

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD – Residency Requirement

Authority: City Code, Chapter 3, Sections 3-46 and 3-47

Members: 19 and 2 Alternates

Duties: This Board advises the City, through the City Manager on the development of public recreational and youth activities and programs in the city, plans and implements a Student Government Day, and reviews ordinances or proposals pertaining to youth activities as directed by the City Council.

Liaison: Chris Hallett / Neighborhood and Human Services

Vacant
Graduating May 2024
Reappointment

CURRENT MEMBERS

Name	District	Alt?	School Attending	Graduation	Appointed	Reappt'd	Expiration
Adamsha, Sarah	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2027	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Black, Allie	Willow	No	Liberty High School	5/2025	4/25/2023		6/30/2024
DeStefano, Karin	Mesquite	No	Glendale Preparatory Academy	5/2025	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Dyer, Mikah	Ironwood	No	Sunset Heights	5/2024	5/4/2021	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Fisher, Harmony	Acacia	No	Centennial High School	5/2024	5/3/2022		6/30/2024
Harris, Kellen	Mesquite	No	West Wing Elementary	5/2028	11/15/2023		6/30/2026
Holly, Felicia	Pine	No	Peoria Elementary School	5/2027	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Houg, Jacob	Ironwood	No	Sunrise Mountain High School	5/2026	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Lowry, Liam	Willow	No	Brophy College Prep	5/2024	4/25/2023		6/30/2024
Patel, Aneesa	Mesquite	No	Liberty High School	5/2025	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Powell, Kimber	Willow	No	Zuni Hills Elementary	5/2025	5/4/2021	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Ravindran, Riya	Willow	No	Mountain Ridge High School	5/2025	5/3/2022	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Rosales, Audrina	Pine	Yes	Paseo Verde Elementary	5/2026	8/23/2022		6/30/2024
Sehgal, Aditya	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2024	4/25/2023		6/30/2024
Shrivastava, Ana	Mesquite	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2026	5/4/2021	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Solano, Olivia	Pine	No	Peoria Elementary School	5/2028	4/25/2023		6/30/2025
Stanca, Samuel	Ironwood	Yes	Glendale Preparatory Academy	5/2025	4/25/2023		6/30/2024
Tewari, Manya	Ironwood	No	Great Heart Academies	5/2027	5/3/2022		6/30/2024
Vanteri, Ronit	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2026	5/3/2022		6/30/2024
Vemana, Akshathram	Willow	No	BASIS Peoria	5/2026	5/4/2021	4/25/2023	6/30/2025
Whetstine, Alliyz	Pine	No	Glendale Preparatory Academy	5/2024	5/3/2022		6/30/2024

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD – PENDING APPLICANTS

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
12/06/2023	Andersen, Layla	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2028 / Vistancia Elementary / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in the Youth Advisory Board because I want to take action in my local government. I hope to gain a better understanding of government and how young people can play a role in the development of schools, cities, and communities alike.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: I am a representative in both the National Junior Honors Society and the student council. While in high school, I hope to continue student council and National Honors Society while also joining Volunteering clubs and Unified sports clubs to better connect with my community.</p> <p>Qualities: I am responsible, organized, and hard-working. I work great with others and I love to speak to people about what I am most passionate about.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement does not mean sitting in a social studies classroom learning about government and doing worksheets, though this can be helpful, civic engagement is the ability to take the information you are learning in class and apply it to real-life skills. One example of this is helping the community plant flowers. You would not only be volunteering to help make your community a better place, but you are doing something about that problem. Civic engagement can even convince someone to be interested in being a part of their local government and joining programs like YAB.</p>
9/26/2023 Interviewed 3/26/2024	Atkinson, Patrick	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2029 / Vistancia Elementary / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: There are many reasons why I would like to be considered for a position on the Youth Advisory Board. I am trying to do everything I can to set myself up for success in the future. Even though I am only in 7th grade, I believe now is the time for me to start working hard and building my resume. I believe that serving on the Youth Advisory Board will help me gain many valuable experiences for my personal growth and development. One thing I would like to develop is my leadership skills. Serving on the board would provide me opportunities to develop my leadership and teamwork skills. I can get experience with collaborating with my peers, practice my communications skills, and hopefully take on leadership roles within the group. I would also like to develop my problem solving skills. Being on the board will expose me to real-world issues and then I will have the chance to brainstorm solutions and make recommendations. I think this will help me develop good critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Another reason why I would like to be on the Youth Advisory Board is because it would be a good way to serve my community. I was born and raised in the City of Peoria and so was my mom! Being a member of the board would allow me to actively contribute to my community and learn about how my local government works. It would also allow me the opportunity to give input on important issues impacting the youth in our city. Learning how to be an advocate for things that are important to me will help me become a good leader and servant to the youth in our city that I would represent.</p> <p>Extracurricular: For the last 3 years, I have been on a youth tackle football team through the NYS league. I play for the Jr. Liberty Lions. The last 2 season I was chosen to be our team captain by my coaches and teammates. I was picked for this position because my coaches said I have a hard work ethic, I am responsible, and I am a positive influence on my peers. Another thing I am passionate about is serving at my church CCV. I have served in the pre-school and kindergarten classrooms for a few years. My role in serving is to help read the bible story and verse of the week and to help the children do their craft and games. As soon as football season is over, I plan on serving in the 5th and 6th grades where I hope to lead the worship time on stage. At my school Vistancia Elementary, I was just selected to be in the National Junior Honor Society as well as the student council. I am very excited to be a part of both of these organizations. They both will involve working with my peers to collaborate and understand different perspectives so we can achieve common goals. I think that being captain of my football team, serving at my church, and being part of NJHS and student council all provide me with leadership experience that is applicable to being a member of the Youth Advisory Board.</p> <p>Qualities: I am a hard worker and I am very committed and responsible. I have never missed a football practice and have received attendance awards every year in school since kindergarten. If selected for the Youth Advisory Board, I will be at every meeting and event, both on time and ready to serve. I am also kind and compassionate. I believe in treating others with respect and</p>

