



California YMCA Youth & Government  
2018–2019 Annual Report



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**“The supreme quality of leadership is integrity.”**

**-Dwight D. Eisenhower**



## CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT OVERVIEW

Each year, California YMCA Youth & Government brings 4,000 middle and high school students together to learn and act on issues affecting their communities, state, and nation. They develop critical thinking, public speaking and leadership skills that will prepare them for college and beyond. California YMCA Youth & Government provides a platform for these young people to find their voice and to use it to advocate for positive change in matters that touch their lives and those around them.

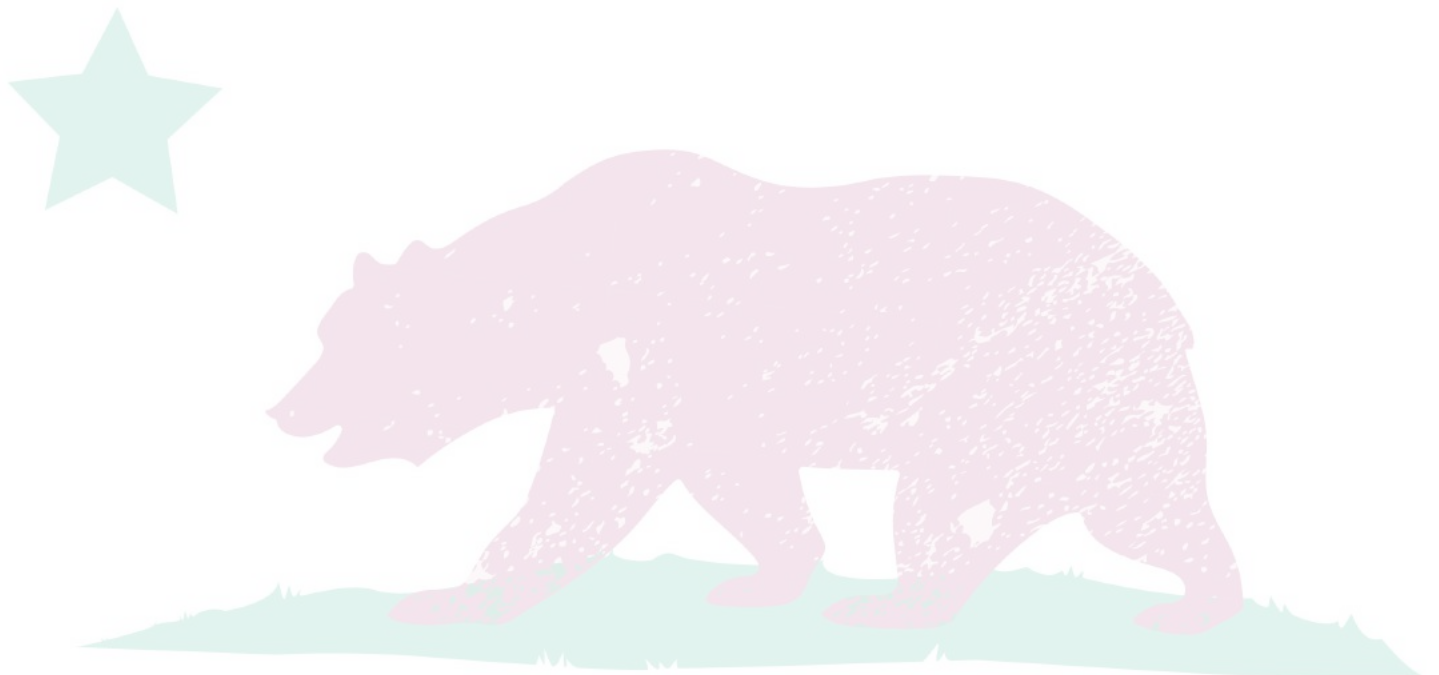
For 72 years California YMCA Youth and Government has provided programs that have affected the lives of more than 100,000 youth. These youth have become both corporate and civic leaders and understand the knowledge gained through our programming assists in building a stronger future.

## HISTORY

In the 1930's, Clement "Pete" Duran, a YMCA Director from New York, sought to create a meaningful experience for young people that might inspire them to become concerned citizens and active participants in government. He struck upon the idea of a "model" legislature that would provide hands-on learning. With encouragement from the National YMCA, the program spread rapidly to nearby states.

