



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE #YJLE?

The Youth Justice & Leadership Exhibition (#YJLE) is a youth-led and youth-focused Exhibition for young people and their adult allies from Metro Detroit and the State of Michigan. The #YJLE empowers youth to *advocate* for social justice issues within their schools and communities and *connects* youth throughout Detroit, creating a *collaborative* space for youth to be both *teachers and learners*. Michigan Youth care about social inequities, are organizing around social issues, and work toward social justice. On April 6th, 2016, the Roundtable would like to celebrate, support, and honor all the hard work that has been happening this year!

For 63 years, the Michigan Roundtable has hosted a Spring Conference, engaging and connecting young people who care about Diversity and Inclusion. The #YJLE will continue this tradition by honoring and featuring the work of youth involved with social justice throughout Michigan, including youth who participate in the Roundtable's Youth Programs: the Regional Youth Internship, Regional School Consortium, and the Statewide Racial Equity Action Coalition. We work with youth on various issues of justice at the individual, school, and community levels to develop the awareness, knowledge and skills of youth, supporting their passion around social justice issues to create transformational change in the region.

WHO? WHEN? WHERE?

Saturday, April 16th, 2016 9am – 4pm
The Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights – Wayne State University
471 W. Palmer Ave
Detroit, MI 48202

All youth and adults from Michigan are invited to attend! We welcome individuals and groups, such as:

- High School/ College clubs (Diversity Club, GSA, Interfaith group, etc.)
- Community Organizations/Neighborhood Organizations that work with Youth (Community gardens, issue-focused organizations, direct care organizations, etc.)
- Youth Groups in religious institutions that are focused on Social Justice, Diversity and Inclusion
- Young people who work for nonprofits, have leadership roles in social justice clubs/organizations, engage with their community, or do community organizing work.
- Young people who are active in their neighborhoods or enjoy community service

If you know of a young person, adult, or group that should be invited, we would love to contact them!

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ATTEND? DO YOU HAVE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE?

The Exhibition costs \$15 per young person and \$20 per adult to attend. This cost includes lunch. Scholarships are available and are granted on a case by case basis. Anyone who is interested/in need of a scholarship should contact Jessica by phone (313) 870-1500 or email jbest@miroundtable.org.

WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY?

9:00 – 9:45	REGISTRATION SOCIAL JUSTICE EXHIBIT
10:00 – 12:15	WORKSHOPS (Choose one)
Block A: 10:00-12:00 Workshop Session A 12:00-12:15 Break	Block BC: 10:00 – 11:00 Workshop Session B 11:00 – 11:15 Break 11:15 – 12:15 Workshop Session C
12:15 – 1:15	LUNCH NETWORKING FAIR
1:30 – 4:00	OPEN MIC FILM FEST CLOSING CEREMONY

WHAT IS THE SOCIAL JUSTICE EXHIBIT?

The SOCIAL JUSTICE EXHIBIT will kick-off the Exhibition. Structured like a typical science fair, the EXHIBIT will feature young people and their Social Justice work. Display tables will be set up with information about organizations, media, and visual displays for participants to check out the work of local organizations, engage with the Michigan Roundtable's Regional Youth Internship Campaign groups, and learn more about Diversity and Inclusion.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE WORKSHOPS?

There are two sessions happening at the same time during the WORKSHOP portion of the Exhibition. During Workshop Block A, participants will be able to attend one 2-hour workshop. During Block BC, participants will be able to attend two 1-hour sessions. All workshops will be focused on social justice and primarily facilitated by young people. There will be a variety of subjects based on the groups and young people that present and facilitate. Stay tuned for more information about the workshops!

WHAT IS THE NETWORKING FAIR?

The NETWORKING FAIR is an extension of the SOCIAL JUSTICE EXHIBIT. During lunch, youth will be able to connect with Youth-Led and Youth-Focused organizations, learn more about the work they do, and network with each other.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE FILM FEST AND OPEN MIC?

During the FILM FEST and OPEN MIC, the audience will watch live PERFORMANCES and short FILMS, all created, produced, filmed, and performed by young people. In addition, young performers and poets will be able to sign up to perform a short piece during the OPEN MIC. Media is a powerful tool for telling the stories of young people and hearing the voice of Youth in Metro Detroit and Michigan. This is your opportunity to hear from young folks in Michigan and share your perspective on social justice issues in our communities.

WHO WILL I MEET DURING THE EXHIBITION?

During the #YJLE, everyone in attendance will have the opportunity to meet many different people from all across Michigan! Youth and adults from Southeast Michigan, and many other areas in the state, will come together from schools, community organizations, and all types of places! Together, we will explore social justice from a youth perspective by attending WORKSHOPS, exploring the SOCIAL JUSTICE EXHIBIT, and watching FILMS & PERFORMANCES, all of which are designed, created, and facilitated by youth.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Youth (up to 26 years old) can be involved in many ways:

- **ATTEND** the Exhibition
 - All are invited to attend the Exhibition! Young people, Adults, and groups are invited to check out the SOCIAL JUSTICE EXHIBIT, attend youth-facilitated WORKSHOPS, watch youth-produced FILMS and PERFORMANCES, participate in the OPEN MIC, and meet other young people and adults from across Michigan. Register online at <http://bit.ly/2016yjle>
- **EXHIBIT*** your work around Diversity and Social Justice
 - Youth-led and youth-focused groups are invited to present information about their groups and the work they do with a display table during the SOCIAL JUSTICE EXHIBIT. Each table comes with two (2) registrations! Register to attend at <http://miroundtable.org/yjle>.
- **SCREEN*** a youth-produced film or **PERFORM** a short, youth-led performance.
 - Short FILMS or PERFORMANCES (up to 10 minutes), designed, created, and produced by young people, will play during our Film Fest. Submit your film and receive 2 admissions at half price! Register to attend the event at <http://miroundtable.org/yjle>
- **FACILITATE*** a youth-led workshop
 - Young people (ages 15-26) are invited to facilitate workshops about social justice in their community. All workshops must be facilitated by at least two (2) youth and supported by one (1) adult ally. Register to attend the event at <http://miroundtable.org/yjle>

