

K-12 Civics Education Programs in Washington State

Last updated April 2013. Maintained by the Council on Public Legal Education, lawforwa.org. Please send corrections and additions to margaret.fisher@courts.wa.gov.

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Capitol Classroom	TVW	Capitol Classroom lets students participate directly in the legislative process at the State Capitol via TVW video connection. Students and teachers work closely with lobbyists in Olympia to choose a piece of legislation to support or oppose. Then, through video connections with TVW's studio in Olympia, students communicate directly with the lobbyists who testify on their behalf during committee hearings for the legislation they have chosen. They also hear from bill sponsors, proponents and opponents of the legislation, and local legislators.	David Johnson, Director of Education Resources, TVW 1058 Capital Way S Olympia, WA 98501 davidj@tvw.org 360-725-3984
Civics for All	Web Hutchins	Civics for All Initiative seeks to make Seattle a model civics education city where a civic culture of learning is cultivated and democratic principles are celebrated district wide.	Web Hutchins South Lake High School Seattle (206) 252-6600 www.civicsforall.org
Color of Justice	Gonzaga Law School and GEAR UP	Gear Up and Gonzaga Law School team up to incorporate a career track in law in the program that works with cohorts at seventh grade through high school low-income, first-generation students and exposes them to multiple careers and provides support to get to college.	Susan Lee SLee@lawschool.gonzaga.edu John Sklut jsklut@lawschool.gonzaga.edu

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<i>Corporate Diversity Pipeline Program</i>	Street Law, Inc.	Program partners corporate legal departments with nearby, diverse high school law classes. Corporate counsel teaches lessons and lead activities, including arranging field trips to corporate headquarters.	Lee Arbetman, Executive Director Street Law, Inc. http://www.streetlaw.org/en/programs/corporate-legal-diversity-pipeline-program larbetman@streetlaw.org 301- 589.1130 X230
<i>Civil Justice High School Education Project</i>	Washington State Association for Justice	This program helps high school students understand the civil justice system and how it affects their lives. It includes essay and video competitions for college scholarships and a speaker's bureau.	Susan West Email susan@washingtonjustice.org Phone: 206-4641011 www.wstla.org
<i>4-H Know Your Government</i>	Washington State University Extension	The Washington 4-H offers annual Know Your Government conferences for youth statewide. The focus rotates and includes the Judicial System.	Jan Klein Washington State University Extension jklein@wsu.edu 509-358-7937 http://4h.wsu.edu/conferences/kyg/
<i>Future of the Law Institute</i>	King County Bar Association	The Future of the Law Institute encourages minority and economically disadvantaged high school students to pursue higher education and law-related careers, thus broadening the pool of persons entering the legal profession. In particular, the Institute, which is free to the students and their respective schools, (i) introduces students to the law, both substantively and as a potential career option; (ii) inspires interest in pursuing law-related education and careers through hands-on workshops, as well as the opportunity to build relationships with law students, lawyers, judges, law professors, and other community leaders; and (iii) provides information and resources on how to get from high school to law school.	Megan McCloskey, 2012-13 Chair Christine Dreps, Staff, chrisd@kcba.org Janielle Harris, JanielleH@kcba.org King County Bar Association 1200 Fifth Avenue Suite 600 Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 267-7052 http://www.kcbf.org/programs/diversity.html

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<i>Evergreen Girls/Boys State</i>	American Legion Auxiliary and the American Legion	Evergreen Girls/Boys State is an interactive, problem-solving experience in leadership and teamwork that develops self-identity, promotes mutual respect and instills civic responsibility. This is done through a mock-government built and led by the students in the program. Through the process, students can earn college-credit and scholarships, meet new friends, develop new skills and spend time on a college campus.	<p>Evergreen Girls State: American Legion Auxiliary PO Box 5867 3600 Ruddell Rd. Lacey , WA 98509 Phone: 360-456-5995 Fax: 360-491-7442 E-Mail: webmaster@evergreen-girlsstate.com</p> <p>Evergreen Boys State http://evergreenboysstate.org/</p>
<i>iCivics</i>	iCivics	iCivics is a national program of online education resources centered around video games that helps young people learn about civics and their role in government. Inspired by Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, this program is active in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.	<p>Justice Mary Fairhurst, Chair Washington State Supreme Court</p> <p>Margaret Fisher, State Coordinator fisherm2@seattleu.edu</p>
<i>Judges in the Classroom</i>	Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts	The Judges in the Classroom program pairs judges with K-12 teachers to present prepared lessons developed especially for judges on a variety of law-related topics.	<p>Sondra Hahn Judges in the Classroom Administrative Office of the Courts 1206 S. Quince Street, PO Box 41170 Olympia, WA 98504-1170 (360) 753-3365 www.courts.wa.gov/education</p>
<i>Judicial Selection</i>	American Judicature Society	Volunteer judges from the Washington Chapter of the AJS educate classes of high school seniors on what qualities to look for in judicial candidates and how to identify those qualities in campaign materials. The judges use personal experience and current campaign materials as examples.	<p>Charlie Wiggins (206) 780-5033 Charlie@appeal-law.com</p>