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<p>9/26/2023</p> <p>Continued from previous page</p>	<p>Atkinson, Patrick</p>	<p>Mesquite</p>	<p>will always stand up for people that are being bullied or picked on. I have a good work ethic, I have empathy for others, and I always strive to put others needs above my own. One thing that has helped me develop these skills is my special needs brother Ali. My family adopted him from Tajikistan 7 years ago. Although he is older than me, he mentally is only about 2 years old. He has cerebral palsy and epilepsy. I help my parents care for him every day and it is a lot of work, but I am always happy to help my brother and parents. I help with feeding Ali, changing his diapers, giving him baths, getting him in and out of his wheelchair, and making sure he is always comfortable. When he has seizures, I help time them on my phone and then help by sitting with him and giving him comfort once his seizure is over. If selected for the Youth Advisory Board, I would like to give my insights on how we can include kids with special needs at youth events and activities. I believe all of these skills will make me a valuable addition to the Youth Advisory Board.</p> <p>Meaning of civic engagement: Civic engagement to me means being an active participant in my community. Volunteering my time, attending community meetings and events, learning how my local government works, and advocating for causes that are important to me are all ways that I can show civic engagement. Being a member of the Youth Advisory Board would allow me to do all of these things.</p>
<p>5/21/2023</p>	<p>Bhat, Chinmay</p>	<p>Willow</p>	<p>Graduation: 2026 / BASIS Peoria / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in the Youth Advisory Board for three reasons: advocating for the youth, adding an unbiased opinion from a member who hasn't reached voting age, and learning and giving awareness about specific issues in our current political system. Starting off, I am a person who has strong opinions in many political conflicts. But, I believe that I can keep those opinions to the side while acting as a delegate or a representative who is supposed to represent my age group rather than using my political opinion to change anything and I think I will be able to gain this skill from the Youth Advisory Board of ignoring my opinion and using the youth's majority opinion whenever speaking for something. In addition, my dream career is being the president of the United States, so by being part of the Youth Advisory Board, I believe that I can learn many things about our current political system. the biases and problems in our system. and how they should be fixed, so if I am able to achieve my dream career, I can fix based off of my observations from the Youth Advisory Board. I also believe that I can make people of my age aware of politics because, in my school, AP U.S. Government and Politics is a mandatory course that every freshman has to take, but there are several schools out there that don't know what politics is, and what the executive branch is, etc. So, I believe that I can keep my age group aware of political issues, and political opinions, and engage teenagers to be a part of politics as soon as possible.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I have participated in two significant clubs related to the Youth Advisory Board: Youth Policy Assembly and the National Junior Honor Society. The Youth Advisory Board is a very politics-based club that discusses, processes, and debates very controversial political issues such as lowering the voting age to 16 and decriminalizing drugs because of medical benefits. We also perform projects for our community and we do projects that help analyze what the politics of the U.S. is doing and how it relates to the changes that the youth want in the political system. In simple terms, this club was made as a different version of the Youth Advisory Board by one of the members of the Youth Advisory Board, Avi. In terms of activities, we have called congressmen all throughout the state and asked about their opinions about certain issues and how much they would be willing to change their policies based on what the youth want. In addition, we also asked a poll asking all high schoolers in our school about their political affiliation, and their stance on high heating political debates, so that we could analyze the statistics. I was also a part of the National Junior Honor Society, where we helped serve our community by volunteering, so I believe that the skill of being able to talk with people and volunteer without any problems would really help me if I was part of the Youth Advisory Board.</p> <p>Qualities: As a member of the Youth Advisory Board, I would bring in qualities such as knowledge and information where I could bring in results of polls that my school has agreed upon. There can be several different opinions and biases in the polls, but getting an average idea of what the current youth wants would really help with analyzing what the next steps are to implement these opinions in the actual political system. I would being an unbiased opinion at all times because regardless of what my opinion is on a specific issue, I always want to make sure that I represent</p>