California YMCA Youth & Government received immediate encouragement from then Governor, Earl Warren. From that point forward, California YMCA Youth & Government has received the full support of every California Governor.

In 2001, California YMCA Youth & Government was chartered as an independent YMCA organization responsible for statewide education and civic engagement programs for middle and high school students. Youth & Government programming not only continues to provide outstanding experiences through specialized programs, but also offers the opportunity for youth to find their voice and encourages them to become involved in making a difference in their communities and beyond.



Dear Friends and Stakeholders,

This year marked the 71st year for California YMCA Youth & Government as well as the completion of my fifth year as President/CEO. It has and continues to be an honor to have the opportunity to lead the charge of delivering the premier civic engagement and leadership development programs for thousands of youth throughout the state. To date, our programs have impacted the lives of over 100,000 youth participants. This milestone could never have been reached without both our dedicated volunteers who collectively contribute thousands of hours each year to ensure the success of each of our programs and the efforts of my amazing staff. The programs we provide reflect our cause-driven focus on youth development and social responsibility by providing our delegates with the skills to find their voice and create positive change in our communities.

The following is a recap of some of the accomplishments the organization has achieved over the past five years.

- ★ **Program Growth** | Over the past five years, we have seen the number of our high school program participation increase by 15 percent and our middle school participants by 23 percent. This growth occurred in new service areas, expanding the reach of our programs throughout the state.
- ★ **Board of Directors** | The last five years have brought both growth and development to our Board of Directors. A new strategic plan was implemented, establishing new working committees as a modified pipeline to bring on new members.
- ★ **Implementation of Extensive Risk Management Plan** | With the assistance of our talented lead Volunteer Staff member, Missy Brunetta (Director of Emergency Services at Sonoma State University), our Risk Management Plan is the most comprehensive among all of Youth & Government organizations across the nation. This plan will remain fluid, so that it can be updated and or modified to meet location and societal changes.
- ★ **Organizational Brand Refresh** | It is important to ensure our brand and image are consistent and easily recognizable. A complete refresh of our marking materials, training materials, social media presence and website have all been completed. This allows our Y partners, school partners, parents and stakeholders the opportunity to easily recognize our programs when promoted in and outside of our YMCA's.
- ★ **New Home for our Model Legislature & Court Training Conferences** | After losing access to Camp Roberts, we searched for a location that would be centrally located. The city of Fresno welcomed us with open arms. Each November and January we take over the entire city for our two training conferences.
- ★ **Financial Aid** | Over the past five years, we have been able to increase financial aid distribution to delegates by more than 72%, from \$80,000 to nearly \$300,000 annually! On average, approximately 1,200 delegates per year (across all of our programs) are provided financial assistance.
- ★ **Database** | Our database has grown from under 5,000 to more than 60,000 contacts. This is a wonderful way for us to remain in contact with our alumni!
- ★ **Diversified Funding** | To ensure we have giving opportunities to fit all needs, we have diversified ways to give and increased our external revenue generation by more than 30%.
- ★ **Friend/Fundraisers** | The launch of our annual #GivingTuesday and Youth Governor Inaugural Ball efforts now generate awareness and much needed funds to provide additional scholarships for our youth participants.
- ★ **Future Leaders Campaign** | We implemented an online giving tool to aid in the giving process for our largest annual fundraiser. This tool has assisted with the ease of giving, and greatly improved our collection efforts.
- ★ **Core Staff** | In order to meet the ever changing landscape of our programs, the Youth & Government Core Staff Team and their positions have been modified to meet the needs of the organization and our programs. Key skills have been added to the staff to better serve our Y partners, schools and delegates.

As we embark on the program year for the 72nd Model Legislature & Court and the 19th Model United Nations, we are focused on several initiatives to strengthen our program and ensure broad and diverse participation:

- ★ **Program Expansion** | We are excited to announce the launch of our new California Youth Advocacy Days program in Spring 2020. California Youth Advocacy Days is designed to educate and empower high school participants interested in advocating for important issues facing their peers and communities. Through youth created legislation, participating advocates will represent over 3,300 students and 90 communities across the state of California, covering broad and diverse issues. They will learn to collaborate with fellow advocates and work to obtain leadership support to solve social problems in a positive way.
- ★ **Fundraising Capacity** | We will continue to seek to increase and diversify our fundraising capacity by expanding our corporate partnership program, expanding our grant initiatives, and increasing our endowment fundraising efforts. This will include promoting our recent success through the tireless efforts of many of our supporters who have obtained funding opportunities such as the California Tax Check-Off. This campaign has given supporters the opportunity to donate to Youth & Government during tax filing time. In addition, we will seek to engage alumni and potential donors during our #GivingTuesday and Future Leaders Campaign. These efforts will enable us to offer additional financial support to current and new program participants, particularly those in underserved communities.

