



Organized by OutFront Minnesota's
Minnesota GSA Network

Thursday, March 15th, 2018

8:00 am-4:30 pm | St. Paul College & State Capitol, St. Paul

The Youth Summit is an annual, daylong event for 9-12th graders organized by OutFront Minnesota's Gender & Sexuality Alliance (GSA) Network — a network that provides LGBTQ+ youth and allies with support, education, and leadership development.

The Youth Summit is planned by the Minnesota GSA Leadership Council, a group of students from GSAs around the state who meet regularly to set goals and plan activities for the network. The Youth Summit is open to any and all students who want to make their schools safe, supportive, and inclusive for all. Students who attend the Youth Summit have the opportunity to:

- Share stories, network, and learn from one another
- Discuss factors that impact school climate
- Explore various ways to be a leader
- Develop the awareness and skills to become agents of positive change
- Meet with legislators about issues that concern youth

School staff who accompany students to the Youth Summit are invited to:

- Attend professional development sessions on creating inclusive schools
- Discuss best practices for GSA advisors and improving school climate
- Network with other school professionals

Opening Session and workshops

The 2018 Youth Summit will begin at 8:00 am at St. Paul College (235 Marshall Ave, St. Paul). Students will attend an opening session featuring educational & motivational speakers, performances, and reflections.

Students will also attend multiple workshops of their choice. These sessions are mostly led by youth, with adult support. Topics are currently being developed by the MN GSA Leadership Council and may include:

- LGBTQ identities and being an ally
- Young people and voting
- Healthy relationships
- Racial justice
- Neurodiversity and mental health
- Art for social change
- Self-Care
- Inclusive health education
- LGBTQ issues and faith/spirituality
- Environmental justice
- & MORE!





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Lunch will be provided at St. Paul College, followed by:

Visits with legislators

Participants will walk the half mile distance to the State Capitol for meetings with legislators. Accessibility transportation will be available as well. These visits take place in groups and offer youth the opportunity to share their experiences and hopes with elected officials who make decisions that affect their lives.

Legislative Coaches will meet with students beforehand to assist them in planning their visits and will be on hand to debrief with them afterwards.

The Youth Summit will conclude by 4pm, but exact end-times may vary depending on the timing of legislative visits. Buses will be available to bring participants from the Capitol back to St. Paul College if necessary. We understand if schools visiting from outside the metro need to leave earlier due to travel time.

Cost is \$15 per person, which helps cover lunch, materials, and other event-related expenses. But we don't want cost to be a barrier. Anyone who registers can attend the event at no cost. Just choose the scholarship option – no questions asked!

Register online by Friday, February 23rd, at: bit.ly/ofmyouthsummit2018

Questions? Contact:

Esmé Rodríguez, OutFront Minnesota School Equity Director: esmer@outfront.org

Blaine Kelley, OutFront Minnesota Youth and Schools Coordinator: bkelly@outfront.org

I _____, (name of parent/guardian) give my student, _____,
(name of student) permission to miss school on Thursday, March 15th, 2018 to attend the Youth Summit
organized by OutFront Minnesota and their Minnesota GSA Network.

Date: _____ Signature: _____





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8AM-4PM

Saint Paul College | 235 Marshall Ave, St. Paul

Do you want to make your school safe, supportive, and empowering for all students? Do you think youth should have more of a say in the decisions that affect them?

The 2018 Youth Summit is a powerful event for students in grades 9-12.* This event brings hundreds of LGBTQ youth and allies together for leadership development, networking, and the chance to speak directly with state legislators about issues that matter. The day begins with fun activities, speakers, and workshops led by youth facilitators. Adults who are present will attend sessions on creating inclusive schools and best practices for supporting LGBTQ youth. After lunch, participants will make a 5-minute trek to the State Capitol for meetings with legislators.

The cost is \$15 per person which includes lunch and materials. Scholarships are available for anyone in need. Last year's Youth Summit was at capacity so register asap. The deadline to register is Friday, February 23rd.

Teachers, we encourage you to bring a group!

Students, sign up and attend with your friends or come on your own!

If you are an adult interested in volunteering at the Summit, email Blaine at bkelly@outfront.org.

*If your high school GSA includes students who are in younger grades, contact Esmé Rodríguez at esmer@outfront.org or Blaine Kelley at bkelly@outfront.org regarding their eligibility.

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