



Goals + Key Elements



Establish an annual youth civics leadership program.

Open to high school juniors and seniors (Knox Co. residents) enrolled in a full-time public, private or accredited home school program.

Engage high school students with a unique opportunity to help foster civic engagement, promote healthy citizenry habits and promote importance of public service.



SEAT 10



Knox County At-Large

LARSEN JAY
KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 52331
Knoxville, TN 37950
larsen.jay@knoxcounty.org

Office: (865) 215.2534
Cell: (865) 224.3736

Program Formation

Established the program with a Resolution to officially forming the annual Junior Commission program.



RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION
OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE,
ESTABLISHING A JUNIOR COMMISSION
CIVICS EDUCATION PROGRAM.

RESOLUTION: R-22-11-903
REQUESTED BY: COMMISSIONER JAY
PREPARED BY: COMMISSIONER JAY
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS: DIRECTOR OF LAW

APPROVED: _____ DATE _____
VETOED: _____ DATE _____
VETO OVERRIDE: _____ DATE _____
MINUTE BOOK _____ PAGE _____

WHEREAS, the Knox County Commission recognizes that community engagement and civic education is vitally important to a healthy republic and functioning democracy;

WHEREAS, actively involving Knox County youth in understanding their local government can lead to a more engaged and informed citizen; and

WHEREAS, participating in a youth leadership program can promote experiential learning of the functions of government, develop healthy citizenry habits, and promote public awareness of the strengths and abilities of youth; and

WHEREAS, an annual youth civics program is to be provided to the public and open to participants who are junior or senior students enrolled full-time in a public, private or accredited home school program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

The Commission of Knox County hereby establishes an annual Junior Commission Civics Education Program to promote civic engagement among area youth with all corresponding details to be outlined and promoted by the Knox County Commissioners and the Commission Office staff.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any notifications are to be made to effectuate Resolution, then the County Clerk is hereby requested to forward a copy of this Resolution to the proper authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution is to take effect from and after passage, as provided by the Charter of Knox County, Tennessee, the public welfare and the good of the County.

Presiding Officer of the Commission _____ Date _____
County Clerk _____ Date _____
Approved: _____ Date _____
County Mayor
Vetoed: _____ Date _____
County Mayor



Program Schedule



Dec.

- Application Period (Dec. 6-23)
- Commissioner Selection Period (Dec. 24 – Jan. 10)

Jan.

- Junior Commissioners Announcement
- Orientation + 1 Commission Meeting

Feb.

- Work Session, Commission Meeting + Zoning (on stage)
- Community Event w/Commissioner

Mar.

- Mock Meeting
- Commission Work Session
- Program Graduation Banquet w/Families

Program Promotion

KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION
CITY COUNTY BUILDING #603 / 400 MAIN STREET KNOXVILLE, TN 37902 / (865) 215-2534

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
contact: Commissioner Larsen Jay
larsen.jay@knoxcounty.org
865-224-3736 c

**COMMISSIONERS LAUNCH NEW JUNIOR COMMISSION PROGRAM
NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2023**

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee – December 1, 2022 – The Knox County Commission is proud to announce the launch of a new Junior Commission youth civics education program in 2023!

Knox County Commissioners believe community engagement and civic education is vitally important to a healthy republic and functioning democracy. Last month, the Commission unanimously established an annual "Junior Commission" program whereby "Knox County youth can become a more engaged and informed citizen by participating in this unique youth leadership program." Junior Commission participants will learn the functions of their local government and further develop healthy citizenry habits, all while promoting the importance of community engagement and public service.

"In a time where voter participation, candidates for elected office, and civic engagement are at an all-time low, I believe a proactive approach with the next generation of leaders is critical," Commissioner At-Large Larsen Jay said. "I introduced the Junior Commission program as a tool to educate Knox County's finest students and to inspire them to get involved in shaping Knox County's future. I want to thank my colleagues for approving this initiative and enthusiastically participating in this inaugural class."

The Junior Commission program is open to high school juniors and seniors enrolled in a full-time, Knox County public, private, parochial, or accredited home school program. Each Knox County Commissioner will select one applicant and the to make-up the 11 annual Junior Commissioners.

Junior Commissioners will work alongside their mentor Commissioner and participate in unique programming over a three-month period that includes: orientation, work sessions, commission and zoning meetings, attendance at a community public event, and learning hands-on governing in a mock session of the Junior Commission.

The application period opens Thursday, December 1st and runs through Friday, December 23rd, 2022. Students will be notified of their selection the week of January 9th. Students may apply for a Junior Commissioner position with their District Commissioner, or with one of the two At-Large Commissioners (who represent the entire County).

Additional information and the application portal can be found at: www.knoxcounty.org/juniorcommission. No applications will be accepted via phone, email or by mail.

For more information, please contact Commissioner Larsen Jay: larsen.jay@knoxcounty.org or (865) 224-3736.