Our continued ability to serve several thousand youth each year is only possible because of partners like you. We continue to believe in order to truly be a model for leadership, social responsibility and civic education our delegates must reflect the economic, racial, geographic and ethnic diversity of our State. Thank you on behalf of the entire California YMCA Youth & Government Organization, for continuing to believe in our youth and in our important mission as we embark on our 72nd year.



**Debbie Gabelich**  
President/CEO



## LINDSEY ANGELATS

### CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT BOARD CHAIR

**From Delegate to Y&G Board Chair:** Led to California YMCA Youth & Government’s Model Legislature & Court program by her growing interest in policy and politics, Lindsey Angelats enjoyed her high school years in the Southwest YMCA Delegation. The dedicated delegate served as Speaker Pro-Tem and recalls the thrill of attending the Conference of National Affairs in 1995. Following high school graduation, the new MLC program alumna went on to study at Duke University and earned a Bachelor’s degree in Public Policy. After, Lindsey earned her Masters of Science in Health Policy and Administration from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Now, Lindsey is a doctoral candidate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chief of Staff at Children’s Hospital of Orange County and has most recently been appointed as Board Chair for California YMCA Youth & Government.



**Remembering Her Time as a Delegate:** Lindsey recalls cheering on her peers, the excitement of conferences and defining moments of personal growth. Of the latter, she recalls, “There is something powerful about having your ideas constructively criticized at a young age and improving upon them”. Losing an election was an impactful moment for Lindsey and through that event she learned that regardless of losing, to embrace the experience and keep improving upon herself.

**For Those Interested in Y&G:** With potential delegates in mind, Lindsey remarks, “Your voice is powerful and Y&G is a way to start you on your journey to shape the world you would like to see”. She advises that middle school or high school students considering a Y&G program should embrace the opportunity to grow their skills and connect with peers.



## COURTNEY BROUSSEAU

### 67<sup>th</sup> YOUTH CHIEF JUSTICE

#### From Delegate to UC Berkeley Graduate:

Courtney Brousseau participated in our Model United Nations program in middle school, and in high school joined our Model Legislature & Court program as a member of the Miller Family YMCA delegation. During his senior year, Courtney was elected by his peers to become the 67th Youth Chief Justice. Fast forward, Courtney is celebrating his recent graduation from UC

Berkeley with a double major in Economics and Computer Science. After wrapping up a summer as a Civic Digital Fellow at the General Services Administration, Courtney began his professional career in San Francisco with Twitter.

Courtney continues to stay connected, currently dedicating his free time to mentor our youth delegates as a volunteer for our Model Legislature & Court program. He explains that the joy he experiences from volunteering stems from his own enjoyment of being a delegate in both middle and high school for our Model United Nations and Model Legislature & Court programs, paired with a love for teaching current delegates about the Court program.

**Courtney's advice to those interested in joining Youth & Government:** Courtney says, "Just do it! It's an amazing program that helps teach students the value of being civically engaged and understanding how the government works by emulating and experiencing it."

**Lasting effects of Youth & Government:** Courtney feels the program leads to incredible learning, lifelong friendships and unique experiences. He is moved by the program's overall ability to bring new delegates out of their shells, encouraging their questions and watching their public speaking skills grow and flourish.

