



YMCA Youth & Government Capitol Quarterly

March 2011

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Soaring To New Heights - Y&G Reaches Campaign Goal

The Youth & Government office would like to thank everyone who helped us reach and surpass our 2010 campaign goal of \$125,000! We had 258 donors this year and dozens of volunteers.

A big thank you to all of those who donated - you are why we are able to continue to run our programs.

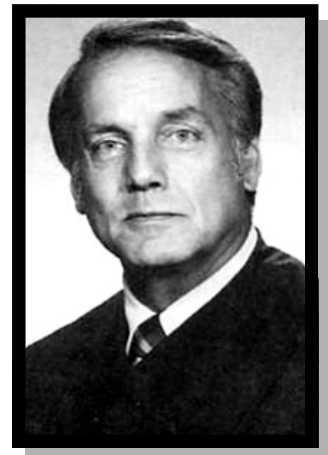
We would also like to thank all of our volunteers. A big thank you to our Campaign Chairman, Tom Hoemann, who rallied the troops throughout the campaign season.

Finally, we would like to remind you that our campaigning is never actually finished and it is never too late to donate. Check out the back page for information on how you can make your mark today!

Utter Award Nominations Wanted

We are soliciting nominations for this year's Utter Award. The Robert F. Utter Award honors individuals who show consistent, outstanding and sustained contributions to the cause of civic leadership in Washington State. The award was established in 1997 in honor of Justice Robert Utter and the principles of ethical leadership, commitment to the ideals of democracy, civic responsibility, and community service.

For more information on the award and how you can nominate someone, visit our website - www.youthandgovernment.org - and look under the "Home" tab.



News from the State Office

A BRAND New Day – new look, same mission

On January 1, 2011 the Seattle YMCA and Youth & Government office adopted the new YMCA brand. This new brand is characterized as a great opportunity to tell the YMCA story, to turn goodwill toward the Y into action and to position the Y for a vital future in our communities.

To better communicate who we are and what we stand for, the Y has created a comprehensive rebranding strategy. From the brand platform and architecture to the visual system and messaging, this strategy crystallizes our cause and unifies our voice.

The Youth & Government office is proud to incorporate this new strategy into our program and we look forward to moving ahead with the Y as it undergoes this exciting transition.



Eastern Washington Update

Thank you for visiting my corner of the brand new *Capitol Quarterly!* As the new Program Leader for the wide-open spaces of Eastern Washington, it is my pleasure to bring you updates as we move forward in our effort to offer new and exciting opportunities to teens on this side of the mountains.

Over the past month and a half I have worked with program staff in Olympia and teen staff here at the Y in Spokane to start determining the needs of local teens and create a game plan for expanding program opportunities. I invite you to join us in the development of strong and robust new programs in Eastern Washington.

For those of you on the West Side, here are some things you can do TODAY to support this effort:

- Identify potential policy and program volunteers in Eastern Washington
- Cultivate relationships with your peers and contacts on the 'dry side' of the Cascades
- Contact alums to help develop a local alumni network to support new programs

If you are a program alumni, teacher or energetic citizen in Eastern Washington who has ideas, resources or a little extra time to dedicate to this amazing program please let me know!

In closing, allow me to give a big shout-out to the Dayton H.S. and Waitsburg H.S. Youth Legislature delegations for your hospitality during the recent District event. It was my sincere pleasure to share the morning with you and I am excited to see you again in Olympia!



When he's not working with Y&G, Paul enjoys Washington's outdoors

Paul Warfield—Y&G Eastern Washington Program Leader

News from the State Office

We have moved!

After years in a small, cramped, and at times unhealthy space, the state office moved locations in December. Our new space is newer and free of mold and mildew! We are now located on the west side of Olympia at **921 Lakeridge Way SW, Suite 202**. Our new space has more room for storage and will permit us to host more meetings. The next time you are in Olympia swing on by, we'd love to show you around!



We have a new webpage

The Youth & Government Office has a new and improved website! Located at our old web address -www.youthandgovernment.org -

the page contains alumni information, resources for you to donate to Y&G, all the forms and information teams, delegations and volunteers need for the year, as well as many other updates and helpful links and information. We hope you find it informative and easier to navigate, and as always, we welcome comments on what we can do to improve your browsing experience!