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<p>1/2/2023</p> <p>Continued from previous page</p>	<p>Bhat, Chinmay</p>	<p>Willow</p>	<p>the opinions of the majority, because representing the majority might not be my opinion, and, as an individual, I would prefer to follow the delegate model of representation rather than a politico or trustee model of representation. I would also like to bring in data-driven decision-making where I could research and find out the results or outcomes of certain decisions taken in the past, and make sure that if a decision is being taken, it is important to find past success on it to completely make sure that proper decisions are taken, by using proven political data. Civic Engagement: I would like to start off with the dictionary definition of civic engagement before I talk about my definition of civic engagement. Civic engagement is the active participation of individuals in their communities and society at large. My definition of civic engagement is slightly different because I believe that proper civic engagement is the active participation of ALL individuals in their communities. First off, a decision that is taken is a result of the popular vote of everyone. This decision will affect everyone. My main strategy for working as a youth advisory board will be to make sure every single person votes and participates in their community and society. I believe that if there was to be a 60% participation rate and the decision was 49/51 on a specific issue, the data would be inaccurate, so make sure that there is not 99%. but 100% participation would be what proper civic engagement would be. Now, getting 10000/10000 people to vote would be ridiculously hard, and that is why I think as a group of the Youth Advisory Board, we, in the future, would have the ability to convince every single person to vote in their community so that no one is complaining about not getting equal representation in participating in their politics. Another part of civic engagement is raising awareness. Civic engagement doesn't only talk about politics, but it refers to all major issues in our society. It can be about our environment, our health, or our politics. But, advocating for those issues is a significant form of civic engagement. Many people aren't educated about the pros and cons of various different issues, so educating and inspiring others to take a side and join and share knowledge, is an enormous part of civic engagement.</p>
<p>8/20/2023</p>	<p>Bulrich, Komrey</p>	<p>Willow</p>	<p>Graduation Date: 2028 / Hillcrest Middle School / Affiliation: No Interest: I hope to gain a better understanding of how government works and how as a teen I can play a roll and help others my age to better have a voice. I feel like as youth we are often overlooked and often adults don't hear or want to hear what we think. To have a platform where we can be understood and have our opinions heard would be truly a life changing opportunity. Extracurricular: I have been a Girl Scout since I was in kindergarten and this has given me the opportunity to do a tremendous amount of community service and be involved in a wide variety of projects. I have completed both my bronze and silver award through scouting with major sustainability projects focused on cancer patients and our elderly and Alzheimer's community. Besides scouting I am involved with my school's drama club, play clarinet within the band, as well as active with my church and a faith based athletic group within my school. I have earned the National Presidential Service Awards for volunteering for the last four years based on my volunteer hours and I am on track for earning again this year based on volunteer hours this past summer from City of Peoria Junior Lifeguard Program. In additional to my school and community activities I play competitive basketball through my church, I feel that though this I am in touch with so many active teens involved in sports, school activities as well as community clubs and organizations, Qualities: I am organized and put my full effort into everything that I do. I have a passion for helping others. I know that being a liaison to other teens in my school and community would allow not only my ideas but others around me to impact change. I feel like I have a ability to hear what others around me feel are important and can hopefully bring this to advocate for those who otherwise would not have a voice. Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement allows individuals and communities to impact change to those around them. I hope that in a role like this I can take those voices near me an impact positive change by hearing and applying those opinions around me. As an Youth Advisory Member I can learn from others to make a positive impact in both political and public avenues to make a positive impact on my community.</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
5/17/2023	Cardona-Tait, Lailah	Mesquite	<p>Graduation Date: 2029 / Westwing Elementary School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in this because I want to serve the city of peoria and I hope to gain experience on how to do things and I want to put my hard work into show and use all my dedication to help the city of peoria. I would take helping and protecting the city of peoria very seriously. I want to bring my ideas and experiences to the table and to the city of peoria and I hope the ideas I bring will come to life and still help out the city of peoria.</p> <p>Extracurricular/Civic Activities: I will be running for student council this coming year at my school at west wing. I am always out in my community conversing with neighbors and friends.</p> <p>Qualities: Change and Impact - Im passionate about specific causes and policies; Fresh Perspective - I bring a fresh perspective to city council discussions. My unique experiences, concerns, and ideas can challenge thinking, inject new energy into decision-making processes; I am passionate about making a difference, representing my generation, and shaping the future of my community, it can be a rewarding and impactful journey.</p> <p>Civic Engagement Meaning: Civic engagement empowers me to be able to raise my voice and advocate for causes I believe in. It can involve attending rallies, organizing protests, or starting campaigns to promote positive change and address social, environmental, or political issues that are important to me and my generation.</p>
3/22/2024	Blake, Carter	Ironwood	<p>Graduation: 2025 / Glendale Prep Academy / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interests: I am interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board because I think it will be a great opportunity for me to grow as a leader and help make the City of Peoria a better place for the community.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: Refereeing, Student Mentoring at Glendale Preparatory Academy, Student Government Leader at Glendale Preparatory Academy, Serving at CCV Peoria, Student Leadership Team at CCV Peoria, Team Captain on Varsity Soccer Team at Glendale Preparatory Academy, Varsity Baseball Player at Glendale Preparatory Academy, Registered CCV Soccer Coach, FC Barcelona Youth Soccer Camp Instructor.</p> <p>Qualities: Based on my experience as a leader in the above areas listed, the qualities I exhibit would be Humility, Integrity, Honesty, Faith-based beliefs, Athletes Perspective, and Responsibility to the community. All of these qualities are essential to providing a strong perspective on the Youth Advisory Board.</p> <p>Meaning of civic engagement: Civic Engagement is me being willing to participate in a discussion with people my age. I believe it is also me speaking on behalf of Glendale Preparatory Academy and the faith-based community I belong to to influence decisions made by the City of Peoria.</p>
3/22/2024	Caspers, Madison	Other	<p>Graduation Date: 2025 / Glendale Prep Academy / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interests: I would like to stand up for my beliefs in the hopes of being a voice that can speak out on city affairs. I also want to become more involved in our city.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: I am a leader on our Fellowship of Christian Athletes team at G.P.</p> <p>Qualities: I show leadership, and I can speak my mind articulately. I also think thoroughly about things, and I care very much about what i believe is right and good.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement is the idea of working toward achieving the best for your community. I think it's important to care about and be involved in public affairs. The character of our city matters to me, so I want to be a voice that speaks out for what I believe to be true in the hopes of bettering our community.</p>
3/19/2023	Chishom, Karma	Willow	<p>Graduation Date: 2027 / Frontier Elementary / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I want to be able to volunteer and help the community in the best way possible</p> <p>Extracurriculars: FJHS(NJHS), Morning Announcements</p> <p>Qualities: I would bring my time and help with fundraising and or community service</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement to me is helping one's community whether that be by doing something as small as picking up trash or helping raise money for a cause to help people or nature</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
<p>7/20/2023</p> <p>Interviewed 3/26/2024</p>	<p>Choi, Roah</p>	<p>Ironwood</p>	<p>Graduation Date: 2027 / Sandra Day O'Connor / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board to work with others in bettering the community. I am also interested in being able to learn about working together with a team. While serving on the Youth Advisory Board, I hope to gain good knowledge on how to problem solve, work as a team, and how to help those with problems. After researching on the work that the Youth Advisory Board, I am very interested in the goals the Board has set. Specifically, visiting youth groups, schools, and community leaders to advocate for the youth aligns with my personal goals. Extracurricular: 1st Degree Black Belt in Taekwondo; Feed My Starving Children Volunteer; BCC Korean School Teacher Assistant Volunteer (2022-2023); BCC Youth Worship Team Drummer (2022-2023); Awards: Korean Spirit & Culture Promotion Project 16th Essay Contest in USA Winner (2nd Place 2023); Hobbies: Weightlifting, reading dystopian novels, sketching, playing drums, outdoor activities, arm wrestling, community service; Other interests: ecommerce, finance, education policies Qualities: Some qualities I would bring as a Youth Advisory Board member are perseverance to constantly strive to accomplish issues within the community. I also have the passion and drive to ensure that no job is done half-heartedly. I can also properly communicate my thoughts to my peers and superiors, and more importantly, listen attentively when others are speaking and expressing their thoughts. My connections with youth within my school and church can also aid to further improve quality of life for teens in the city.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement means working as a group to help improve life for others without expecting anything in return. I believe that when helping out the community, taking initiative to ensure that an issue is solved thoroughly and properly is incredibly important. Civic engagement personally seems like a way for me to give back to the community.</p>
<p>8/2/2023</p>	<p>Desai, Forum</p>	<p>Ironwood</p>	<p>Graduation: 2025 / Mountain Ridge High School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board because I simply want to give back to the community that filled my youth with the exhilarating activities whether it was the 4th of July at Peoria Sports Complex, activities at Rio Vista recreational area, and so much more. Being the first daughter to parents who were new to Arizona, the city of Peoria gave so many events and activities for all ages to get to know the city and make it feel like home. I want to do the same for our community. I hope to gain experience on collaborating with the other peers on the youth board and come up with new ideas for the city to enjoy.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: I have volunteered at Sunrise Mountain Library for the past two summers. This experience first of all was the greatest feeling because that library was almost like home to me since I have been going since I could remember and now I am helping out at that very same place. Additionally it allowed me to gain a realistic experience in working or volunteering for the city. I also have volunteered at Honor Health Hospital, Basis Peoria as a tutor for kids during summer school, and a nursing home. My hobbies consist of music and volleyball. I have been playing the flute since 5th grade and have been enjoying it since. I actually became interested in volleyball because my mom signed me up for a summer camp through the Peoria sports for volleyball. I am also in various clubs at my high school like HOSA, NHS, DECA, UNICEF, and She's the First. Qualities: Qualities I would bring as a Youth Advisory board member would be having creativity, collaborative, ambitious, and eagerness. Creativity and being collaborative can be used with other board members when it comes to making up new ideas or working on new events. Ambitiousness and eagerness can be used to always making sure I put my best effort in anything I do and always hoping for the best outcome.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement to me means interacting and hearing the community's needs. There is no city without our community so it is important to make sure they are heard and we try our best to fit their needs. Additionally it means meeting all types of people and really getting to know them whether that be through fun activities for the kids or game nights with teens. Also it means helping out the environment like doing cleaning days for parks, advocating for earth day throughout the city and just taking care of the city.</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
<p>3/29/2023</p> <p>Interviewed 3/26/2024</p>	<p>Farley, Oliver</p>	<p>Mesquite</p>	<p>Graduation: 2026 / Brophy College Prep / Affiliation: No Interest: I am passionate about making a difference in my community and being a voice for my generation. That's why I am interested in joining a city youth advisory board. Being a part of a youth advisory board would allow me to collaborate with other like-minded individuals and share our perspectives on important issues affecting our community. I believe that young people have unique insights and ideas that can contribute to positive change in our city. Additionally, being part of a youth advisory board would provide me with an opportunity to gain valuable leadership and teamwork skills. By working alongside other young people, we could learn to work together towards a common goal, develop problem-solving skills, and build confidence in our ability to create change. Finally, being part of a city youth advisory board would allow me to make a tangible impact in my community. Through providing feedback to city officials, advocating for policies and initiatives that benefit young people, and organizing events that promote community engagement, we could contribute to making our city a better place for everyone. Overall, I believe that joining a city youth advisory board would be a meaningful and rewarding experience that would allow me to grow as a leader and make a positive impact in my community. Extracurricular/Civic Activities: Cross Country and Track and Field, Rocketry Club and Aerospace Club at Brophy College Prep; Active member of St Thomas More. Next year will serve on the Loyola Project at Brophy College Prep, mentor middle school students. Volunteer with the Creighton Foundation, building Gardens. Participated in many community projects while at Brophy, working for Food for the Hungry and St. Vincent De Paul food pantry, serving food to the unhoused. Playing video games, running, and legos and this summer going into Aerospace flight classes. Qualities: I would bring several qualities to the Youth Advisory Board. I believe that I am a good leader and have experience organizing community service projects and athletic events. I am also a creative person who enjoys coming up with new ideas and solutions. Furthermore, I am a good communicator and listener, which means that I can effectively share my ideas with others and understand their perspectives. I am also a team player and believe in working collaboratively with others to achieve common goals. Most importantly, I am committed to community service and making a positive impact in my community. As a member of the Youth Advisory Board, I would work hard and do my best to contribute to the team's success. Civic Engagement Meaning: I'm a 9th grade student at Brophy College Prep who has taken the oath of Men serving others, I love to make a difference in my community and speak up for my generation. If I join a youth advisory board in my city, I can do just that. Being part of this board means I can work together with other young people who care about the same things as me. We can share our ideas on important issues that affect our community. I believe that as young people, we have different perspectives and ideas that can help make our city a better place. Not only can I share my ideas, but I can also develop skills in leadership and teamwork. By working together, we can learn how to solve problems and build confidence in ourselves. Overall, joining a city youth advisory board would be an awesome experience. I can learn how to be a better leader, work with others, and make a positive impact in my community.</p>