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Knox County Commission

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: December 21, 2022

**COMMISSIONERS LAUNCH NEW
JUNIOR COMMISSION PROGRAM**

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CLASS OF 2023
APPLICATION DEADLINE IS THIS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2022

The Knox County Commission is proud to announce the launch of a new Junior Commission youth civics education program.

Knox County Commissioners believe community engagement and civic education is vitally important to a healthy republic and functioning democracy. Last month, the Commission unanimously established an annual "Junior Commission" program whereby "Knox County youth can become a more engaged and informed citizen by participating in this unique youth leadership program." Junior Commission participants will learn the functions of their local government and further develop healthy citizenry habits, all while promoting the importance of community engagement and public service.

The Junior Commission program is open to high school juniors and seniors enrolled in a full-time, Knox County public, private, parochial, or accredited home school program. Each Knox County Commissioner will select one applicant to make-up the 11 annual Junior Commissioners.

Junior Commissioners will work alongside their mentor Commissioner and participate in unique programming over a three-month period that includes: orientation, work sessions, commission and zoning meetings, attendance at a community public event, and learning hands-on governing in a mock session of the Junior Commission.

The application period opens Thursday, December 1st and runs through Friday, December 23rd, 2022. Students will be notified of their selection the week of January 9, 2023. Students may apply for a Junior Commissioner position with their District Commissioner, or with one of the two At-Large Commissioners (who represent the entire County).

Additional information and the application portal can be found at: www.knoxcounty.org/juniorcommission. No applications will be accepted via phone, email or by mail.

For more information, contact the Commission office at 865-215-2534 or commission@knoxcounty.org

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Knox County Commission

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: January 12, 2023

**KNOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS NAME
"JUNIOR COMMISSION CLASS OF 2023" STUDENTS**

Knox County Commission is proud to announce the high school students selected to participate in the Junior Commission Class of 2023.

Each year, the Knox County Commission established a new civics education and youth leadership program with a goal of engaging and informing the next generation of community leaders in a unique and meaningful way. The Junior Commission program includes six sessions where selected Junior Commissioners work alongside their mentor Commissioner in work sessions, commission meetings, zoning hearings, public events, and a hands-on mock Junior Commission session. The program is open to Knox County residents who are students, serving in their Junior or Senior year, and full-time in a public, private or accredited home school program.

Students selected to participate in the inaugural 2023 Junior Commission program include:

- Line Scoonover (Junior, West High School)
- Elia Sanchez Bentiez (Junior, Fulton High School)
- Belton (Senior, Hardin Valley Academy)
- Coffey (Senior, Christian Academy of Knoxville)
- Muse (Junior, Farragut High School)
- Olson (Senior, Homelife Academy)
- Dyer (Senior, Halls High School)
- Y (Junior, Berean Christian School)
- Y (Junior, South Doyle High School)
- Parker (Junior, Bearden High School)
- va Farrar (Junior, Farragut High School)

Students will begin their engagement on Monday, January 23, 2023 with an orientation session along with the Junior Commission work session. The Junior Commission program will conclude on January 23, 2023 with a graduation ceremony and participant dinner with their families.

For more information, contact the Knox County Commission office at 865-215-2534 or commission@knoxcounty.org

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

2023 Junior Commission Program

Knox County Commissioners believe community engagement and civic education is vital to a healthy republic and functioning democracy. Last month, the Commission unanimously established an annual "Junior Commissioner" program whereby Knox County youth can become more engaged and informed citizens by participating in this unique youth leadership program. Junior Commissioner participants will learn the functions of their local government and further develop healthy citizenry habits, all while promoting the importance of community engagement and public service.

Details on the 2023 Junior Commission Program:

- The Junior Commission program is open to high school juniors and seniors enrolled in a full-time, Knox County public, private, parochial, or accredited home school program.
- Each Knox County Commissioner will choose one student from the submitted applications. The student will be named one of the eleven annual Junior Commissioners.
- The program will take place primarily at the City/County Building on Main St. in downtown Knoxville. One event will take place somewhere in the community (TBD).

What is Expected of Participants:

Junior Commissioners are expected to participate in all the following events:

- Monday, January 23**
9:30 - 10:30am / Junior Commissioner Orientation (Small Assembly Room)
1:00 - 2:00pm / Commission Meeting Attendance (Main Assembly Room)
- February**
Attend one (1) community event with your Commissioner
- Tuesday, February 21**
5:00pm - 8:00pm / Commission Meeting + Zoning Meeting (Main Assembly Room)
- Monday, March 20**
3:30 - 4:30pm / Work Junior Commission Meeting (Main Assembly Room)
5:00 - 7:00pm / Commission Work Session (Main Assembly Room)
- Monday, March 27**
5:00 - 6:00pm / Program Graduation w/ Recognition at Commission Meeting (Main Assembly Room)

How to Apply:

- The application period will be open from Friday, December 2nd through Friday, December 23rd, 2022. Students will be notified if they've been selected during the week of January 9th.
- Applications are completed online through [this link](#). No applications will be accepted via phone or by mail, please apply through this website.
- Students may apply for a Junior Commissioner position with their District Commissioner, or with one of the two at Large Commissioners (who represent the entire County) - not both, one application only.

