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# CHANGE YOUR WORLD

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FOR THE FUTURE

Ethiopia

## MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Learn how countries interact with each other and gain a global perspective on the issues that impact our everyday lives.

Everyone is welcome here. We are better together.

[ymcayouthvoice.org](http://ymcayouthvoice.org)

Democracy Must Be Learned By Each Generation

# ABOUT MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Model United Nations is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for students to come together and explore new perspectives—even in an era when COVID has changed the world so greatly. For three days every spring, participants take on the role of diplomat from another country for three days, forming alliances, learning about issues, and meeting new friends from all over the state.

We will have special features in this year's virtual conference, including focused discussions on current issues, a wide variety of social events, engaging evening activities, time for small-group reflection and chances for recognition.

This won't be like the average school day—it will be filled with engagement and interaction, in sessions led **by youth, for youth.**

"I've gained confidence in my abilities, developed my leadership skills and opened my eyes to all that there is outside my little bubble. My life has changed for the better because of MUN. It gave me friends and a purpose."

"Thank you for providing a platform of discussion for students with similar passions. Without MUN, I wouldn't have found my people."

"MUN has always been like home to me, the delegates here are family and they make me feel loved. I cherish this opportunity to grow and to meet new friends – an opportunity few other programs can provide."





## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly (GA) is the main policymaking area of the United Nations – where all countries are represented. Delegates present and debate their viewpoints in committee and propose solutions to world problems before the entire assembly.

**Anderson General Assembly** **Grades 7 & 8**

**Mondale General Assembly** **Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12**

## SECURITY COUNCIL

Members of the Security Council maintain international peace and security. The Security Council can impose sanctions or even authorize the use of force for the greater good. Security Council members also resolve crisis situations based on current global issues.

**Security Council** **Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12**

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The Human Rights Council (HRC) is responsible for strengthening and protecting human rights around the globe and takes action to address abuses by governments and major organizations.

**Human Rights Council** **Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12**

## GLOBAL FORUM

A platform for governments across the world to come together and take a deep dive into a specific topic, the Global Forum leverages economics, education, the human condition, diplomacy, and security as perspectives through which members can find solutions to global challenges.

**Global Forum** **Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12**

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Members debate, reflect, and provide innovative thinking on sustainable development – serving the needs of people around the world while also balancing the UN budget.

**Junior Economic and Social Council** **Grades 7 & 8**

**Economic and Social Council** **Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12**

## INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

Major functions of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) are to settle the legal disputes between nations and work to prevent global conflict. ICJ members submit memorials, which are the outline of an argument to bring before the court.

**International Court of Justice** **Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12**

## MEDIA

Media participants are responsible for reporting, producing or publishing several stories each day via Newspaper and Digital Media. They interact with all areas of Model United Nations and report their findings to all students and advisors at the conference. Parents, donors, and alumni also use the conference media to follow along from the outside world.

**Media Program Areas** **Chosen by Elected Officers**

## CONFERENCE RESOURCE CENTER

Participants in the Conference Resource Center (CRC) assist delegates in a variety of ways. As the Model UN Agency Representatives, they provide more information on how to shape a resolution, provide special insight on a topic, help delegates frame debates, and conduct the conference elections.

**Conference Resource Center** **Chosen by Elected Officers**

# PARTICIPATE YOUR WAY

Delegates will first choose a country for their group to represent and then choose which Program Area to participate in from the list on the **right**. Available countries are displayed on our website, **[ymcayouthvoice.org](http://ymcayouthvoice.org)**.

## WHY SHOULD YOU GET INVOLVED NOW?

- Have powerful conversations on important issues in respectful and mind-opening ways
- Learn and practice vital life skills – critical thinking, professional skills, and leadership
- Explore global perspectives that impact our everyday lives
- Meet new people and make friendships that will last a lifetime
- Work as a team to discover ways to make positive change
- Strengthen resumés and college applications

# CONFERENCE LIFE

## CONFERENCE DATES

Thursday, March 25 – Saturday, March 27, 2021

## LOCATION

Online, via Zoom platform

## SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

- 9:00 a.m. Log in to World Briefing
- 9:30 a.m. Zoom program sessions
- 12:00 p.m. Break
- 2:00 p.m. Zoom program sessions
- 5:30 p.m. Sessions end for the day
- 6:30 p.m. Virtual delegation meetings
- 7:30 p.m. Online evening activities
- 8:30 p.m. Recess for the day

## EVENING ACTIVITIES

Model UN delegates work hard each day of the program – and they get to play each evening.