<p>2/7/2024</p>	<p>Fontanez, Adaya</p>	<p>Pine</p>	<p>Graduation: 2027 / Peoria High School / Affiliation: No Interest: I'm interested because i want to help out our community and help out and I hope to gain the experience I need to get into politics and government in the world Extracurricular: Newspaper, DECA, Helping out at food donations Qualities: I would bring teamwork, a passion to bring change, and strong communication skills Meaning of civic engagement: Civic engagement means working to make an important change in the lives of people in the community</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
12/10/2023	Joshi, Ishanvi	Palo Verde	<p>Graduation: 2026 / BASIS Peoria / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Affiliation: I don't know any employees working at the City of Peoria, but I do know a member of YAB, her name is Ana Shrivastava.</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in this program because I want to know how the Peoria Council works. I hope to gain experience how the Peoria Council works and get to know some of the council members.</p> <p>Extracurricular: SVO-Student volunteer organization where we volunteer at different such as desert tables to farms, or St. Mary donations food drive, we also decorated lunch bags with motivation quotes for the needy, FHILA-Future leaders of America, TA-teacher's assistance for Spanish teacher at my school, applying for west mec veterinary science program, part of animal equality nonprofit organization helping animals live a better and cruel free live, passed my civics exam, I have taken the AP Government and Politics exam, I love dogs, I love to be creative, I have auditioned for the speech and debate team at my school, I am part of the peer mentoring program at my school, role: mentor, I am part of NSHSS-National Society of High School Scholars, I also got an invitation to attend the NSLC-National Studnet Leadership Conference this coming summer.</p> <p>Qualities: Qualities I would bring to the Youth Advisory Board: I have passed my civics exam giving me more credibility to join this great program, I have taken AP Government and Politics exam providing with the all the knowledge I would need to understand how the US government and politics work, I am passionate about the things that I love to do, specifically animals, equality. I try to volunteer as much as I can and give back to my community. Moreover, my artistic abilities allow me to be creative, enabling me to come with way to unique ideas and solutions to different problems in our community, as well as come up ways to improve my community.</p> <p>Meaning of civic engagement: In my eyes, to be civically engaged is to be actively involved in the betterment of the community. In my mission of providing everyone with an equal and fair environment, I try to be civically engaged by participating in extracurriculars that better my community, engaging in the issues such as the extreme animal abuse happening all around us. I have been actively working to improve this issue by trying to spread awareness of how animal abuse happens when no veterinary care is provided to severely injured or dying animals, or about the unethical practices used when slaughtering animals. In order to able to be civically engaged, one must be aware of the problems and state of their community. With my creativity and artistic way of finding unique solutions to many problems, not only can I be civically engaged, but I can also enable my community to be engaged with the issues that are happening around us, allowing for everybody as a community to better society.</p>
4/28/2023	Kaza, Aswini	Willow	<p>Graduation: 2027 / BASIS Peoria / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in getting more experience in this field, by becoming a board member I hope to gain more leadership skills as well as new opportunities to expand my knowledge of what it's like being a board member and also a part of a committee</p> <p>Extracurricular: Deans Team (volunteering and giving back to the school community), National Art Honor Society(We sometimes make cards and give them out to hospices or hospitals to add some brightness to their day)</p> <p>Qualities: Qualities I would bring as a youth advisory board member are being punctual, interest in service, as well as passion, and excellent organizational skills.</p> <p>Meaning of civic engagement: To me, civic engagement means being involved in the community and working towards refining and fixing its problems. Civic engagement also is to be volunteering and helping in the community as well as outside of the community.</p>
01/31/2024	Kight, Roston	Palo Verde	<p>Graduation: 2028 / Skyview / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in joining YAB because I would like to get to know like minded youth and be a part of the community.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: I am currently in my school's choir, and I really like it. I would like to add more hobbies and interests.</p> <p>Qualities: I am a person who has good ideas, who is smart, and can be a positive influence on others. I want to help and learn new skills I can use in the real world.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: To me it means engaging in the community and being helpful, impactful, and enthusiastic.</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
1/07/2022	Kote, Vivekanand	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2027 / Arizona Virtual Academy / Affiliation: No Interest: Help my community Extracurricular: Development of park, recreation, and development activities Qualities: Being kind and helping each other Civic Engagement: Being part of the community and create activities which will help my community grow.</p>
2/25/2024	Kumari, Anisha	Willow	<p>Graduation: 2029 / BASIS Peoria / Affiliation: No Interest: The reason I want to be a member of the Youth Advisory Board is because I want to gain an opportunity to learn the value of collaboration, leadership, and working with other fellow members to support this organization. I want to have a positive impact on the community and let young people express their opinions and their values. Extracurriculars: For extracurricular activities, my interest comes to academic clubs such as STEM fields, language clubs, debate teams, or academic competitions. These activities help me engage and learn better knowledge in the leadership role. Furthermore, I would also like to start a small business, organize fundraising events, or developing entrepreneurial initiatives within my community. Qualities: One of the qualities I would bring to Youth advisory board so that it can help make a positive impact on my community is creativity. This ability would help innovative ideas, propose solutions, and take provident steps to address issues affecting young people and find a solution. Through every problem, I will maintain resilience and navigate the challenges while valuing other's opinion. I am willing to show commitment through my work and open for feedback, and willing to adapt and grow personally and professionally through my Youth Advisory Board experience. Meaning of Civic Engagement: In my opinion, civic engagement means to be a responsible member in the community or society, typically with the goal of promoting the public good by contributing to the common welfare and influencing decisions that helps improve the growth in a community. To ensure a good community, many wide ranged activities are held for where each individual would collaborate and share their ideas and develop new interests.</p>
2/29/2024	Mark, Riley	Acacia	<p>Graduation: 2029 / Sun Valley Elementary / Affiliation: No Affiliation: I am a niece to the president of the Peoria Unified School District board Interest: I am interested in joining because i love to volunteer for community events and would love to help others. I hope to gain a lot of experience working with others Extracurricular: I am in AVID as well as apart of my Student Council, and i am always open to more extracurricular classes/activities. Qualities: I am a responsible, disciplined person who is willing to step up to any task needed. I will always to try to participate in any activity. Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement means to me, helping others around you simply because there is a problem or to just tend to concerns.</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
3/14/2024	Manuel, Felicia	Willow	<p>Graduation: 2027 / Mountain Ridge High School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: While serving for the Youth Advisory Board, I would like to gain newfound skills and voice my opinion in ways I've never done before. Clearly, this opportunity is a great one and I would love to gain this unique experience that teaches the youth how their voice matters in our community. Voicing my thoughts and ideas is something I'm extremely passionate about to support my community. Also, I hope that the peers that listen to me will be respectful and supportive, and I hope to gain long-lasting bonds with my fellow board members. Moving forward, I want to be able to take part in the ways of the government step by step and to say some things about our law that I think are controversial at ease. When saying these things, I know that not everyone on the board will agree with me and that's okay. Overall, I hope to gain leadership skills, long-lasting friendships, improve my communication skills, voice my opinions confidently and clearly and have healthy debates.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: Some extracurricular activities and hobbies I think that will be extremely beneficial to my role as a board member on the Youth Advisory Board are DECA, Toastmasters International and taking part in many plays/musicals at school. The gist of DECA is to teach kids how to communicate their ideas properly in the workforce, and mostly in the business area. Business can be very contradictory and controversial, so DECA shows that not everyone will love your ideas at first and tailoring can always be done no matter what. Toastmasters International is a public speaking club, where members learn how to speak and face their fears in front of an audience that wants to learn the same thing as you. In this club, I participated in debates, speeches and impromptu speaking. Lastly, my interest in plays/musicals taught me to be fearless in front of an audience and gave me a boost of confidence. Being a freshman right now, I haven't got any lead roles, but in the eighth grade I was Fiona in the Shrek Musical and my confidence took a massive leap. Also, serving my community is crucial for me, such as altar-serving at my church, giving and packaging food to the homeless, setting up assemblies in my old elementary in Canada. And teaching kids vocal warmups. Therefore, I feel all these interests and extracurricular activities will help me during my time on the Youth Advisory Board.</p> <p>Qualities: Some qualities I bring to the table as a Youth Advisory Board member are leadership, innovation, dedication, drive, care and confidence. I strive to be a leader wherever I go, whether it be at home, school or my community. At home I'm an older sister, so my role as a leader at home surely cannot be non-existent. Next, innovation is another trait I bring because everyday new ideas are popping into my head and I want to share them with the world and for good causes, like the Youth Advisory Board. Dedication to me, means to be committed to something and never find excuses. Of course, this role is a big one, so I'll have to be committed to my fellow board members, board meetings and my personal definition of civic engagement. During my time as a Youth Advisory Board member I will show care to my community with thoughtful and creative ideas. I believe drive and confidence will be present whenever I speak to my fellow board members and hope I can gain more likeable qualities throughout my experience. Presenting my ideas with confidence is something I will do effectively and learn how to be even more confident with myself and my ideas.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement is when any individual in our community can speak their ideas/concerns freely knowing that they will not be judged negatively for their ideas. Collaboration is also a big part of civic engagement because not just 5 members on a council can make a change, or just one singular mayor alone with their ideas. We need the minds of many people, with different perspectives and outlooks on public concerns of our community. Evidently, too many perspectives can be confusing, but that's why on the Youth Advisory Board, we can have healthy debates and determine the importance of all ideas and come to a mutual agreement. There are countless problems within our community that so many people have so many ideas about. And this is why we have councils, people and boards like the Youth Advisory Board to express our ideas and not speak for others, but let others speak for themselves. Everyone has some sort of negative opinion on our community that's personal to them and they should be able to say their thoughts with ease. Justice and advocacy is also a big part of civic engagement because individuals should be able to support their own religion, race and cultural groups. Overall, I believe that every individual has the freedom of speech and should be able to use it in a way that will benefit their own community. If we take the time to listen, we realize that everyone has a voice and this magnificent brain filled with the greatest ideas. Everyone is worthy of justice and change, and I would love to be part of the journey the Youth Advisory Board will take me on to achieve these goals of mine.</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
8/23/2023	Mohanty, Naitik	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2026 / Sandra Day O'Connor / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am deeply interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board to contribute my perspectives and ideas towards initiatives that positively impact young individuals. Through this experience, I hope to gain valuable insights into community engagement, leadership development, and the creation of meaningful opportunities for youth. I'm excited to collaborate with like-minded peers, learn from their diverse experiences, and collectively work towards driving positive change for our generation.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I am the founder of multiple non profits: "The HydroClean Foundation" and "Arizona Science Association ". I am also the treasurer of a non profit: "ENPO (Environmental Non-profit Organization)". In school I have founded a National Technical Honor Society chapter and I am currently serving as president as well as founding the Red Cross Club (we organize volunteering opportunities in the name of the Red Cross) ; I am currently also serving as president for this club. I also have a huge interest in policy making (I was in the Model UN club at school; previously winning multiple awards). I am generally up to date with current day events and societal flows.</p> <p>Qualities: As a potential Youth Advisory Board member, I would bring a combination of passion, creativity, and dedication to the table. My ability to think critically and offer innovative solutions would enable me to contribute fresh perspectives to the board's discussions. With strong communication skills, I would facilitate effective collaboration and ensure that diverse voices are heard and valued. Additionally, my enthusiasm for community engagement and commitment to making a difference would motivate me to actively participate in projects and initiatives aimed at empowering and supporting young individuals.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement, to me, means the active participation of individuals in shaping the social, political, and cultural landscape of their community as a whole. It goes beyond simply being a member of a community; it involves taking responsibility for the collective well-being, growth, and progress of that community. Civic engagement encompasses activities such as voting in elections, advocating for social issues, volunteering for local initiatives, attending public meetings, and collaborating with fellow community members to effect positive change. It reflects a sense of duty, a desire to contribute, and a belief in the power of collective action to create a more just, inclusive, and vibrant society for everyone.</p>