Other Things to Know:

- During evening events/meetings, dinner will be provided for all Junior Commission participants.
- Participants are expected to be dressed in business attire during sessions.
- Junior Commission members are expected to provide for or arrange their own transportation to/from sessions/events.
- Extra credit may be available through your school or teacher. As each situation may be different, please inquire directly with your education leadership and ask your Commissioner to sign off on your participation once the program is completed.

For additional questions, please contact the County Commission Office at commission@knoxcounty.org or (865) 525-2534.

[Apply for the 2023 Junior Commission](#)



Notice for Junior Commission Application (with rules, directions) and link for forms submission

Junior Commissioner Application

Please note that you will need to create a Parent or Guardian login account in order to qualify.

Applicant Information:

First Name: LAST NAME: PHONE NUMBER: EMAIL: STREET ADDRESS: ZIP CODE: CITY: STATE: ZIP+4:

Parent/Guardian Information:

First Name: LAST NAME: PHONE NUMBER: EMAIL: STREET ADDRESS: ZIP CODE: CITY: STATE: ZIP+4:

Questions:

SELECT A QUESTION: (Please choose an option) [Help from the District Chair](#)

What is your current school (Public, Private, or Accredited Home School)?

WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE A JUNIOR COMMISSIONER?

DO YOU HAVE ANY UNIQUE ABILITIES?

WHY DO YOU THINK LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS IMPORTANT?

WHAT IS ONE ISSUE OR ISSUE YOU SEE IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND WHAT ARE YOUR IDEAS TO ADDRESS IT?

[Submit](#)

Forms submission process collects name, contact information, dropdown for Commissioner selection, form to identify which Knox County school currently attended, form fields for text answers to provided questions

Application is digital, online and easy to complete.

</

Site / Class Announcement + FAQ



Knox County Commissioners believe community engagement and civic education is vitally important to a healthy republic and functioning democracy. As such, the Knox County Commission has established an annual "Junior Commission" civics education and youth leadership program where Knox County high school students (juniors or seniors) can become a more engaged and informed citizen by participating in this unique program. Junior Commission participants will learn the functions of their local government and further develop healthy citizenry habits, all while promoting the importance of community engagement and public service.

Junior Commission Class of 2023 Participants Include:

- [District 1] – Caroline Scoonover (Junior, West High School)
- [District 2] – Gabriela Sánchez Benítez (Junior, Fulton High School)
- [District 3] – Dain Shelton (Senior, Hardin Valley Academy)
- [District 4] – Ethan Coffey (Senior, Christian Academy of Knoxville)
- [District 5] – Anand Patel (Junior, Farragut High School)
- [District 6] – McKayla Muse (Senior, HomeLife Academy)
- [District 7] – Lily Hutchison (Senior, Halls High School)
- [District 8] – Madelyn Dyer (Senior, Berean Christian School)
- [District 9] – Emily Child (Junior, South Doyle High School)
- [At-Large, Seat 10] – Ella Parker (Junior, Bearden High School)
- [At-Large, Seat 11] – Maya Farrar (Junior, Farragut High School)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

• What is the dress code?

As a participant in the Junior Commission program, you are expected to come dressed in professional business attire, just like your mentor Commissioners.

• When will the program sessions end each evening?

Please see the enclosed schedule. We will work hard to make sure no session lasts beyond 9:00pm.

• Do I need to bring my own food?

No, we will provide meals during your sessions. Although, it's always a good idea to bring your own water bottle and any specific snacks you might want to have on hand.

• Is transportation provided? Is there any reimbursement for parking?

No, unfortunately, we are unable to provide transportation or reimburse for parking. There are several free parking options and public transportation if needed.

• Do my parents / guardians need to stay during our sessions?

No, not unless they want to (but they are very welcome). It's ok if you are dropped off / picked up at each session and our team will be there to supervise all participants.

• How do I find the Small & Main Assembly Room?

Come in the front door of the City / County Building (map included) and when you go through security, one of the PBA officers will help you find the locations.

• Will my child be alone or ride with their mentor Commissioner?

All Junior Commissioner sessions will be group events. No student will be alone or ride with their mentor. For the community participation event, parents/guardians will be invited to join their student.

• What will be required of each student during school hours? If so, will an absence be excused?

Besides the scheduled outlined in this packet, no additional time is required during normal school hours. If there is any time needed away from school, please contact your principal and Commissioner to arrange for permission and documentation.

• Will photos be taken? How will they be used?

