



"Politics is my passion. I have always strived to learn about politics, but Michigan Youth-in-Government enables me to live politics. It's a unique opportunity, and I cherish it. The conferences allow me to voice my views on issues that matter to other students who care. And in turn, I listen to and learn from my fellow delegates,

tomorrow's leaders.

The Youth in Government program which involves thousands of teenagers from across Michigan rivals that of our elected legislature. Our legislative debates transcend partisan politics and involve many students who might otherwise tune out government altogether. It is impressive when so many students, many too young to vote, actively participate in the democratic process. The media characterizes my generation as lazy and apathetic, but Michigan Youth-in-Government helps me and thousands of others define ourselves as active and passionate. I used to think you had to go to Capitol Hill to live politics. It turns out you don't have to leave Michigan.

Sam Wohns - E. Grand Rapids
2008-2009 March Youth Governor



I cannot begin to explain the impact the Youth in Government program has had on my life. Throughout my entire high school career YIG has given me many remarkable opportunities, and in turn I have come into contact with many incredible individuals; Individuals who have each touched my life, and made me a stronger person and student

leader. The camaraderie that I have witnessed among Youth in Government students has shown that it is truly a program to be praised. You can repeatedly disagree with another in session and then share a table at lunch and bond over the incident. I have also gained the confidence in speaking and listening I need. Whether it is in a heated debate on the Senate floor, interacting with others on the steps of Lee Hall, or answering questions in a nerve-wracking caucus YIG has given me the poise and presence to make a good impression. I have learned to accept the views of others and uninhibitedly share my own in several different settings. If not for this program the successes I have experienced would not have been achievable. I thank those who work so hard to make this incredible chance possible for students like me seeking their niche. The hands-on role-playing of the governmental process is both educational and infectious. It has inspired me to choose a career path and motivated me to make a difference in the world around me. I thank the Youth in Government program for allowing me to become the person I want to be.

MicKenzie Carpenter - Bronson High School
2008-2009 April Youth Governor

Michigan Youth in Government

A Branch of the State Y.M.C.A. of Michigan

2008-2009 INTENT FORM

"Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders"

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