3/9/2024	Mohapatra, Shreyanshi	Willow	<p>Graduation Date: 2029 / BASIS Peoria / Affiliation: Yes, a close family friend of mine is currently serving as a Youth Advisory Board member.</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board because as a student it is important to me that other students in the Peoria community are receiving the resources regarding their concerns for the living quality of our society. I am a strong advocate for the youth and it is vital for youth to comprehend the potential they hold to make change through local government. As a member of the Board, I would like for students to be civically engaged in order for them to become more educated on youth involvement in local government and how the City of Peoria functions. Additionally, I am quite familiar with the resources our city provides, yet I would like to be more closely affiliated with Peoria to be able to serve as a direct barrier between my peers at school and a youth representative. What I hope to gain while serving on the Youth Advisory Board are the skills to be able to serve as a collaborative leader in the Peoria community. Addressing the concerns of the youth requires not only my passion, but the input of youth who care deeply about these issues as I do. I understand serving as a member of the Youth Advisory Board will allow me the opportunity to build on my collaboration skills as I would work with other youth. To serve as a leader in my community, I need to understand the perspective of all my team members through collaboration and strong work ethic.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I am a member of National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) in my middle school. Members engage in community service opportunities such as volunteering at an animal shelter and hosting a book drive for a charity. The purpose of NJHS is to elevate a students ability to serve as a leader in their school and to build character as a youth citizen through service and outreach. I have heavily improved on these aspects of NJHS since I joined in November of 2023 particularly in leadership. This is because in order to participate in service opportunities it is vital that members initiate their own projects. Additionally, my family and I are members of Odia Association of Arizona and growing up I collaborated with several other members of this association to assist in preparing for events. Having said this, I worked with other kids my age which really allowed me to understand their strong suits and my own in order to equally divide our work.</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
<p>3/9/2024</p> <p>Continued From Previous Page</p>	<p>Mohapatra, Shreyanshi</p>	<p>Willow</p>	<p>Qualities: The first quality I would bring to the Youth Advisory Board is my dedication and commitment to my work. I have very strong work ethic and I do not take my duties as a student and a youth citizen lightly. Having said this, to me being a youth citizen means taking a initiative to improve the quality of life for the youth in our community. Additionally, I am very open-minded and willing to implement the opinions of my peers into my own ideas. Open-mindedness is a vital quality when working among a group of people since despite having contradicting beliefs, a team is expected to collaborate well with one another. Lastly, I understand when I need to step up as a leader in certain situations. I care deeply about the adversity we face as youth and I would like the opportunity to be able to share my voice with the community in order to address these issues.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic Engagement holds a significant meaning in my personal and academic life. To me it encompasses the active participation of individuals in their communities with the aim of fostering positive social change and improving the overall well-being of a society. It goes beyond simply voting in elections; it involves volunteering advocacy, community organizing to address pressing issues, and promote social justice. I, myself am an aspiring youth advocate for racism and I would like to be more civically involved in issues involving racism to present myself as a stronger advocate. Moreover, I have experienced first-hand racism as well as seen my fellow peers deal with it, and being able to serve as a youth representative for the city will allow me to be more vocal with my concerns and ideas to address these issues. Civic Engagement is a multifaceted concept that requires active participation, collaboration, a focus on public issues, and embracing diversity. By embodying these principles in our daily lives we can contribute to building a more just and equitable society for all and ensuring that all voices are heard and valued in any kind of decision-making process. Civic Engagement matters to me personally because as a seventh grader I see many of my peers struggle with mental health due to numerous causes such as burn out from school, racism, bullying, and body-image issues. RESUME ON FILE</p>
<p>5/10/2023</p> <p>Interviewed 3/26/2024</p>	<p>Navghare, Anay</p>	<p>Willow</p>	<p>Graduation: 2027 / BASIS Peoria / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: Understand local issues of citizens as life learning experience; Bringing incremental value addition in the lives of Peoria Citizens; Building a strong collaboration with local non profits and enable them to achieve YAB's mission; YAB experience will be able to help gain Civic engagement experience, life learning lessons of citizens from different walks of life.</p> <p>Extracurricular/Civic Activities: Currently serving as a member of National Art Honor Society (NAHS) and involved in various volunteering activities; Led a group of volunteers in Peoria in 2022 for food donation drive and collected 500lbs and donated it to Navajo Nation; Involved in an exhibition hosted at Glendale Community College (GCC) on Indian culture; Actively participated in various food packaging drives in Peoria such as for "Feed My Starving Children"; Participated in cultural exhibition on India which was attended by Phoenix City Civic officials; Led public Yoga / Sun Salutation events for last two years in Peoria / Phoenix; Passionate about drawing and painting, sensitive about environmental cause.</p> <p>Qualities: Strong previous experience working with various organizations and effective collaboration; Translating an advice into action based on earlier experiences; Asking right questions to expand particular thought process; Researching ability of any particular subject and have a meaningful dialogue with the team; Ability to network with new people; Strong communication skills.</p> <p>Civic Engagement Meaning: Help enhancing the standard of living of the community through various initiatives; Bring awareness of important issues like global warming, pollution etc. among citizens; Understanding aspirations, problems of local citizens; Provide an insightful information to Mayor's office to help formulate productive policies. Be empathetic towards citizens.</p>
<p>4/2/2024</p>	<p>Navghare, Anika</p>	<p>Willow</p>	<p>Graduation Date: 2027 / Mountain Ridge High School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: Understand local issues of citizens as life learning experience; Bringing incremental value addition in the lives of Peoria Citizens; Building a strong collaboration with local non profits and enable them to achieve YAB's mission; YAB experience will be able to help gain Civic engagement experience, life learning lessons of citizens from different walks of life</p> <p>Extracurriculars: Currently serving as a member of Youth Advisory Council, Maricopa Community on Public Health Issues; Took part in invocation ceremony for Peoria Mayor's council meeting and received appreciation from the Mayor; Led a group of volunteers in Peoria in 2023 for food donation drive and collected 500lbs and donated it to Navajo Nation; Received Congressional</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
<p>4/2/2024</p> <p>Continued from previous page</p>	<p>Navghare, Anika</p>	<p>Willow</p>	<p>recognition from Debbie Lesko and David Schweikert for food donation drive; Served as a member of National Art Honor; Society (NAHS) and involved in various volunteering activities; Participated in fund raising programs such as food stalls, volleyball tournaments etc; Involved in an exhibition hosted at Glendale Community College (GCC) on Indian culture; Actively participated in various food packaging drives in Peoria such as for "Feed My Starving Children"; Participated in cultural exhibition on India which was attended by Phoenix City Civic officials; Led public Yoga / Sun Salutation events for last two years in Peoria / Phoenix; Pursuing Indian form of classical dancing. Adept at Piano and Flute.</p> <p>Qualities: Strong previous experience working with various organizations and effective collaboration; Translating an advice into action based on earlier experiences; Asking right questions to expand particular thought process; Researching ability of any particular subject and have a meaningful dialogue with the team; Ability to network with new people; Strong communication skills</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Help enhancing the standard of living of the community through various initiatives; Bring awareness of important issues like global warming, pollution etc among citizens; Understanding aspirations, problems of local citizens; Provide an insightful information to Mayor's office to help formulate productive policies; Be empathetic towards citizens</p>
<p>2/26/2024</p> <p>Interviewed 3/26/2024</p>	<p>Ortiz, Mariano</p>	<p>Palo Verde</p>	<p>Graduation: 2028 / Peoria Elementary / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I have a lot of experience with STUCO and after school activities about leadership but mostly Student Council. Some of my perks are helping others out when needed, being a leader to others, and I'm also a great friend to have. I love helping people out in situations where they don't know what to do and also am a helping hand. Sometimes I'm the one who needs helping and isn't really afraid to admit it. I know some people are and to be honest, it's hard. Why I'm interested in this is because I am fully into helping others and experiencing new things in life, This can help me with my people skills and my communication skills. I'm not that well with communicating with others I don't know so I tend to just stick around but hopefully I can develop those by learning what its like to be on this board.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I haven't been in any outside groups of school yet, though of my experience in Student Council, I have been in for about 2 years and have learned a lot from it. I help set up in school events, for example on Dec. 18, 2023, I helped out with a PTO dance night before celebrating the holidays and most of the time, before these, I always like to help out with Zuri's Circle Feed the Community event, this year we always help out clean the campus, repaint the flooring by the main entrance office. Its always a pleasure to do so even if it means waking up super early in the morning. every two weeks on Friday, we have our Student Council meeting where we go over important things in our agenda like our current budget, P-cards, and many others, sometimes I don't know how to explain those but over time I get more sense and how to explain it so that everyone can understand what is happening.</p> <p>Qualities: Some qualities I would bring to this Board is my helping skills, though I'm not so good nor bad with my communication skills, I hope to learn as much as possible and possibly improve those. To learn from many people, I listen and communicate with others to get a good and proper understanding of what's going on so that I can learn as much as I need to. Helping others is what I like to do even if and though it can be a very tedious thing to do but it always helps to get through it. I try to develop my self made skills to learn to be a better person. I can be of very good use to others and I always like to help out around the classroom or to just become a student tutor if anyone were to ever need it. I love to help others in a way that they can understand so that they can get better in the topic that I am helping them in and with.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: What civic engagement means to me is that I get changes to help out with my communities and school. I help set up school functions to help out others who are in need. Every year, my school helps set up "Red Ribbon Week" to help out and fight against drug and alcohol use, in terms of voting, the only time we can actually vote on something are our trivia questions we receive every Wednesday. We get a random question every week, the answers can consist of maybe 5-9 answers and the first class or person to get it right, earns a bag of candy which is Starburst. The next day on Thursday, the answer will be revealed. Its a great time for some friendly competition among the whole school and just a time for some fun. We help set up our garden that we plant and take care of any time of the week that we're available to help out with it.</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
01/12/2023 Interviewed 4/12/2022	Ranjan, Mehul	Willow	<p>Graduation: 2025 / Basis Peoria / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I hope to learn more on the city of Peoria and it's problems, so we can fix or help them. I also wish that I can spread knowledge on various topics in the city of Peoria.</p> <p>Extracurricular Activities: Speech and debate is a terrific activity for the youth advisory board as it engages young and mature minds in to providing knowledge on current topics and increases critical thinking.</p> <p>Qualities: I am a very caring person and I do my best to provide helpful things to people. This could be very beneficial to the board because of its way of provide knowledge on topics in the city of Peoria.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: I believe civil engagement is one if not the most beneficial thing a community could ask for. For instance what I believe civil engagement means to me is that it can affect the community in a political and non-political way.</p>
4/1/2024	Reddy, Aashrith	Willow	<p>Graduation Date: 2027 / Mountain Ridge High School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interests: I've learned about the opportunity recently, and I thought it would be an excellent opportunity. I really appreciate everything my community does for me and all the resources available to its residents as well. I thought it would be a nice way to give back as I'm not doing much currently. Additionally, I also think it would be enlightening to experience serving my community on a high scale. I'll be provided with an opportunity to serve and to learn which I truly believe is exciting.</p> <p>Extracurriculars: National Junior Honor Society member in middle school; Planning to apply for National Honor Society in High school; Applied for the PVSA Gold Volunteering award; Volunteering at Honor Health over the summer; Member of the friends of phoenix public library organization; Hobbies include playing sports (tennis, soccer, basketball), and volunteering; International DECA member; FBLA member; Leadership, ability to take initiative, driven, and able to solve problems with ease; Volunteer in free time; Volunteered for many cultural events across the valley</p> <p>Qualities: I would bring efficiency and display work ethic. I believe in accountability, and being a member of this board would mean that I am in a way accountable for a part of the well being of many citizens of Peoria. It is imperative that I demonstrate responsibility and take the accountability for my actions and to never be neglectful. These are traits that I exhibit on a daily basis, wherever I may be. Also, as a member I must work to find solutions to problems as well as advocate for them to be resolved. The faster a solution is found the faster it can be implemented and we can move on to bettering the city by tackling other challenges. This means efficiency is of utmost importance, and I am an efficient person who doesn't like wasting time. I always try to find the best solutions to different challenges while also keeping track of time as well.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: For me civic engagement is a duty of every resident. I believe that since everyone benefits of off the community, that they should dedicate at least some of their time to help maintain and better it. That is why I would like to serve on the Youth Advisory Board. I know that I am capable of doing much more for my community and its residents, and working with other like minded individuals to collectively benefit the lives of many sounds truly amazing.</p>
2/27/2024 Interviewed 3/26/2024	Rush, Hayden	Ironwood	<p>Graduation: 2029 / Glendale Prep / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I hope to learn about the city of Peoria and work alongside city, and state officials. I have always loved being involved in communities and being an example for future generations and our city, state, and nation.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I am in DeMolay International, A Masonic Youth Fraternity providing young men, like me, with future skills such as leadership. I am currently in the electoral race for a position within Demolay (If you have an interest, I am in Chapter 03005, Glendale Lodge.). I also enjoy Online Military Simulations, I love to lead people and gain leadership skills and knowledge about our armed forces at the same time. I also am a Roblox Developer, I think I am pretty good at it and I love to meet new people doing it. I play Baseball, and I go to the gym a lot, Which could say that I have devotion. I also take part in Civil War Reenactments to reenact history for others to see. I reenact with the 6th Texas Infantry Regiment, Co D. Apart from the Arizona Civil War Council, I am the Flag Barrier for this unit and have received the rank of Sgt.</p> <p>Qualities: As a Youth Advisory Board Member, I would bring several key qualities to the table. Such as the communication skills I have learned from Demolay, School, And My Online Military Simulations. If I win my election in DeMolay, My Chapter Leader said I will be placed on the Communications Board because of my great communication. I have taken the Skill of Leadership</p>