Yes. We will have an official photographer take headshots of each student, a group photo, and various photos throughout the program to document the sessions. Many of these will be posted on our Junior Commission web page (link on the Commission website) and may also be used in social and traditional media stories. As outlined in your waiver, participation in this program includes allowing for your photo to be taken and used for program purposes.

• How can I learn more about the Knox County Commission?

You can learn about the County Commission at: www.knoxcounty.org/commission There you'll find information on your Commissioner, meeting agendas, rules, documents on how local government works, etc. You can also watch any past or current Commission meetings.

For additional questions, please contact the County Commission Office at commission@knoxcounty.org or (865) 215-2534.



Orientation Session



Commission Meeting



Work Session



Great Media Coverage

CN

CountyNews

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

YOUTH PROGRAM WORKS TO CURB COMMUNITY VIOLENCE. PG. 4

HPLA: A STEPPING STONE TO COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS CAREER. PG. 7

COUNTY'S 'SAFE SLEEP' INITIATIVE AIMS TO CURB INFANT DEATHS. PG. 13

VOL. 50, NO. 2

JANUARY 30, 2023

Cabinet secretaries, federal agency expo to headline 2023 NACo Legislative Conference

by Charlie Bon

for a variety of perspectives from leaders to the executive branch.

NACo's Legislative Conference has always served as a meeting place for county and federal officials, but 2023's edition, set for Feb. 16-17, will intensify the scope of that interaction for 2,000 local elected leaders.

A federal agency expo at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C. Feb. 17 will bring over 100 federal officials representing 50 state, ready agencies to one place, ready to engage with conference attendees. That includes the Treasury Department, the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Justice. The event is part of the 2023 NACo Legislative Conference, which will also include a panel discussion among Presidential Senior Advisors, including Vice President Kamala Harris, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, moderated by Susan Rice, director of the Domestic Policy Council.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen will address county officials at the Feb. 14 General Session.

Yellen served as one of the federal Reserve's first female presidents and for three years in 2018, she was the administration of the Federal Reserve's chair.

General Sessions will also include a panel discussion among Presidential Senior Advisors, including Vice President Kamala Harris, and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, moderated by Susan Rice, director of the Domestic Policy Council.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen will address county officials at the Feb. 14 General Session.

Yellen served as one of the federal Reserve's first female presidents and for three years in 2018, she was the administration of the Federal Reserve's chair.

Boot camps train newly elected county officials

by Charlie Bon

Springfield County, Tenn. commissioners seemed to be sleeping on their feet every day.

They closed open meetings and just couldn't do anything right, Michael Sanders, executive director of the Maryland Association of Counties, said. The federal county was a cautionary tale for the 60 newly elected county officials attending boot camps in January.

Commissioner Don't does that. It's not the best behavior at the association's Winter Conference in January.

Don't does that. It's not the best behavior at the association's Winter Conference in January.

High-school students step into county commissioners' shoes

by Meredith Moran

Eleven Knox County, Tenn. high school students are serving as county commissioners for a month.

It's a county effort to give the next generation a taste of local government.

The three-month program will give them the opportunity to sit in on county board meetings, including a meeting regarding land use policy, participate in direct public service work, and stock sessions where they'll get to make motions, argue points and vote, according to Knox County Commissioner Larsen Jay, who planned the concept.

COUNTY NEWS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

JANUARY 30, 2023 3

Junior Commissioner applicants identified local needs and plans to address them

From STUDENTS page 1

A 2022 study conducted by think tank Next100 found that respondents ages 18-30 viewed a position as having more impact than working in government. Jay said he thinks the disconnect comes from a lack of understanding about local government duties.

When I have engaged directly with the next generation, these [high school] students who are not who they are in the future, they're more fascinated, they have more energy, they want to get involved.

Knox County, Tenn. Junior Commission participants pause for a photo at the Knox City County Building Jan. 23, the day the program launched with an orientation and meeting. Photo courtesy of Larsen Jay

Knox County, Tenn. Junior Commission participants pause for a photo at the Knox City County Building Jan. 23, the day the program launched with an orientation and meeting. Photo courtesy of Larsen Jay

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Knox County Commission seeks young applicants for new civic engagement program

High school juniors and seniors

Dec. 1st - Dec. 23rd

knox news.