Welcome Cathy Mah - New Administrative Assistant

The Youth & Government office welcomed Cathy Mah, our new Administrative Assistant, in January. Cathy brings years of administrative support experience in the public and private sectors to the Youth & Government Administrative Assistant position.

Her private sector experience began early in her career in the Operations Group at Seafirst Bank/ Bank of America and later as the Executive Assistant to the CEO at Heritage Bank. Cathy's time in the public sector was spent in the Forecasting Division and the Director's office at the Office of Financial Management. When she left state government to become a full-time mother, she became involved in the YWCA as a board member, volunteered on McKenny elementary's site council/PTO, and served as Executive Assistant to a non-profit Board of Directors (POSSCA). Cathy currently serves as a Board Member on the Olympia School District Education Foundation.

She is married and devotes her time to her busy husband, lovely 16 year old daughter, and their two year old golden retriever.

In Remembrance

Linda Joy Medcalf

1944-2010

Former Youth & Government Executive Director, Linda Medcalfe, passed away on December 15, 2010 of breast cancer. Linda was born on May 12, 1944 to Jake and Joy Medcalfe. She grew up in Hoquiam, Washington, a member of one of the pioneering families in Grays Harbor County. It was to those roots she returned as she finished out her years in Westport, Washington.

Linda earned her B.A. in political science from Western Washington University and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Washington. Accomplished in the academic, professional, and political fields, most recently Linda taught Political Science at South Puget Sound Community College. Formerly, she served as Chair of the Thurston County Democratic Party, Field Director for the Washington State Pro-Choice Initiative, Thurston County Commissioner, and Executive Director of the YMCA Youth & Government Program. For several years she recruited and trained Democratic candidates for political office and managed campaigns for the Washington State Senate and House.



Beyond her professional accomplishments, she was an incredible friend, mother, sister, wife, and grandma. She loved well, played hard, and always kept those close to her focused on making this world a better place. Whether you were a loved one, a person contemplating political office, a student in the Youth & Government Program or at South Puget Sound Community College, Linda inspired investigation, open mindedness, and the commitment that conviction leads to action. She was a doer and not a dreamer...and expected the same of others.

Linda is survived by her husband David, and her sons, Jake Medcalf (Joan) and Matt Medcalf (Nicole), four grandchildren (Jordan, Logan, Addison, and one more on the way), her sister Nikki, nieces Kelly and Erin, and many wonderful friends.

Memorials may be sent to UrbanLife, 5202 Orange Ave, San Diego, CA 92115 – the non-profit that her son Jake founded, helping over 150 inner-city students reach their full potential.

She would remind us to fly a kite to the highest high and to send it soaring through the atmosphere to where the air is clear (Sherman).

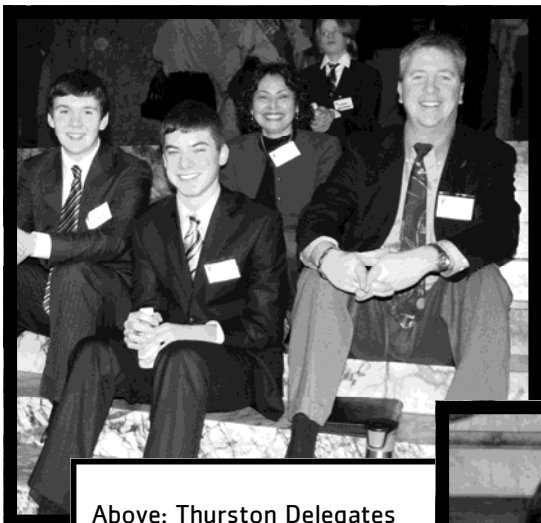
Youth Legislature Update

Governor's Breakfast & Proclamation Signing

The start to the 64th Youth Legislature session was officially called to order with the signing of the Governor's Proclamation on February 9, 2011 in the Rotunda of the Legislative building on the capitol campus in Olympia, WA.

A big thank you to our presenters, Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen, Youth & Government Board Chair, Chris Koenig, and our Youth Governor, Tucker Cholvin. We would also like to thank Youth & Government participants, parents, alumni and supporters who joined us. Finally, a big thank you to our sponsors, Waste Connections Inc., Les Schwab Tire Centers and Susan & Patrick Dunn. You all made the event a great success and set a positive tone for our upcoming Youth Legislative session.

We cannot wait to see everyone in May!



Above: Thurston Delegates & Advisors are all smiles before the ceremony.