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
Continued from previous page Interviewed 3/26/2024	Rush, Hayden	Ironwood	from DeMolay as well, I have also learned these qualities in my Online Military Simulations, (which I will begin to call Milsim from here.). I also have first-hand experience with problems such as Cyberbullying, Bullying, Veteran Mental Health, and Elderly Mental Health. Meaning of Civic Engagement: To me, Civic Engagement means taking place in things such as rallies, interaction with the community, helping others in times of need, and Integrity. I believe that these are the key pillars of Civic Engagement. Some events that I believe are relevant to civil engagement include but are not exclusive to Serving at Non-Profits such as Feed My Starving Children, Or even taking care or giving gifts at Senior Living Communities.
1/21/2022 Interviewed 3/26/2024	Sekar, Aditi	Willow	Graduation Date: 2026 / Basis Peoria / Affiliation: No Interest: I am interested in participating in the Youth Advisory Board because I want to assist with the growth and development of our community. I would like to participate in community activities, local events, and campaigns. I am eager to make an impact, and I see this as the perfect opportunity to contribute to the community. I am intrigued to be advising and counseling Peoria youth activities and events. I hope to gain leadership skills while serving on the Youth Advisory Board. I also hope to obtain communication skills whilst communicating with other organizations, leaders, and members of the Board. Extracurricular/Civic/Community Activities: also enjoy watching history documentaries. I have read interesting short stories pertaining to the U.S government. Qualities: I am passionate, hardworking, and collaborative. I am passionate about making an impact on the future of our community. I want to take the initiative to improve the well-being of youths. I am hardworking, in that I will be dedicated and determined to work hard as a member of the Youth Advisory Board. I am also collaborative. When working as a team, I believe collaboration is a vital skill. Team members must work together and be respectful to one another since we are all working towards a common goal. Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement means addressing issues and engaging in order to solve and mediate it. I want to take the initiative to create a better and healthier society. I would also like to discuss major issues the youth of our community are facing and help remove or dissolve the issue.
3/16/2024	Schuetz, Olivia	Palo Verde	Graduation Date: 2026 / Centennial High School / Affiliation: No Interest: I am interested in getting more real-life experience and engaging more in the community. I want to be able to meet new people and learn about their experiences. I hope to better my communication skills and become more involved than I've ever been. Extracurriculars: Centennial Peer Counseling: helped other high school students balance their school, work, and social lives; Centennial Newspaper: write articles on topics of interest, mostly that concern teens that read them like autism awareness, the struggles within honors/ap classes, etc. Interests: neurodivergence advocacy. although I don't have a consistent outlet for this, as a member of the neurodivergent myself, I want to be able to help people who can't advocate for themselves someday.;writing. it is certainly one of my biggest strengths and my biggest interest. I would love to get something published one day. Qualities: I'm outgoing and available at the drop of a pin. Although public speaking is not one of my strengths, I am getting better constantly and am willing to do it as much as I can. For what I am lacking in that area, I excel in empathy, planning, and organization. I can easily put myself in other people's shoes and can vaguely understand what people can go through. I love organization and making sure that everything is in line perfectly. Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement isn't just participating in your community, but it is caring about the community and the people living within it. It is doing as much as you can to help your community, whether it be volunteering, tutoring, or picking up some trash off the street. It's not doing because you have to, but because you want to.
10/08/2023	Sharma, Arnav	Mesquite	Graduation: 2029 / Lake Pleasant Elementary School / Affiliation: No Interest: To Gain Experience, take strategic decisions, to serve the community and do well for myself as I grow. Extracurricular: Represented Lake Pleasant School at Odyssey of mind Competition at Michigan in May'2023; Volunteering in NJHS activities; Playing multiple sports that includes, Soccer, badminton and Tennis Qualities: Be focused, Grit, Attention to details, work as a team, Collaboration and others Meaning of Civic Engagement: Not answered