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<i>Law Day/Law Week</i>		Law Week takes place during the week of May 1st (the American Bar Association's Law Day). It celebrates and promotes public legal education throughout Washington state by encouraging lawyers and judges to volunteer part or all of a day in local classrooms and community programs. Sponsoring organizations include county bar associations, courts and schools.	
<i>Legislative Youth Advisory Council</i>	Lt. Governor's Office	<p>Twenty two youth ages fourteen to eighteen serve two year terms with the purpose of ensuring that the interests and opinions of Washington's youth are heard and voiced by the legislature.</p> <p>Each year LYAC establishes priorities to reflect the interests of the state's diverse youth such as health and crimes against youth. They gather ideas and information on these priorities from across the state in summits, surveys, and conversations with youth non-profits. At session, they meet with legislators on the annual Action Day to testify and lobby for these priorities in legislation.</p>	Hannah Russ Outreach Director Washington State Legislative Youth Advisory Council hannah.fumiko.russ@hotmail.com
<i>Legislators Back to School Program</i>	Washington State Legislature	State legislators visit classrooms to talk about the Legislature. The program is designed to educate young people about what it is like to be a state legislator: the processes, the pressures, and the debate, negotiation and compromise. It also provides the legislators an opportunity to learn from students. The program kicks off in the fall but is available throughout the school year.	Judi Best, Washington State Senate, (360) 786-7451 or Samantha Barrera, Washington State House of Representatives, (360) 786-7993 www.leg.wa.gov/Legislature/BackToSchool/
<i>Page School</i>	Washington State Legislature	During each week of the legislative session, approximately 50 students aged 14 to 16 from across the state serve as legislative pages. Pages spend part of each day attending Page School and learn about the Legislature's role, its process, and its participants.	Becky Gilpin becky.gilpin@leg.wa.gov Page School Teacher (360) 786-7987 orr.judi@leg.wa.gov http://www.leg.wa.gov/PageSchool/Pages/default.aspx

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<i>Pierce County Youth and Law Community Forum</i>	Pierce County Minority Bar Association; Bench, Prosecutors, Defense Attorneys, and Law Enforcement	Annual one-day program in which youth, parents, teachers and community leaders network with law enforcement and other legal personnel. Youth perform a mock trial.	Judge Frank E. Cuthbertson Pierce County Superior Court 930 Tacoma Ave S Rm 334 Tacoma, WA 98402-2108 (253) 798-7625
<i>Storypath Program</i>	Social Studies Schools Services (publisher)	Storypath uses learners' natural storytelling ability as the basis for an integrated approach to civics instruction. Student-centered and experientially-based, the Storypath strategy transforms the classroom into a laboratory of contextual learning. Each Storypath has a component that asks the student to grapple with a civic issue thereby providing students firsthand experience with citizenship responsibilities.	Margit E. McGuire, Author College of Education Seattle University PO Box 222000 Seattle, WA 98122-4340 (206) 296-5797 mmcguire@seattleu.edu http://fac-staff.seattleu.edu/mmcguire/storypath.html
<i>Street Law – Curriculum</i>	Glencoe/McGraw-Hill (publisher)	The Street Law curriculum helps students gain a practical understanding of the law and the legal system. Its interactive methods focus on legal issues relevant to students' lives as they help students develop the knowledge and skills essential in our law-related society. The curriculum is taught by many teachers in Washington State. A Washington State supplement is available.	http://www.glencoe.com/sec/socialstudies/street_law/index.php Washington State supplement: Margaret Fisher Seattle University Law School Street Law 901 12 th Ave Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 501-7963 fisherm2@seattleu.edu