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LOCAL

Knox County students invited to join a new, hands-on youth civics education program

Angela Dennis

Knoxville News Sentinel

Dec. 21, 2022 | Updated 2:44 p.m. ET Dec. 21, 2022

ity for Knoxville youth to become more engaged and informed reality with the formation of a unique youth leadership program.

ty Commission recently announced the launch of a new Junior with civics education program in 2023. Junior Commission learn how their local government functions while promoting the community engagement and public service.

the voter participation, candidates for elected office, and civic at an all-time low, I believe a proactive approach with the next leaders is critical," Commissioner at-large Larsen Jay said in a duced the Junior Commission program as a tool to educate Knox students and to inspire them to get involved in shaping Knox

JUNIOR COMMISSION

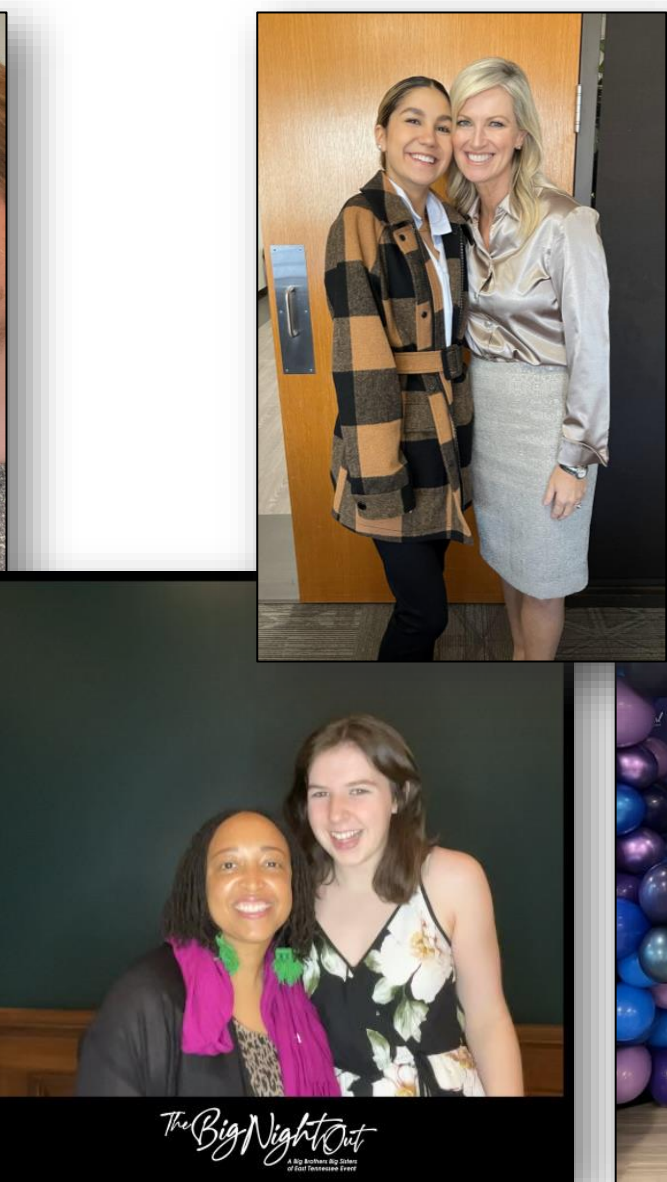
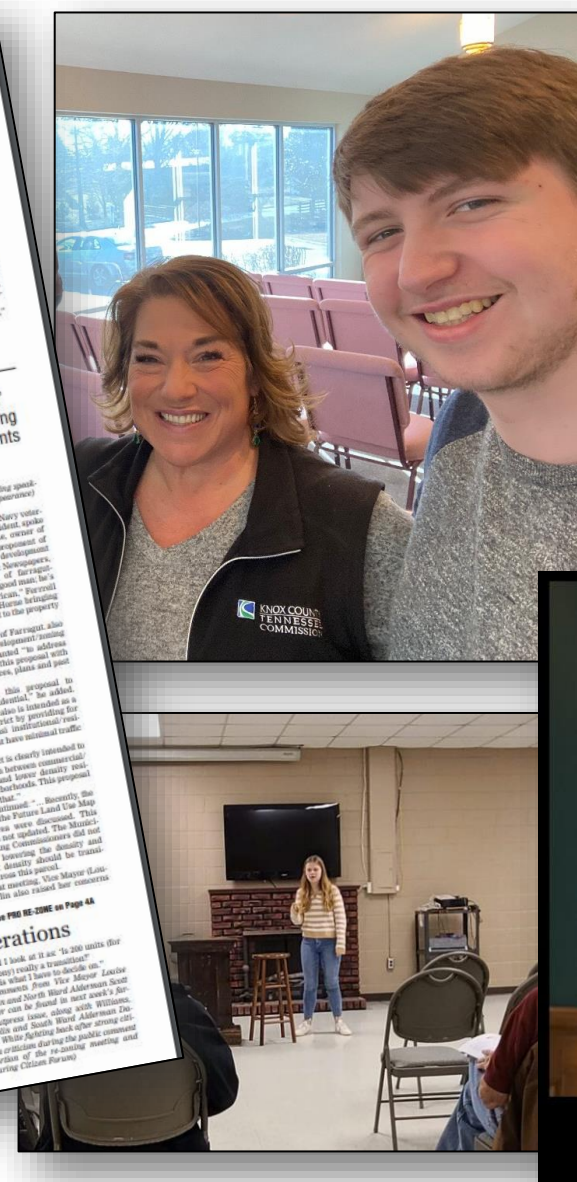
JUNIOR COMMISSION APPLICATION DEADLINE APPROACHING