Application Date	Name	District	Graduation Date & Qualification Summary
2/10/2023 Interviewed 3/26/2024	Singamaneni, Sreesai Dhriti	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2027 / Glendale Prep Academy / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am joining the Youth Advisory Board of Peoria because I want to converse with other members of the city of Peoria, who have a goal to make the youth better for the next generation and hear different insights on how we can help make a difference.</p> <p>Extracurricular/Civic/Community Activities: I was part of a community service group, and we cleaned up my communities park. I also participated in the forces of nature club taking place in my school. We would voluntarily clean public places by picking up trash, recycling water bottles, and etc. I also volunteer in the library when I could. I tend to be very giving as well. When I eat outside with my family, we tend to give our takeout to homeless people.</p> <p>Qualities: I have very good leadership and coaching abilities. Instead of just telling someone the answer, I coach them through it and help them every step of the way. I also have great communication skills, I can make meaningful conversation in just mere minutes, and am able to talk with anyone openly and not feel shy.</p> <p>Civic Engagement Meaning: Civic engagement is helping the community in multiple ways. You don't only have to participate in volunteering, you can start a gardening club and help the environment, you can start a lemonade stand and donate your prophet to a food bank or hospital. If you take a part in public participation you are basically doing civic engagement.</p>
3/27/2024	Singh, Naureen	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2027 / Mountain Ridge High School / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in serving on the Youth Advisory Board as I feel that it is important for the youth to contribute equally in community building, finding solutions to the common community problems and positively influencing the lives of others. I hope by being part of the Youth Advisory Board, I will gain valuable experience in the policy making process and enhance my skills in collaboration, leadership, decision-making and communication.</p> <p>Extracurricular: During the past few years, I have contributed to the below community services:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Member of school's Dean team: During 8th grade, I served as a member on the Dean's team, that consisted of 15 members. The objective of this team was to discuss and try to find potential solutions to the problems faced by the students, like setting up a school library. We organized events like the middle school dance and a tea party with snacks to raise funds for our school. Due to the work done by Dean's team and its impact on the school, it was eventually converted into a Youth Council. 2. Peer Tutoring: During 7th grade, I peer-tutored for both Math and English subjects at my school, once a week through out the year. As part of this, I helped my peers to understand certain subject topics and prepare for their upcoming tests by creating some practice tests for them. 3. Teaching Assistant: During 8th grade, I also assisted the 7th grade Math teacher for 6 months in helping her students during office hours (student support). This included reviewing the study guide with them, helping them prepare for tests, and testing them on specific subject topics they were struggling with. 4. Summer School: During 2023 summer break, I spent 66 hours helping younger students at my school complete their summer packets along with preparing practice tests and answer keys for them to review, so that they are well prepared to retake their tests. I helped them in multiple subjects including Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Math and English. <p>Qualities: The three major qualities I would bring as Youth Advisory Board member are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flexibility: I feel comfortable and can work very well in both a team setting, as well as in individual capacity. This helps me change according to the required circumstances. 2. Empathy: I strongly believe that being empathetic is a very important trait for being in public service. Since everyone has a different story and past, it is not fair to judge anyone based on that. Being empathetic helps solve conflicts and makes one considerate towards others. 3. Dedication: Once I makeup my mind towards anything I am completely dedicate to it. For instance, I have been playing flute as a part of my school band since 5th grade and I have plans to continue it through out my high school. <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: Civic engagement means getting involved with public relations to help build a stronger and progressive community. It involves many things, such as collaborating to find solutions to common problems, regularly communicating to keep the community members informed about public affairs, and providing common services.</p>

