

YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT  
2024



YLS 2024

*"Diplomacy Beyond Borders:  
Inspire, Connect, Transform"*



YLS 2024



**WHEN**  
?

AUGUST 4-10, 2024

**WHERE**  
?

WASHINGTON, DC

**DEADLINE**

MAY 15, 2024



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The 2024 Youth Leadership Summit is Sister Cities International's annual program that aims to engage 50 future leaders in addressing global challenges, fostering citizen diplomacy, and promoting peace and prosperity.



Goals:

- ***Inspire a new generation of leaders.***
- ***Provide leadership and professional development skills.***
- ***Foster success and growth in the global community.***

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# Summit Overview: Training Seminars & Diplomacy Simulation

There are two parts to the Summit: training seminars and a Department of State-led Diplomacy Simulation. This simulation will encourage students to work in groups to solve a hypothetical conflict and improve their decision-making skills.



## TRAINING SEMINARS:

- *Professional development sessions*
- *Guest speaker presentations*
- *Focus on foreign policy and diplomacy*

## DIPLOMACY SIMULATION:

- *Department of State-led exercise*
- *Real-world scenario exploration*
- *Opportunities for problem-solving and conflict resolution*



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# Eligibility Criteria

- *Applicants must be between 14 and 18 years old at the time of the Summit.*
- *Participants must have an active association with a Sister City Organization, including membership, volunteering, or participation in organization programs.*
- *Each local sister city organization can nominate up to 3 students for the Summit.*
- *Applicants should demonstrate a genuine interest in citizen diplomacy and a commitment to fostering international understanding and cooperation.*
- *Candidates should show leadership potential and a willingness to engage in activities promoting leadership development.*
- *Applicants must commit to attending the entire duration of the Summit and communicate any scheduling conflicts in advance.*
- *The selection process prioritizes inclusivity and diversity, encouraging candidates from various backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives to apply.*
- *Interested individuals must complete the application form and submit the required documents or essays as outlined in the application guidelines.*
- *Participants under 18 years old require parental or guardian consent for Summit participation.*

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# Application Form

Students are asked to fill out this application form:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScd-Q\\_PrS5UEImljNU0OSpc7cbiqpa9SaKREq3xPSXpebfyXg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScd-Q_PrS5UEImljNU0OSpc7cbiqpa9SaKREq3xPSXpebfyXg/viewform)

- ***Each student needs to coordinate their submission with their sister city organization***
- ***Students are asked to provide a recommendation letter from a teacher and their sister city contact***
- ***Failure to submit the application form will disqualify students***
- ***Only 50 students will be selected for the program***



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REGISTRATION AND SETTLE IN DORMS

**Sunday**  
8/4

- *Airport Pickup*
- *Arrivals and Registration*
- *Orientation*
- *Welcome Dinner*
- *End-of-Day Meeting with Chaperones*

# Agenda

WELCOME TO YLS AND INTRODUCTION TO DIPLOMACY

**Monday**  
8/5

- *Tour of American University*
- *Welcome to YLS! Overview of the Week*
- *Professional Development Seminar: Teamwork*
- *What is Diplomacy? Speaker and Programming*
- *Diplomacy Simulation Preparation*

WATER AS A GLOBAL ISSUE AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

**Tuesday**  
8/6

- *Professional Development Seminar: Networking*
- *Water as a Global Issue in Diplomacy Programming*
- *Diplomacy Simulation Preparation*
- *Washington Nationals Baseball Game*

WELCOME TO THE NATION'S CAPITAL

**Wednesday**  
8/7

- *Tour of a Smithsonian Museum*
- *Walking tour of Downtown Washington, D.C.*
- *Other cultural activities*

CLIMATE CHANGE AS A GLOBAL ISSUE

**Thursday**  
8/8

- *Professional Development Seminar: Conflict Resolution*
- *Climate Change and Global Diplomacy Programming*
- *Diplomacy Simulation Preparation*
- *Networking Dinner with Mentors*

DIPLOMACY SIMULATION AND CLOSING CELEBRATION

**Friday**  
8/9

- *Welcome to the State Department*
- *Diplomacy Simulation at the U.S. Department of State with the National Museum of American Diplomacy*
- *Closing Reception and International Youth Day Celebration*

STUDENT DEPARTURE

**Saturday**  
8/10

- *Departure and Airport Drop-off*



# Dining Options

## ON-CAMPUS DINING

- *Students receive a dining card for access to the Mary Graydon Center dining hall at AU.*