Olympic Peninsula Advisor, Michell Gentry, and Seattle Y Regional Executive Director, Marcia Isenberger.



Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen shakes Youth Governor Tucker Cholvin's hand after signing the Proclamation.



2011 Major Officers from left: Kyla Sabado, Chloe Barnes, Amelia Haskins, Claire Hoover, Elijah Blaugnelson, Ellyn Hodgkin & Cassie DuBore.

Alumni Message

I had the great privilege to participate in the YMCA Youth & Government program for three years. I remember my sophomore history class being visited by Lance Braden of the Yakima YMCA. He enthusiastically presented the merits of the program to us, and his pitch was successful. For me, it was an amazing opportunity to interact with friends and peers in a meaningful way outside the confines of our regular high school regiment.

My senior year I was elected to serve as Speaker of the House during the State session. A personal highlight for me was meeting Governor Gary Locke who had been and continues to be a hero of mine. The Major Officers presented Gov. Locke with a Dr. Seuss book that he could read to his newborn daughter. I hope he brought it to Washington D.C. with him!

In 2002 I graduated with a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Brown University. After college, I served as an Environmental Education volunteer with the Peace Corps in Guatemala. After returning to the States, I matriculated at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. In 2008, I earned an M.A. in City and Regional Planning with a focus in Housing and Community Development. While at UNC, I completed a Masters Project that delved into the local impacts of a piece of federal legislation that allows local law enforcement to enforce immigration law. I shared my research with several local groups, including the NC ACLU which cited my Masters Project in written statement submissions to U.S. Congressional hearings. I received a UNC Graduate Education Advancement Board "Impact Award", as my research was found to have had a positive impact on the citizens of North Carolina. Upon graduating from UNC, I applied for and was offered a position with the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). My current position is Senior Policy Analyst with the Distressed Asset Financing Programs unit.

I have too many fond memories of my time with Y&G to recount here. I formed new friendships and strengthened existing ones; I learned about the amazing contributions the Yakima YMCA was making to my community other than the Y&G program; I achieved fluency in the state legislative process; I gained lasting confidence in my public speaking abilities; and, maybe above all, I had *a lot* of fun! The experiences I had while participating in the program were invaluable and unparalleled. I am ecstatic to see that my fellow Yakima delegate and friend, Sarah Clinton, has assumed the role of Executive Director of the Program. Delegates and Alumni you are in great hands!

Lindsay Haddix

Youth Legislature Alumna

1995-1998



Mock Trial Update

Preparing for Competition

After months of preparation, teams went head-to-head in district competitions across Washington during the last week of February and first week of March. The 2010-2011 season has seen a record number of student participants and teams - over 750 students comprising 58 teams!

Due to these record numbers, we welcome a new district this year. The South King County Competition and its Convenor, Judge David Larson, facilitated 5 teams in this new event.

The Mock Trial State Championship will take place March 25-27 at the Thurston County Courthouse in Olympia. We are looking forward to welcoming teams from around the state. Good luck and may the best team win!



Mock Trial students during the Pierce County & King County Mock Trial District competitions.

Calling All Volunteers

Attorney Raters & Host Families Still Needed!

Mock Trial State Championship

Attorneys - Here is your chance to sit in the jury box. Join Lawyers and Judges from across the state and help determine this year's State Championship Team.

When: March 25-27, 2011

Where: Thurston County Courthouse

Host Families needed during the 64th Youth Legislative Session

Families are asked to host students for three nights, provide breakfast three mornings and dinner Friday evening. Students' advisors will transport them to and from the Capitol.

When: May 4-7, 2011

Where: Thurston County

Who: YOU!

Contact: Youth & Government Office: 360-357-3475; www.youthandgovernment.org

**What can you do to help teach democracy to our next generation?
 Donate or volunteer TODAY!**

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



Even though our campaign is over doesn't mean you can't make your mark on Youth & Government today!

Please cut and send checks to: **YMCA Youth & Government; PO Box 193; Olympia, WA 98507**

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

- \$1,000 (Governor's Cabinet/Advocate)
- \$500 (Sustainer)
- \$250 (Friend)
- \$50 (Supporter)
- Other _____

I would like my contribution to support:

- Youth Legislature
- Mock-Trial
- CONA
- Y&G Endowment - Leave a legacy!

This donation is in honor or in memory of:

Billing Information:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

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"Democracy must be learned by each generation"