CASH A MORNING

6 abc 48° 4:40

Commission + Zoning Meeting



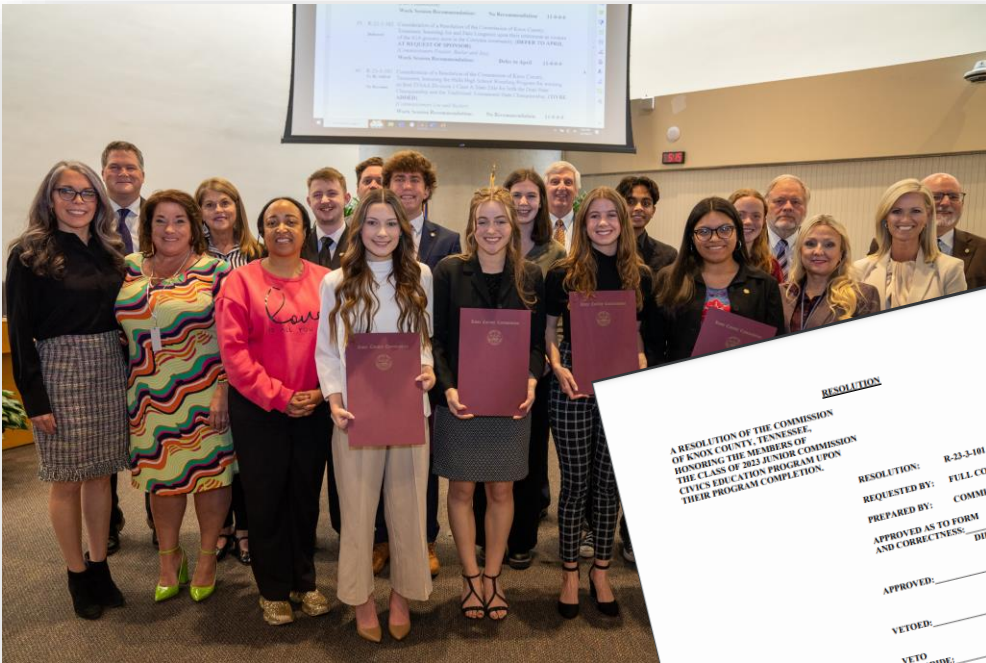


Mock Meeting



Final Session

Commissioners sponsored an Honorary Resolution congratulating the Junior Commissioners on graduating from the program. Each student received a copy.



WHEREAS, the learning of the functions of promoted public awareness

WHEREAS, the leadership program have become community leaders promoting and

WHEREAS, it has been completed all the requirements of Commissioner graduates.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

is hereby recognized that the following students have graduated from the first annual program and are now charged with promoting civic engagement and leadership of local government amongst their peers.

WHEREAS, this Resolution is to take effect from and after the date of its adoption by the Charter of Knox County, Tennessee, the public welfare

Presiding Officer of the Commission _____ Date _____

County Clerk _____ Date _____

Approved: _____ Date _____

County Mayor _____ Date _____

County Mayor _____ Date _____

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE, HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2023 JUNIOR COMMISSION CIVICS EDUCATION PROGRAM UPON THEIR PROGRAM COMPLETION.

RESOLUTION: R-23-3-101

REQUESTED BY: FULL COMMISSION

PREPARED BY: COMMISSIONER JAY

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS: _____ DIRECTOR OF LAW

APPROVED: _____ DATE _____

VETOED: _____ DATE _____

VETO OVERRIDE: _____ DATE _____

MINUTE BOOK _____ PAGE _____

WHEREAS, the Knox County Commission established a Junior Commissioner program in November 2022 to promote community engagement and civic education within Knox County students; and

WHEREAS, this unique leadership program actively involved Knox County youth in understanding their local government and has ultimately led to a more engaged and informed citizenry; and

WHEREAS, this annual youth civics program was provided to the public and open to junior or senior students enrolled full-time in a public, private or accredited home school program; and



Graduation Packet

Items presented to the Junior Commissioners at the Graduation Banquet included:

Congrats Letter (signed by all Commissioners), Class Photo, and Framed Certificate of Completion (signed by the Mayor & Commission Chair).



Knox County Commission



[first-last name]
[address]
Knoxville, TN [zip]

Dear [first name],

Congratulations on completing the 2023 Junior Commission program!

Your participation in the inaugural class of this important civics' leaders' program is a testament to the way for future students to learn more about the importance of the

Over the last three months, we've worked hard to introduce you to the importance of becoming a more informed citizen, further healthy citizenry has elected representatives serve the community.

We now challenge you to take what you've learned and help promote civic engagement, public service, and an informed and participatory

There's no doubt that you will become an impactful leader in our community. We hope you will take what you've learned during the Junior Commission program to help shape Knox County in a positive way.