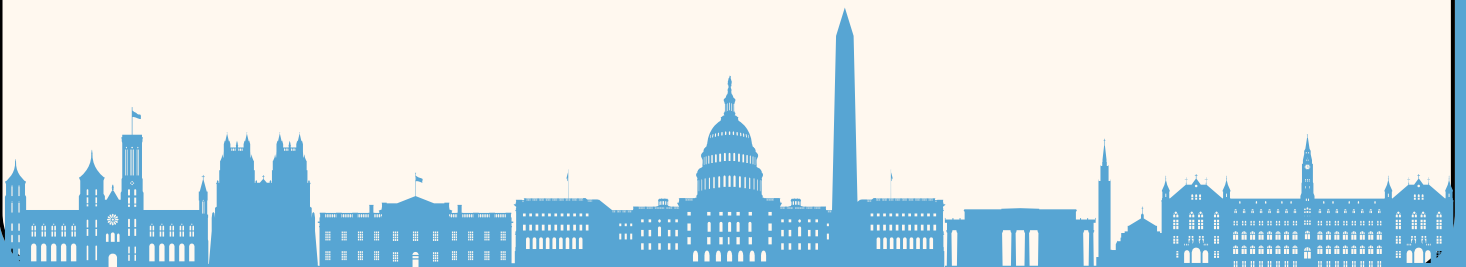
## OFF-CAMPUS DINING:

- *Off-campus dining plans available with the larger student group.*
- *Cost included in the all-inclusive fee.*

## DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:

- *Collected from students upon program acceptance.*

FOR MEAL DETAILS, PLEASE REFER TO THE AGENDA.





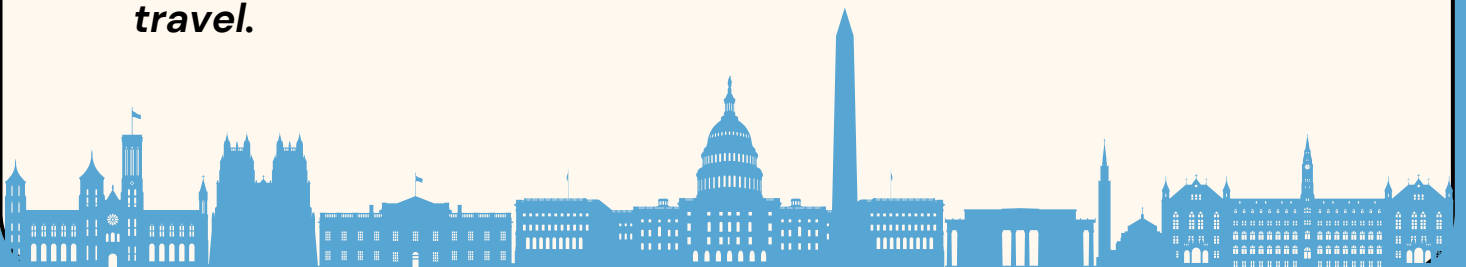
# Summit Logistics: Transportation in Washington DC

## INDIVIDUAL TRAVEL:

- *Students receive a metro card for non-group activities.*
- *American University is a 15-minute walk to Tenleytown metro station.*
- *Free shuttle buses provided by AU, available 24/7, facilitate easy access to the metro.*
- *Students gain exposure to the DC metro system, promoting independent travel.*

## GROUP ACTIVITIES

- *Sister Cities International organizes pickup and drop-off to the dorms for scheduled group activities.*



# Student Guidance and Safety

## CHAPERONES:

- *Provided by Students of Service (S.O.S).*
- *Oversee student schedules, safety, and well-being throughout the week.*
- *Accompany students in group activities, training sessions, and cultural activities.*
- *Have access to each student's contact information, dietary restrictions, and other relevant details.*
- *Experienced community leaders with a track record of overseeing projects.*
- *Parents receive contact information of chaperones for emergencies.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT: [BUSRA@SISTERCITIES.ORG](mailto:BUSRA@SISTERCITIES.ORG)

# Sponsorship Options

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE:

- *Merchandise (T-shirts, Tote bag, Water Bottle)*
- *Networking / Mentorship Dinner*
- *Off-Campus Dining Costs*
- *Cultural Activities*
  - *Washington Nationals Baseball Game*
  - *Musical Performance*
- *Other Contributions*

CONTACT US FOR ALL SPONSORSHIP OPTIONS! WE NEED YOUR HELP AND GUIDANCE TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

## Sponsors receive

- *Recognition during the sessions*
- *Recognition on Sister Cities International's donor wall*
- *Networking Opportunities*
- *Marketing and Exposure on Merchandise*



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# Accommodation

TWO PEOPLE PER ROOM

EN SUITE BATHROOM

INDIVIDUAL ACCESS CARDS

BEDDING PROVIDED

Throughout the week, students will stay in two-person dorm rooms at [American University](#), allowing students to experience university culture.

# Fees & Payment

**\$1,795/person**

Payment details will be provided to selected participants after the completion of the applicant selection process. Once applicants have been notified of their acceptance, they will receive instructions on how to make the required payment.

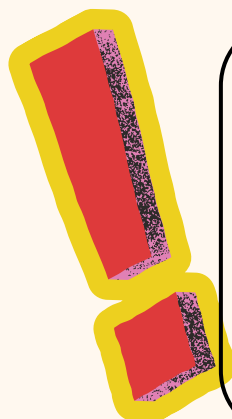
## Including

LODGING

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER

METRO CARD TO USE WITHIN WASHINGTON, DC



**Please note that participants are responsible for arranging and covering the costs of their travel to and from Washington, DC.**



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# For More Information



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