Examples of some of the virtual free-time activities:

- Delegate Talent Show
- Interactive games
- Issue discussions
- Space to network and socialize

## SAFETY & SECURITY

Keeping delegates safe online is a high priority. We gather YMCA staff, teachers, and volunteers to coach, support, and supervise students throughout the conference.

- All volunteers undergo criminal background checks
- Zoom rooms are monitored and protected, with all login information being emailed directly to Delegation Directors and Delegates
- Each delegation conducts group check-in meetings each night

## CODE OF CONDUCT & DRESS CODE

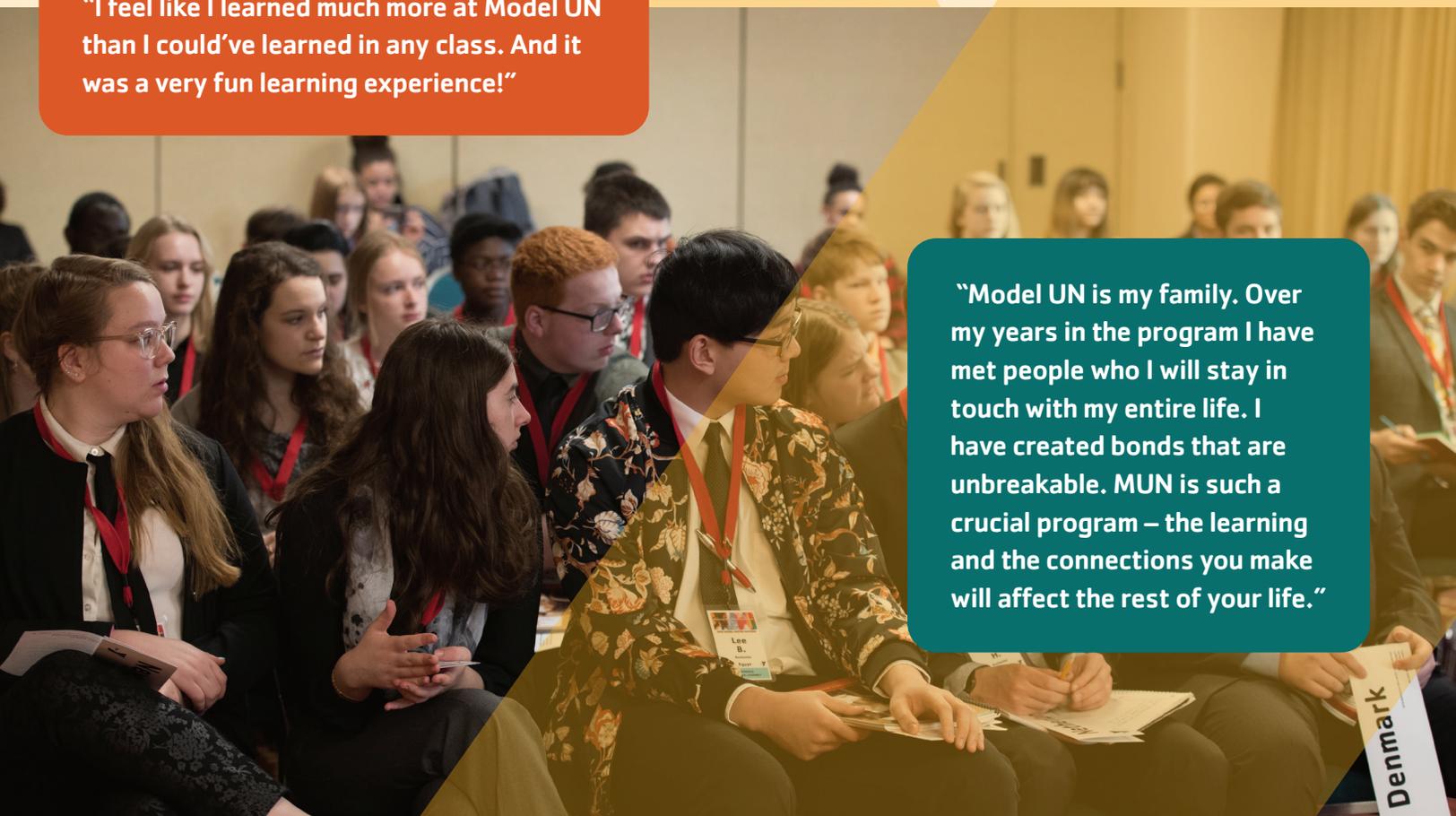
YIG programs promote a trust-based Code of Conduct. We expect that all delegates will conduct themselves in a mature and respectful manner. The Code outlines expectations for conduct and possible consequences for not following those expectations.