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12/18/2023	Stokes, Ashlynn	Mesquite	<p>Graduation: 2028 / Vistancia Elementary / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in the Youth Advisory Board because I can put it on my college resume and I want to make a difference in our community and help out around it. Extracurricular: None</p> <p>Qualities: I am hardworking, fun, creative, and am good at talking to people.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: It means helping out in your community knowing you wont get anything out of it.</p>
5/23/2023	Terrones, Randy	Ironwood	<p>Graduation: 2028 / Coyote Hills Elementary / Affiliation: No</p> <p>Interest: Learning more about what it takes to run our city and strengthen my leadership skills.</p> <p>Extracurricular/Civic Activities: Student Council Treasurer and NJHS</p> <p>Qualities: Team player, Hardworking, Leader</p> <p>Civic Engagement Meaning: Helping others and strengthen my community</p>
02/23/2023 Interviewed 10/11/2023	Tipton, Titus	Pine	<p>Graduation: 2025 / Sunrise Mountain High School</p> <p>Affiliations: Not currently. However, I am in the process of applying for a lifeguard position with Peoria Aquatics.</p> <p>Interest: I am highly interested in the opportunity to develop my leadership skills in a manner that is constructive for my fellow peers and our community. Specifically, I hope to greatly expand my access to volunteer opportunities around the City of Peoria and expand those opportunities to others. I also want to increase community participation and unity specifically in my local neighborhoods while supporting the growth of the entire community as a whole.</p> <p>Extracurricular: I frequently volunteer with veteran service organizations, mainly Operation Enduring Gratitude. I was a Civil Air Patrol Cadet for two years, and I am currently transferring to the Naval Sea Cadets. I publicly speak often, and have given speeches at two events held by the City of Peoria: The Peoria Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee Heroes Flag Walk in May of 2021 and 2022.</p> <p>Qualities: Confidence under pressure or with challenging tasks. Leadership. Problem solving. Outgoingness.</p> <p>Meaning of Civic Engagement: To me, civic engagement means reaching out to everyone in our community, and specifically those in the most need of our assistance. Civic engagement is finding the people who need help and won't ask for it, and offer it to them in a personal and considerate manner.</p>
5/7/2022	Vanteri, Rohan	Willow	<p>Graduation: 2025 / BASIS Peoria</p> <p>Interest: I am interested in joining the Youth Advisory board so I can make an impact on the youth of Peoria. I know problems that people my age face since I am experiencing them as well first hand, and by joining the youth advisory board, I can help future children who will also deal with these problems. While serving on the Youth Advisory Board, I hope to improve my leadership skills, and become a more active member in our community by helping the youth.</p> <p>Extracurricular/Civic Activities: I am currently a member of my school's newspaper club Basis Bugle. At this club, I was able to write articles that appeal to a broad audience, which strengthened my ability to communicate with others. I was also part of the GYM program (Greatness for Youth's Minds) where I learned how to improve my actions, habits, and my daily lifestyle. As hobbies, I enjoy trying new things and I also am proficient in coding in the Java language, and can code in python to a certain extent as well. I also took a summer course on app development using the platform Xcode, which taught me how to develop some basic apps and helped improve my coding abilities.</p> <p>Qualities: As a Youth Advisory Board member, I would suggest new ways to improve the community and would listen, while giving feedback, to ideas other people have to ensure that everything the board does impacts the community in a positive way. I also work very well with others, and can communicate very well. Other than collaboration and suggesting new ideas, I am also a friendly person who likes to talk with others.</p> <p>Civic Engagement Meaning: To me, civic engagement means that I should help a lot of people and leave a significant impact on them for years to come. By helping more people and leaving the impact, I am helping the community where I grew up, and making an positive impact that can stay for years to come.</p>