Sincerely,

Courtney Durrett
Chair

Terry Hill
Vice Chair

Dr. Dasha Lundy

Gina Oster

Kyle Ward

John Schoonmaker

Rhonda Lee

Richie Beeler

Carson Dailey

Larsen Jay

Kim Frazier



Exit Survey

Junior Commissioners were sent a link to a digital “exit survey” in order to gather critical information on the program, their experience, and opportunities for improvement.

Completion of this exit survey was a condition of participating in the graduation banquet.



Junior Commission Exit Survey

Thank you for participating in the Junior Commission program. To continuously improve the experience of future Junior Commissioners, please complete the following questionnaire. By filing out this exit survey, you grant the Knox County Commission permission to share the survey results and your statements in future promotion of the Junior Commission program.

* Required

1. First Name *

Enter your answer

2. Last Name *

Enter your answer

3. Who was your Commissioner? *

☐ District 1 - Dasha Lundy

☐ District 2 - Courtney Durrett

☐ District 3 - Gina Oster

☐ District 4 - Kyle Ward

☐ District 5 - John Schoonmaker

☐ District 6 - Tary Hill

☐ District 7 - Rhonda Lee

☐ District 8 - Richie Beeler

☐ District 9 - Carson Dailey

☐ At Large Seat 10 - Larsen Jay

☐ At Large Seat 11 - Kim Frazier

4. How valuable an experience was Junior Commissioner to you? *

☐ Exceptionally Valuable

☐ Very Valuable

☐ Valuable

☐ Somewhat Valuable

☐ Not Valuable

5. Was the application process easy? *

☐ Yes, it was simple and easy to apply

☐ No, I found it difficult to apply

6. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

7. Would you have any specific questions to the application? *

8. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

9. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

10. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

Submit

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11. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

12. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

13. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

14. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

15. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

16. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

17. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

18. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

19. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

20. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

21. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

22. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

23. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

24. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

25. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

26. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

27. Would you recommend the Junior Commission program to a friend? Why or why not? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

28. Please provide any final comments here that you feel might help us improve the program for the next class of Junior Commissioners.

Enter your answer

29. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

30. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

31. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

32. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

33. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

☐ I feel great about being a Junior Commissioner

☐ I feel like I was a waste of time

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66. How do you feel about being a Junior Commissioner? *

Exit Survey Results



How valuable an experience was Junior Commissioner to you?

- 7/11 (64%) = Exceptionally Valuable
- 4/11 (36%) = Very Valuable



Did you find the requirements of the Junior Commission program to be reasonable?

- 6/11 (55%) = Yes, about right.
- 5/11 (45%) = No, I would have like to have more elements in the program.



How did you find the overall duration of the program?

- 7/11 (64%) = Too short, I wanted more!
- 3/11 (27%) = Just right, keep it the same.
- 1/11 (9%) = Too long, cut it back.



Exit Survey Results

- *“Through my time as a Junior Commissioner, I have become even more motivated to get involved with local government. Talking to your representatives is a lot more accessible than people might think, both for adults and for people my age.”*
- *“Going into the program, I knew very little about local government and even less about our commission. However, through the meetings, I learned crucial information about our county and the way our legislation works. In the future, I will definitely use what I learned to vote and maybe even run for an office.”*
- *“This experience was everything I wanted and more with my love for politics and debate. I would also like to thank every Commissioner for giving a voice to the people normally most affected by policies passed, usually without any say in the matter.”*



Exit Survey Results

- *"The Junior Commissioner program was an extremely valuable experience and helped me understand how local government impacts our everyday lives. I now realize the importance of local government on our community and realized how many of the issues in our community are solvable with the collaboration of constituents and lawmakers."*
- *"I see why it can sometimes take a long time for issues in the area to get fixed, and it helped me to see some of the unique qualities of the county."*
- *"I found the overall experience to be rather eye-opening to just how much thought and decision-making go into running a community. This was not only a great way to survey a career in politics, but also to gain a better understanding of how local government functions and why it is such an essential part of maintaining democracy for the people."*
- *"I am forever grateful to the Commissioners that showed me that the younger generations deserve a spot and a voice in the politics of this country."*



Exit Survey Results

“Through this program, I gained a greater understanding of why local government is so important.

Previously, I had primarily focused on national and state politics at a higher level. This program has made me more engaged in my community and broadened my perspectives by viewing how local legislation can impact the community in a way that is not available at higher level government.”



Exit Survey Results

After experiencing what it's like to be an elected official, do feel as if the many challenges/problems in your community seem more solvable?

- 9/11 (82%) = Yes, I believe we can find ways to help.
- 1/11 (9%) = No, the many problems seem even more daunting than ever.
- 1/11 (9%) = I have no idea.

Do you think your experience as a Junior Commissioner has encouraged you to get more involved in your community as a mentor, charitable supporter, or volunteer?