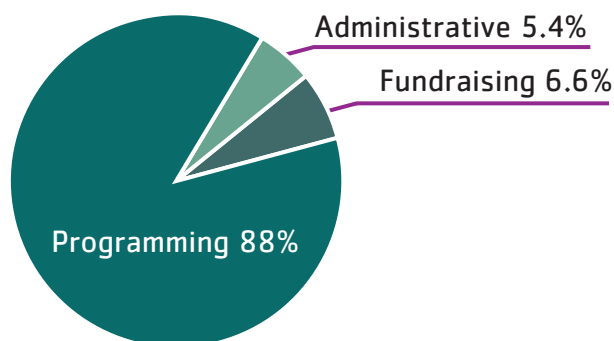
BE THE  
CHANGE

## CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL REPORT

California YMCA Youth & Government carries out its mission with a variety of resources: contributions, grants, endowment fund earnings and program fees. It is our practice to use contributed support to help keep all program fees as low as possible, and to provide specific financial assistance to delegations with additional needs. We conduct our programs with an exemplary number of volunteers, which keeps our salary expenses low. We work to keep Administration and Fundraising costs low as well, continuing the philosophy of directing fees and contributions to program services.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Administrative and fundraising expenses combined are only 11.9% of overall expenses.
- ★ Awarded over \$284,505 in direct financial assistance to delegations.



Revenue, Gains and Other Support	Unrestricted	Temporary Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Contributions	\$ 243,484.98	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 243,484.98
Corporate Contributions	\$ 17,890.40	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,890.40
Grant/Foundations	\$ 62,496.81	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62,496.81
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 9,831.74	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,831.74
In-Kind Services	\$ 32,725.79	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 32,725.79
Program Revenue	\$ 4,123,845.42	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,123,845.42
Special Events (Net)	\$ 80,549.44	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,549.44
Interest Income	\$ 28.05	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28.05
Net Assets Released from Endowment	\$ 85,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85,000.00
Endowment Unrealized Gains/(Losses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,973.13	\$ 61,973.13
<b>Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support</b>	<b>\$ 4,655,852.63</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 61,973.13</b>	<b>\$ 4,717,825.76</b>

### Expenses

Educational Programs	\$ 4,193,221.17	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,193,221.17
General & Administrative	\$ 261,012.87	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 261,012.87
Fundraising	\$ 307,435.58	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 307,435.58
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,761,669.58</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 4,761,669.58</b>

Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$ 2,003,948.10	\$ -	\$ 717,946.00	\$ 2,721,894.10
Change in Net Assets	\$ (105,816.95)	\$ -	\$ 61,973.13	\$ (43,843.82)
<b>Net Assets at End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 1,898,131.15</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 779,919.13</b>	<b>\$ 2,678,050.28</b>



## CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT 72ND YOUTH GOVERNOR INAUGURAL BALL

**California YMCA Youth & Government hosted** its annual Youth Governor Inaugural Ball at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles on June 22, 2019. During this special evening, our 72nd Youth Governor, Adian Blain and 72nd Youth Chief Justice, Anusha Shojaei were sworn in by Senator Henry Stern.

### **A special highlight was having**

Trayvond Jacobs, our 45th Youth Governor, announce Aaron Rios as our honoree. Aaron was selected as the honoree following over 25 years of dedication to the organization, including serving in the roles of delegate, advisor and program staff volunteer for both our Model United Nations and Model Legislature & Court program. In addition to mentoring California's youth, he has also provided strong vision and guidance as both the Chair of our Board of Directors and as a Board Member, where he continues to be actively involved in shaping the future of California YMCA Youth & Government.

**Through the generosity of sponsors** and attendees who bid in our live auction and fund-a-delegate program during our 72nd Youth Governor Inaugural Ball, over \$80,000 was raised to fund scholarships for youth participants in need.



***We would like to extend a special thank you to all who contributed to the success of our 72nd Youth Governor Inaugural Ball.***

# CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT

## THE FACTS



Over the past 71 years, California YMCA Youth & Government has served in excess of **100,000 youth participants**.



As a result of its success in youth development, President Obama honored California YMCA Youth & Government as a **Champion of Change in 2013**.



Last year alone, California YMCA Youth & Government distributed **\$280,000 in scholarships** to participants in need.



California YMCA Youth & Government could not provide outstanding education and social experiences to more than **4,500 youth** each year without its force of **600 volunteers** who contribute thousands of hours to ensure the success of each of our programs.