**All youth and adults who present content must register to attend the Exhibition. All content will be reviewed and approved by the Roundtable's Youth Program Staff, consisting of adults and youth. Please see the criteria section of the FAQ for more information.*

At this Youth-Led Exhibition, the primary role of Adults (aged 27+) will be to serve as Adult Allies, which includes ensuring the safety of the young people they bring to the event, supporting any facilitation and presentation, listening to and uplifting the voices of young people, and participating in activities to learn from the perspectives of youth in their community.

CAN I APPLY FOR THE REGIONAL YOUTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM AT THE EXHIBITION?

The application for the Michigan Roundtable's Regional Youth Internship Program will be available during the month of April both online and by paper. *Youth who qualify for the program will be able to complete the application during the Exhibition.*

To qualify, an individual must be between the ages of 16-21, be able to commit to an overnight retreat June 26th – June 30th, and live in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb county during the program (June 2016 – August 2017).

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR TABLES*?

Your exhibit table:

- Must relate to youth justice and leadership that you include in your organization/group
- Must provide information about your organization/group in a creative way of your choice (ex. media, poster, brochure, CD, t-shirt, etc.)
- Should spark interest and be relatable to youth



Please submit your request for a table by **March 31st, 2016 @ 11:59 pm** with responses to the following questions:

- How many people will be at the table?
- Will you be handing out any applications or collecting identifying information from participants (ex. Sign-in sheet)? (*Please Note applications must be related to social justice and youth empowerment media*)
- Are you planning on selling merchandise? If so, how much is merchandise?

GROUPS THAT CONTRIBUTE A TABLE RECEIVE TWO FREE YOUTH REGISTRATIONS!

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WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR WORKSHOPS*?

- Workshops can either be one (1) hour or two (2) hours in length.
- Workshops must be facilitated by at least two (2) youth and supported by one (1) adult ally.
- Workshop theme should surround a social justice issue in your community.
- Must be facilitated by youth (ages 14-26).
- Examples of main activities would be fishbowl, dialogue, creating media, free-writing, etc.
- Workshops must include the Michigan Roundtable Youth Programs Principle of *Engaging With Media*:



Media:

- *Engaging with media:* We help youth identify their own role in shifting the media messages about social justice issues in our region and use media as a tool to hear and tell stories of marginalized peoples in new ways.
- Workshops must include 1 other principle of your choice:
 - *Youth Empowerment:* Youth determine the content of our programs based on the understanding of their own knowledge, skills, and passion.
 - *Asset/strength-based:* We operate with the understanding that youth are the primary storytellers and experts of their own experiences and help youth identify the skills they possess and build on them.
 - *Experiential model:* We learn together about differences in race, class, gender, religion, sexuality, and other social identity markers to understand the intersection of community issues at a structural level.
 - Contact Jessica with questions about or if you need help with the Youth Program Principles.
- You must provide your own materials for workshops

Please submit workshop proposals by **March 31st, 2016 @ 11:59 pm**. (Submissions should include goals of workshop, materials used, opening, main activity, dialogue questions, and closing)

ALL YOUTH FACILITATORS AND UP TO TWO ADULT ALLIES WILL RECEIVE FREE REGISTRATION

**All youth and adults who present content must register to attend the Exhibition. All content will be reviewed and approved by the Roundtable's Youth Program Staff, consisting of adults and youth. Please see the criteria section of the FAQ for more information.*

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR FILMS*?

Your film must:

- Be a short film (max: 10 minutes) or a selected clip of a longer piece that can stand alone
- Have a message related to youth
- Be created and developed by youth
- Be original (ex. Animations, found footage, performances, etc.)
- Relate to (at least) one of the following themes:
 - Youth empowerment
 - How youth can make a change in the community
 - Social justice issue found in your community



Submission deadline is **March 31, 2016 @ 11:59 pm**. Video should be posted to Youtube.com. Please send an email to jbest@miroundtable.org with the following information:

- YouTube username
- Name of video
- Date video is posted
- Names of individuals who contributed to the film

If you would like to submit your video using a different process, please email jbest@miroundtable.org.

GROUPS THAT SCREEN A FILM WILL RECEIVE TWO YOUTH REGISTRATIONS AT HALF PRICE

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WHAT ARE THE MICHIGAN ROUNDTABLE'S YOUTH PROGRAM PRINCIPLES?

Youth Empowerment:

- Youth determine the content of our programs based on the understanding of their own knowledge, skills and passion.
- We cultivate an environment that provides opportunities for youth to actively use those skills in decision-making around programming.

Asset/Strengths-Based:

- We operate with the understanding that youth are the primary storytellers and experts of their own experiences.
- We help youth identify the skills that they already possess and build upon them.
- We introduce youth to community assets, such as businesses and organizations whose principles and practices align with the MI Roundtable's.

Experiential Model:

- We learn together about differences in race, class, gender, religion, sexuality, and other social identity markers to understand the intersection of community issues at a structural level.
- We visit and examine assets of the region, encouraging youth to see the ways in which place matters.
- We talk directly with members of marginalized communities, learning from the work they are already doing and learn how to be effective allies.
- We introduce youth to transformative grassroots work and support a network of connection.

Engaging with Media:

- We use media as a tool to hear and tell stories of marginalized peoples in new ways.
- We develop skills for critical analysis of mainstream media.
- We help youth identify their own role in shifting the media messages about social justice issues in our region.