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Street Law – Judges Program	Council on Public Legal Education at lawforwa.org and the Washington Judges Foundation	The Washington Judges Foundation and the Council on Public Legal Education are partnering to bring the Street Law program to high schools which are not served by the law school Street Law programs. Volunteer judges are partnered with high school teachers who co-teach Street Law for a semester, either as a standalone class or integrated into another class. The judge volunteers act as subject matter specialists and mentors to students. Teachers are provided with a set of textbooks and resource materials.	Margaret Fisher 2433 E Valley St Seattle WA 98112-4131 206-501-7963 mfisher130@gmail.com
Street Law– Law School Programs	University of Washington, Seattle University, Gonzaga University	<p>Law students at the three law schools in our state (Gonzaga, Seattle University, University of Washington) offer formal legal instruction to students by placing second and third-year law students in high school classrooms to teach an ongoing practical law course covering the structure of the legal system, criminal law, family law, consumer and housing law, and individual rights.</p> <p>The UW currently offers Street Law to ten Seattle area high schools. Seattle University, the oldest of our state's Street Law programs, currently offers the program to eleven high schools in Tacoma and Seattle. These two programs alone reach almost 1,000 high school students every year in the Puget Sound region. The program at Gonzaga emphasizes one-time presentations or mock trials on topics of interest to students, such as the Bill of Rights or student constitutional free speech rights. Law students receive formal training in these areas (and also learn teaching techniques) and are matched with schools. The Gonzaga program serves as many as 40 schools in an academic year. Gonzaga's trial team has worked with local high school debate teams.</p>	<p>Julia Gold Univ. of Washington Law School William H. Gates Hall Box 353020 Seattle, WA 98195-3020 (206) 543-3434 julgold@u.washington.edu www.law.washington.edu/StreetLaw</p> <p>Margaret Fisher Seattle University Law School 901 12th Avenue Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 501-7963 fisherm2@seattleu.edu</p> <p>Gonzaga University School of Law PO Box 3528 Spokane, WA 99258-0090 (509) 328-4220</p>

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<i>Student Mock Election Program</i>		The Student Mock Election is a program hosted by the Elections Division of the Office of the Secretary of State. The Mock Election is designed to establish good voting habits, with the goal that students will graduate with the knowledge and skills to fully participate in our communities, and have passion to do so.	Washington State Secretary of State's Office JulieAnne Behar Education & Outreach Coordinator Office of the Secretary of State Elections Division (360) 725-5795 JulieAnne.Behar@sos.wa.gov
<i>Student Voices</i>	Center for Communication & Civic Engagement, University of Washington	The Seattle Student Voices Project is a year-long civic education curriculum designed to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for young people to become active and effective citizens. Student Voices encourages civic and political engagement by students in their neighborhoods and schools, as well as with the press and political aspirants. It is intended to increase students' knowledge and understanding of political processes and institutions, as well as their ability to find information and make use of it as evidence in argument and rhetoric.	University of Washington Center for Communication and Civic Engagement Department of Communication Box 353740 Room 125 Seattle, WA 98195 (206) 685-1504 ccce@u.washington.edu http://depts.washington.edu/ccce/civiceducation/studentvoices.htm
<i>Supreme Justice</i>	Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts and TVW	Produced by TVW and the State Justice Institute, "Supreme Justice" is a videotape that illustrates the process used by the State Supreme Court in appellate review. Lesson plans are available online.	Wendy Ferrell Public Information Officer Administrative Office of the Courts PO Box 41170 Olympia, WA 98504-1170 (360) 705-5331 (360) 586-8869 FAX wendy.ferrell@courts.wa.gov www.courts.wa.gov/education/lessons

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<i>Teach With TVW</i>	TVW	A website for teachers and students which is part of the state's K-20 Education Network. The website features short educational video clips on a variety of law and government topics and related classroom resources.	David Johnson Director of Education Resources, TVW PO Box 25 Olympia, WA 98507 (360) 725-3984 davidj@tvw.org www.teachwithtvw.org

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
<i>Tri-Cities Youth Law Forum</i>	Minority and Justice Commission	Annual program in Pasco with one evening for youth with problems attending school and one day for economic disadvantaged and youth of color students with an interest in law.	Administrative Office of the Courts Pam Dittman 360-704-4031 pam.dittman@courts.wa.gov
<i>Outreach Program for High School Students in Spokane</i>	U.S. District Court for the Eastern District	The program includes a 45-minute simulation of a criminal case (arraignment, jury selection, witness testimony and evidence presentation, and sentencing), a 30-minute question and answer session with a Federal Judge, and the option to observe court proceedings scheduled on the day of their visit. Students actively participate in the simulated criminal case as attorneys, jurors, and witnesses.	Jessica Harmon or Melissa Orosco 509-458-3400 www.waed.uscourts.gov/spokane-outreach
<i>We the People</i>	The Center for Civic Education	<p>We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution is an instructional program on the history and principles of American constitutional democracy for elementary, middle, and high school students. Simulated congressional hearings are built into the curriculum.</p> <p>We the People: Project Citizen gives students the opportunity, the tools and the empowerment to become active and responsible citizens. Through informed inquiry, students identify a problem in their community and, through the steps of public policy, try to solve it.</p> <p>Federal and state grants allow the Center for Civic Education to supply classroom teachers with free textbooks.</p>	Kathy Hand We The People Coordinator 560 S. 158 th Street Seattle, WA 98148 (206) 248-3463 (206) 244-4247 FAX kathyhand@comcast.net www.civiced.org/programs.html
<i>Yakima Pre-Law Students' Leadership Conference</i>	Alma Zuniga	Annual day-long program at the Davis High School in Yakima, with mock trial on hot-button legal issues, plus opportunities for networking and follow-up.	Alma Zuniga almaz@nwjustice.org