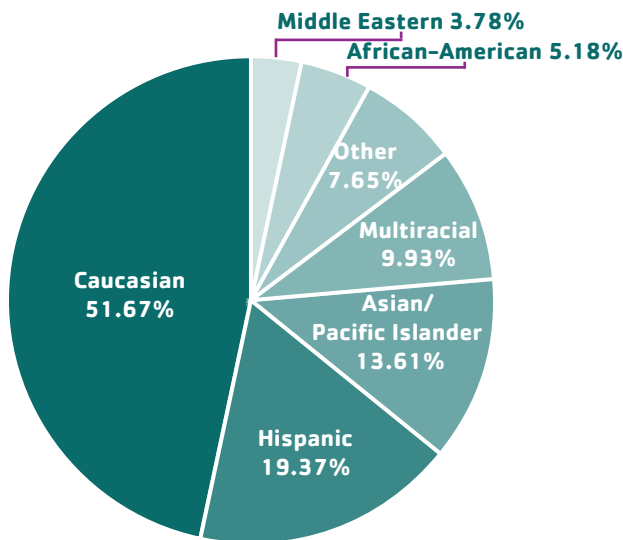


Students who join Youth & Government are **88 percent** more likely to earn a bachelor's degree.

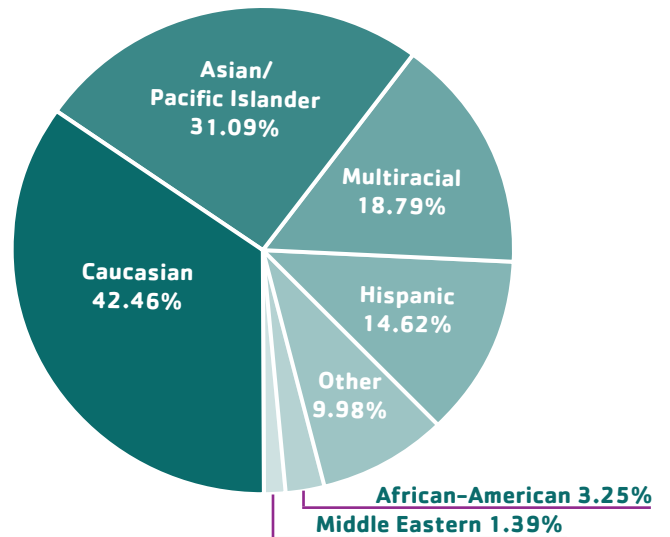


**85 percent** of Youth & Government high school participants agree that they personally need to take action to change things for the better.

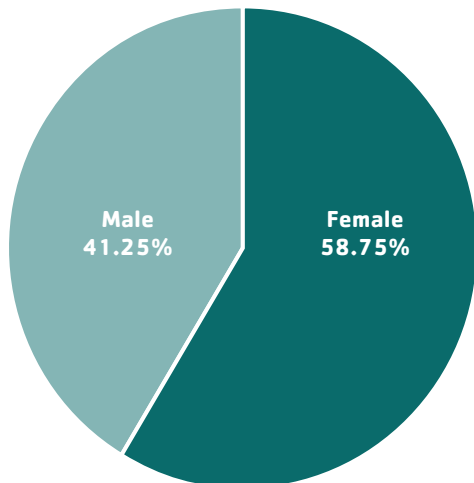
**71<sup>ST</sup> MLC ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN**



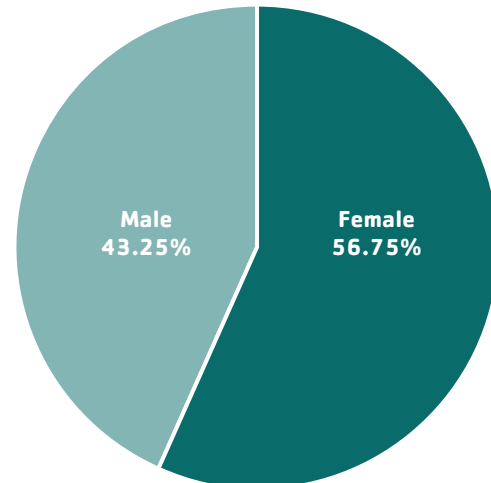
**18<sup>TH</sup> MUN ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN**



