

# YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

2023  
2024

PRETEND CITY  
YLC  
INFORMATION

29 HUBBLE  
IRVINE, CA  
92618

*Lead.  
Inspire.  
Change.*

# INTRO TO THE YLC

***Purpose Statement:*** *The members of the Youth Leadership Council are ambassadors for Pretend City. The council consists of young people committed to furthering the mission of Pretend City Children’s Museum while positively impacting their communities through leadership, philanthropy, education, and awareness.*

## **“FROM PRETEND CITY TO THE REAL WORLD”**

Consistent with the educational philosophy of Pretend City Children’s Museum, the YLC provides an immersive experience for a multi-aged group of inspired youth to cultivate leadership skills through their direct participation on a youth board of directors.

## **In the YLC, you get the chance to...**

- Foster leadership skills through hands-on learning experiences
- Enhance skills appropriate for today’s workplace such as critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, leading by influence, entrepreneurialism, effective communication, and responsibility
- Mentor with community business leaders and museum staff
- Gain an understanding of the importance of philanthropy & how non-profits operate
- Organize and lead community events
- Attend a leadership retreat
- Engage in a unique leadership opportunity
- Socialize with peers from other schools in an inclusive environment
- Gain a competitive edge over your peers for the college admissions process

## WHAT IS PRETEND CITY?

### MISSION STATEMENT

Pretend City is a non-profit children's museum which builds better brains through fun, whole body learning experiences and empowers children and their grown-ups to meaningfully connect with and expand their world.

Since Pretend City opened in August 2009, it has become a valued resource for families in Southern California. Designed as a small, interconnected city with a grocery store, farm, doctor's office, art studio, amphitheater, beach, and marina, it is a place to explore, learn, play, and be creative in a familiar environment. We have welcomed over 1.4 million visitors! We also host special events such as therapeutic play nights for children with Autism and Family Wellness Fairs, which provide free developmental, health, and dental screenings. Through our Pretend City Children's Museum Scholarship Program, children in underserved schools receive free admission to the museum and educational programming through special field trips.

### WE BELIEVE...

- Young children learn best through their play
- Families are our children's first and most important teachers
- In supporting healthy childhood development
- In nurturing a passion for learning through play
- Diversity enriches children's lives
- In connecting families to each other and the community
- **PLAY CHANGES THE WORLD!**



**Pretend City**<sup>®</sup>  
CHILDREN'S MUSEUM





# STRUCTURE AND FORMAT

## MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Youth Leadership Council:

- Are students of excellent character
- Stand apart from the crowd in their actions and attitude
- Go beyond the minimum effort and grade requirements in school
- Exhibit positive leadership influence amongst peers
- Are creative and innovative thinkers
- And are FUN!

## REQUIREMENTS

- Be going into grades 7-12 in the Fall of 2023
- Have at least a 3.0 GPA (unweighted)

## YLC MEETINGS

YLC meetings are held on **Mondays** at Pretend City Children's Museum. Additionally, please plan to be available in August for our annual YLC retreat. This is a local, daytime event.



## APPLICATION TIMELINE

**FEBURARY 1<sup>ST</sup> 2023 - YLC APPLICATION OPENS**

**MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>- YLC APPLICATION DEADLINE**

**MARCH - APRIL - APPLICANT REVIEW**

**APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> NEW MEMBERS NOTIFIED**

(In person interviews may be requested)

**AUGUST TBD - YLC RETREAT (1ST YLC MEETING WITH ALL MEMBERS)**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COME AND VISIT  
THE MUSEUM PRIOR TO SUBMITTING AN  
APPLICATION, PLEASE SCHEDULE AT OUR  
WITH THE YLC COORDINATOR**

Jessica.forstall@pretendcity.org  
949.428.3900 Ext. 213

*Both weekday and weekend appointments are  
available.*

# REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

## **Document 1: Letter of Recommendation**

Please obtain one letter of recommendation. It can be from a teacher, coach, advisor, supervisor, etc. (that are not related to you).

## **Document 2: Resume**

Please send current resume with your current GPA (include work and volunteer experience).

## **Document 3: Video**

Please record a short (short less than 5 minute) video showcasing your skills and what you have to offer to the YLC.

**For any additional questions, please email  
[Jessica.forstall@pretendcity.org](mailto:Jessica.forstall@pretendcity.org)**

# APPLY TODAY!



**@PretendCity**