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
YMCA Mock Trial Competition	YMCA Youth and Government, Administrative Office of the Courts	The YMCA Mock Trial program allows students to participate in a "true-to-life" courtroom drama. Each team of attorneys and witnesses prepares the case for trial before a real judge in an actual courtroom. A "jury" of attorneys rates teams for their presentation while the presiding judge rules on the motions, objections, and ultimately the merits. Participants develop critical thinking and analytical skills, learn the art of oral advocacy, and gain a respect for the role of law and the judiciary. The district winning teams compete for the State Championship in Olympia in March.	<p>Sarah Clinton Executive Director YMCA Youth & Government PO Box 193 Olympia, WA 98507 Phone: (360) 357-3475 Fax: (360) 753-4615 www.youthandgovernment.org</p> <p>Wendy Ferrell Public Information Officer Administrative Office of the Courts PO Box 41170 Olympia, WA 98504-1170 (360) 705-5331 (360) 586-8869 FAX wendy.ferrell@courts.wa.gov www.courts.wa.gov/education/</p>
YMCA Youth Legislature Program	YMCA Youth and Government	Founded in 1947, the YMCA Youth Legislature provides students the opportunity to experience the democratic process firsthand. Throughout the year, participants learn how to research public policy issues, write real legislation, practice public speaking and debating skills, and work together to achieve a goal. Assuming the roles of Senator, Representative, lobbyist, and press, the Youth Legislature meets in a four-day legislative session presided over by their statewide elected officials, including Governor, Secretary of State, Lt. Governor and Speaker of the House.	<p>Sarah Clinton Executive Director YMCA Youth & Government PO Box 193 Olympia, WA 98507 Phone: (360) 357-3475 Fax: (360) 753-4615 www.youthandgovernment.org</p>

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Youth and the Law Forum	First AME Church of Seattle	This annual one-day program of workshops, entertainment, and a relaxed forum is for youth and their parents to interact with representatives of the legal community to gain firsthand information on how the legal system works for and with them.	Sponsors: First AME Church, Loren Miller Bar Association, City of Seattle, law enforcement, and other groups Contacts: Katheryne Davis, Nancy Stephens, Judge LeRoy McCullough, leroy.mccullough@kingcounty.gov
Youth Courts		<p>Youth courts are an alternative to the traditional juvenile justice sentencing system for first-time offenders. In youth courts, young people sentence their peers for minor criminal offenses, traffic infractions, and/or school rule violations. Using the philosophy of restorative justice, youth courts devise consequences for youthful offenders that help them make up for the harm they have caused, overcome difficulties in their lives, and use their unique skills to contribute to their communities. A list of Washington state youth courts is posted at www.youthcourt.net/national_listing/overview.htm.</p> <p>The Washington Judges Foundation, the Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Council on Public Legal Education are actively increasing the number of youth courts in the state and assisting existing youth courts with volunteer training and expanding their jurisdictions. They do this by offering a bi-annual conference for communities interested in starting new youth courts and frequent workshops for existing youth courts. They also meet with potential youth court stakeholder groups and distribute information to existing and potential youth courts via email.</p>	<p>Margaret Fisher Administrative Office of the Courts 1112 Quince St. SE P O Box 41170 Olympia WA 98504-1170 (206) 501-7963 (margaret.fisher@courts.wa.gov)</p> <p>Washington State Association of Youth Courts http://wsayc.blogspot.com/</p>

PROGRAM/RESOURCE	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Youth Summit	World Affairs Council	The annual Youth Summit is a forum for Washington State high school students to participate in democratic processes and to make their voices heard. At the event, students are provided with background knowledge on a current world issue, then given extensive opportunities to voice their opinions.	World Affairs Council 2200 Alaskan Way Suite 450 Seattle, WA 98121 (206) 441-5910 wac@world-affairs.org www.world-affairs.org/globalclassroom/youth
YTech's Civic Voice Curriculum	YMCA	YTech advances digital inclusion and youth community engagement by providing access to technology, relevant skills-based curriculum and training; as well as opportunities to connect, collaborate, and take action. Youth use digital media to tell stories, develop their voice, and launch online and in-the-community campaigns that culminate with an action project. Civic Voice participants spark dialogue around current or controversial topics, collaborate with their peers and community members, and are empowered to be lifelong civic participants.	Chris Tugwell, YMCA

N:\Programs & Organizations\Public Legal Education\Civics Education Programs 2013.doc