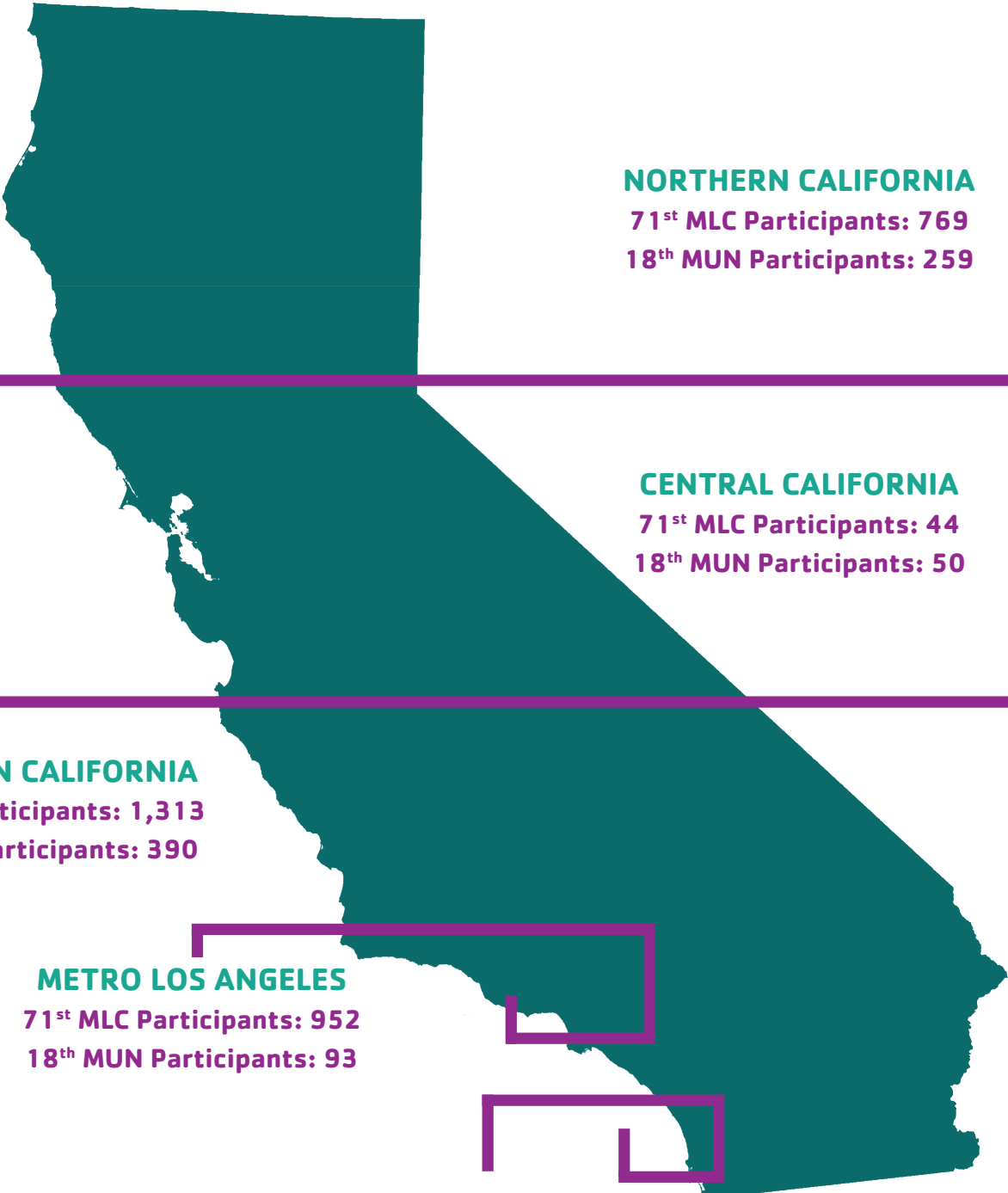
**71<sup>ST</sup> MLC GENDER BREAKDOWN**



**18<sup>TH</sup> MUN GENDER BREAKDOWN**



# CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT PARTICIPANTS BY REGION



# CALIFORNIA YMCA YOUTH & GOVERNMENT

## DONOR LIST

California YMCA Youth & Government, its Board of Directors, Volunteer Staff, Youth Participants and Core Staff Team wish to thank all donors for their generous support during the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

### DIAMOND FOUNDER

**\$10,000-\$19,000**

City of Sacramento  
 Alex & Brianna Mircheff  
 The Pipkin Family Foundation  
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### GOLD FOUNDER

**\$5,000-\$9,000**

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## 2018-19 ANNUAL REPORT

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**Aidan Blain**  
72<sup>nd</sup> Youth Governor

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**Danielle Soba**  
Volunteer Specialist

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