegation," and Tucker Cholvin and Daniel Sebring both took their proposals all the way through to the prestigious General Assembly and Plenary Sessions - two feats few participants ever accomplish. Tucker was also recognized as an "Outstanding Statesman" and singled out as authoring an "Outstanding Proposal." He also took home at top CONA honor, a seat as Presiding Officer for the 2012 Conference.

It was a great week and we are already looking forward to next years' delegation. If you are interested in attending this outstanding conference apply today!



Students sit on the historical Swan House stairs in Atlanta. From bottom up: Amelia Haskins, Emmy Lake, Nate King, Daniel Sebring, Kyla Sabado, Tucker Cholvin & Lauren Sifferman.



Left: The "Waffle House" - a CONA tradition

Right: Tucker Cholvin chairs during first committee



Left: Nate King & Lauren Sifferman represent WA during opening ceremonies

Right: Emmy Lake & Amelia Haskins take a break from dinner to smile for the camera



Daniel Sebring presents his proposal during General Assembly



The 2011 CONA delegation in the Georgia State Governor's Office

APPLY FOR THE 2012 CONFERENCE ON NATIONAL AFFAIRS

All students currently participating in the Youth Legislature or Mock Trial program who are currently enrolled in grades 10-12 are eligible to take part in this life changing experience. For additional information and an application form, contact the Y&G office or find it online at www.youthandgovernment.org
Deadline: November 17, 2011

