

**Youth Programs Sponsored by the
League of Women Voters**

In addition to Students Inside Albany, local Leagues organize numerous other youth leadership and civic engagement programs, such as Take Me to Vote, Student Parent Mock Elections, Kids Voting USA, Running and Winning, and the Working Group on Girls.

For more information on how to participate in the *Students Inside Albany* conference, or any of our other programs listed above, please contact the League of Women Voters of New York State at 518-465-4162 or e-mail: lwny@lwny.org **or** contact your local League representative listed below.

**Frequently Asked Questions
About Students Inside Albany**

How do you choose the students that will attend SIA? Since each student is a representative of a local League and their community, the local League sets the criteria for sending a student. Each student may be asked to write about the conference for their sponsoring local League's bulletin and may also be asked to be a special guest at one of their meetings.

Is there any cost to the student? No, LWNVSEF, along with our cosponsors, pays for the entire conference, which includes lodging, meals and snacks. The local League that sponsors the student, is responsible for arranging and paying for transportation to and from the conference.

How much time will I miss from school? The conference starts on a Sunday afternoon and ends on Wednesday afternoon. So, the student will miss two, possibly three days of school.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
League of Women Voters of
Broome and Tioga Counties**

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**League of Women Voters of
New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.**

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. (LWNVSEF) is strictly nonpartisan, and works primarily on projects that enlighten the electorate, i.e., *empower through education*, without advocating for any particular cause or policy, party or candidate. LWNVSEF is committed to increasing citizen knowledge of and participation in their government. The LWNVSEF believes that the basis of a strong democracy is an enlightened, educated citizenry.



**League of Women Voters of
New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.**
**The Blake
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**Students Inside Albany
Conference**



May 19-22, 2024



Sponsored by the

**League of Women Voters
of New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.**

What is Students Inside Albany?

Students Inside Albany (SIA) is a conference sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. The program is designed to increase students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.

This interactive conference will bring together high school students from across the state to learn about New York State government and the process by which citizens can participate in the policy making arena.



What are the learning objectives of Students Inside Albany?

- To increase student understanding of public policy in New York State.
- To enhance student understanding of the roles of the various forces seeking to impact New York State legislation and policy development, enactment and change.
- To promote an increased understanding of the New York State legislative process through legislative shadowing experience.



What SIA graduates had to say about the conference:

"Everyone should be able to experience and learn about the behind-the-scenes process of their government."

-2019 Participant

*"It's an immersive experience that you will not be able to find in any other program. It is a great source of empowerment for anybody that would like to drive change"-*2023 Participant

"This program made state government very tangible to me and forced me to leave my comfort zone to make new friends. I will keep these skills with me for my whole life."-2023 Participant

"It was a fun, engaging opportunity that I have loved! I was able to get an experience that unfortunately many students don't get."

-2023 Participant

"If you are interested in government, you won't get the connections & experiences anywhere else but SIA."

-2017 Participant

"It's one of the best things I've ever done. So interesting, so informative."

-2019 Participant

"Made me more passionate about politics and gave me confidence to get more involved."

-2018 Participant

"It's life changing in the sense that you learn to listen and understand the opinions of others from all over even if they're conflicting to your own."

-2018 Participant

PAST CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday

Registration
Welcome
Overview of Program
How Does NYS Government Work?

Monday

Tips for Being a Successful Citizen Lobbyist
Lobby Role-Playing with Legislators
Tour of the NYS Capitol
Students Shadow NYS Assemblymember
Media Perspectives on Public Policy Issues
Bowling and Social Activity

Tuesday

Political Activism: How Citizens Can Make a Difference
Tour and Introduction to NYS Court of Appeals
Students Shadow NYS Senator
Running for Office Panel Discussion
Social Activity

Wednesday

Recognition Breakfast
Voter Registration Basics
Conference Adjourned