- 11/11 (100%) = Yes

How well did your experience enhance your understanding of local government?

- 6/11 (55%) = Very Much
- 5/11 (45%) = A Great Extent

Do you think your experience as a Junior Commissioner might help you decide to run for public office one day in the future?

- 4/11 (36%) = Yes, I can't wait to serve one day.
- 1/11 (9%) = No way, you guys are crazy!!
- 6/11 (55%) = Maybe, I'd consider it.



Graduation Banquet

Tuesday, March 28th @ Calhoun's on the River



Program Web Page

Program web page remains active in dormant state until Fall 2023.

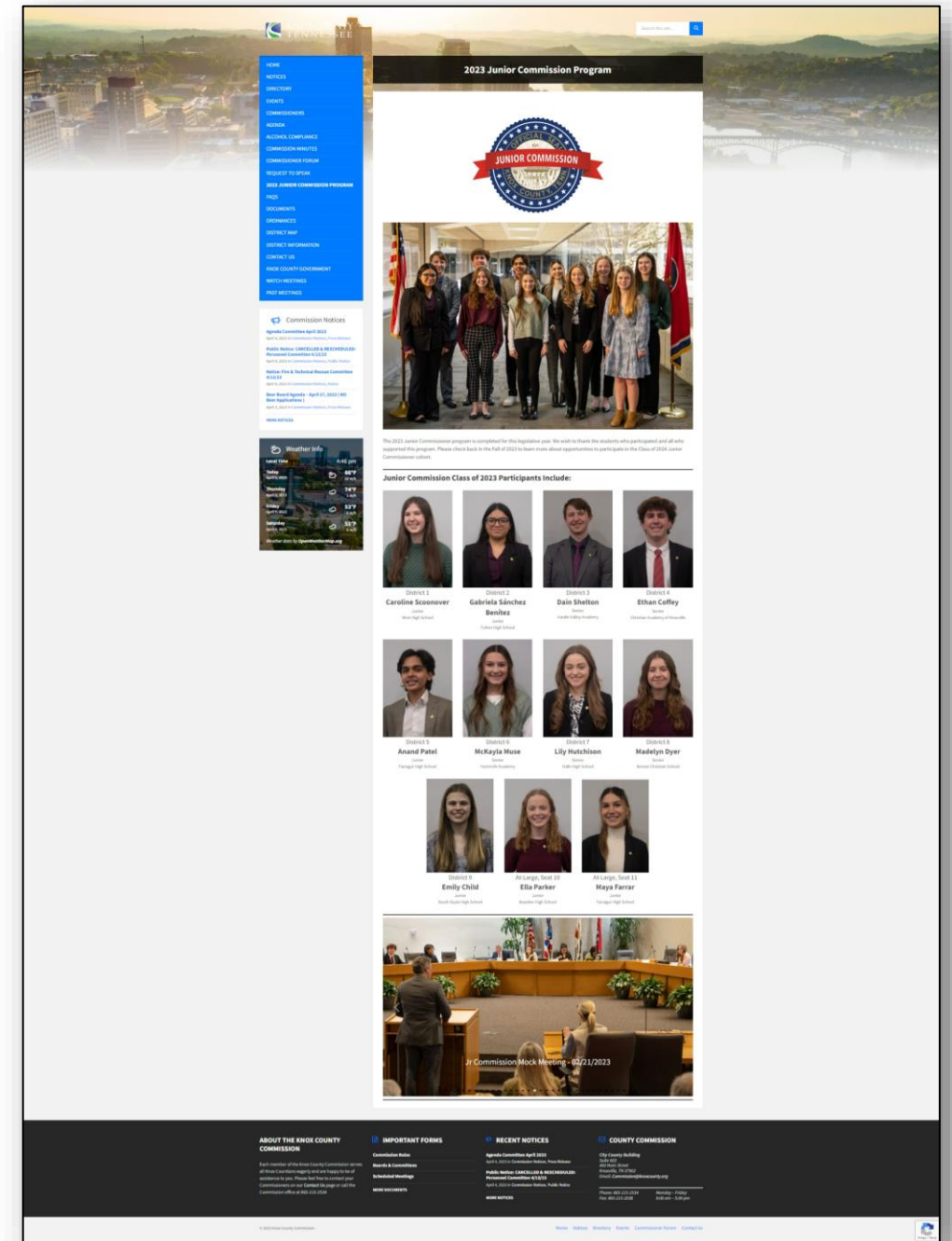
Will be revised as needed.

Found at: <https://commission.knoxcountyttn.gov>

Elements include:

- Class photo
- Quick message
- Headshots
- Photo gallery
- Media links

Once the 2024 program information is posted, an annual archive will also be included on the page to reference past programs.





JUNIOR COMMISSIONERS CLASS OF 2023



SEAT 10



Knox County At-Large

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