In our virtual environment, everyone is expected to wear business attire during Program Area time, while during evening activities and other personal time, students are allowed to dress more casually. We don't expect students to buy new clothes to attend Model UN – the dress code has a wide range of what is considered "business" attire.

The full text of the Code of Conduct can be found on our website, [ymcayouthvoice.org](http://ymcayouthvoice.org).

"I feel like I learned much more at Model UN than I could've learned in any class. And it was a very fun learning experience!"

"Model UN is my family. Over my years in the program I have met people who I will stay in touch with my entire life. I have created bonds that are unbreakable. MUN is such a crucial program – the learning and the connections you make will affect the rest of your life."



## FAQs FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Who runs the program?

Student officers who are elected during the previous program year run Model UN. YMCA staff members, teachers, alumni, and volunteers are always present to guide from the side and help things run effectively. Students are involved in the leadership of Model UN in meaningful and hands-on ways.

### How does conference preparation happen?

Local delegation meetings are the place where students write preparation materials for their program area, listen to speakers, and practice their presentation skills.

### Where is Model United Nations held?

Online! For the first time ever this year, our Model UN conference will be held virtually utilizing the Zoom virtual meeting platform.

### What is included in the conference fee?

Leading up to the conference, the fee contributes towards delegation leadership, content preparation, and published training materials.

Once the conference is underway, it includes access to the three-day virtual experience, sessions led by trained youth Elected Officers and Appointed Officials, and support from adult Program Specialists and YMCA staff.

### Why is there a local delegation fee?

Some delegations charge extra fees. These may cover additional resources necessary for recruitment in your community and preparing all delegates for Model UN.

### What is the role of adults?

Dedicated adult advisors help each local delegation organize, conduct trainings, raise funds, and prepare for Model United Nations. During the conference, adults are responsible for supervision, safety, and security in Zoom rooms.

### What if I have more questions?

Contact your local Delegation Director to get your questions answered and to learn more about how to participate.

For more information, visit us at [ymcayouthvoice.org](https://ymcayouthvoice.org)

“My favorite parts of MUN are watching people grow, being treated like an adult, having people listen to my viewpoints and being independent.”

## HOW TO REGISTER

- Register online at [ymcayouthvoice.org](https://ymcayouthvoice.org)
- Work with your Delegation Director to choose a country and the Program Area you wish to be a part of at Model UN. A list of country options is available on our website.
- You may have a different local delegation fee – see your Delegation Director for specifics
- The completed registration process will secure your place at Model United Nations.

## PAYMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

- **\$75 online conference fee — Due at registration**
- **Cancellations may be made until March 12**, when all fees and rosters are final.
- Cancellations must be in writing and are submitted to your local Delegation Director.
- If a delegate has a significant discipline issue or violation of the Code of Conduct, we reserve the right to dismiss the delegate, without refund, for the remainder of the session.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

- The YMCA Center for Youth Voice is committed to providing access to all who wish to participate in our programs. Need-based financial assistance is available giving those who are eligible up to 40% off. The YMCA raises funds through the Annual Fund to help make that possible. Financial Assistance is granted on first-come, first-served basis. Apply via our website by **March 12**. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- **Some requesting Financial Assistance may not be able to complete their registrations online. Please check with your Delegation Director for more information.**

## ACCESSIBILITY

Students with disabilities requiring an accommodation or some special needs program leaders should be aware of, please contact the local Delegation Director. The Delegation Director will work with the State Office related to the request. This information enables us to better meet the needs of students within available resources. For students requiring special accommodations, decisions are made on a case-by-case basis.





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snapchat username: mnymcayig

Scan to Register



# IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2021

## REGISTRATION OPENS WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1, 2021

- Priority Registration Deadline** February 21, 2021
- Country Selection Begins** February 22, 2021
- Registration Closes** March 12, 2021
- All Student Prep Materials Due** March 17, 2021
- Model United Nations** March 25-27, 2021

### PLEASE NOTE

Each delegation has its own schedule of local prep meetings in addition to the dates listed here. Please check with your local Delegation Director for more info on delegation calendars.

## GET INVOLVED

**Center for Youth Voice State Office**  
1801 University Avenue SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
612 823 1381

Email the State Office: [youthvoice@ymcanorth.org](mailto:youthvoice@ymcanorth.org)

Visit us online at [youthvoice.org](http://youthvoice.org)