



## Program Information Sheet for 2024-25

YLSJ is a community-led program, overseen by UF Health St. Johns, and endorsed by St. Johns County School District and St. Joseph Academy.

### YOUTH LEADERSHIP ST. JOHNS (YLSJ) MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of YLSJ is to develop a corps of informed, committed, and qualified young people capable of providing dynamic leadership in their schools, careers and communities as they mature into adulthood.

### KEY DATES

- \* The **Online Application** will be open to eligible sophomores from January 6 – February 15, 2024. <https://forms.gle/AcyDv8F8YuSCijFcA>
- \* A **separate Application Agreement Form** must be printed, completed by the Student, Parent/Guardian and Guidance Counselor/Guidance Secretary and be scanned and emailed to [youthleadershipstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:youthleadershipstjohns@gmail.com) by Thursday, February 15, 2024. [Click for Agreement Form](#)
- \* **Applications will be reviewed** by community volunteers and semi-finalists will be determined by Sunday, February 25, 2024. Students will be evaluated on their school/community involvement and interest in school/community/world issues as described in their application.
- \* **Final live interviews** (15 min. each) will be held on Thursday, March 28, 2024 between 5:30 - 8:00 pm at the UF Health St. Johns Care Connect office located at 100 Whetstone Place, Ste. 303, St. Augustine. Twenty-two students will be selected based on their ability to convey school/community world issues of interest/concern and possible ways young people could impact those issues. Selections will also be based on current extracurricular involvement and possible leadership roles they have had in their schools/communities to date.5
- \* **Orientation** for selected participants and their parents/guardians will be held Thursday, April 25, 2024 from 7:00-8:30 pm at the St. Johns County Emergency Management Office, 100 EOC Dr., St. Augustine, FL, 32092. (Near I-95 & SR 16)
- \* **YLSJ Retreat at Camp Montgomery**, Keystone Heights, 9:00 am, Sept. 7 until 4:00 pm, Sun., Sept. 8, 2024. Learn the Components of Effective Leaders, Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens, How to Plan Fund Raisers and Service Projects, How to Reach Consensus as a group, Parliamentary Procedures, Business Etiquette, Public Speaking Tips, etc., while having fun participating in a Challenge Course, swimming and kayaking. This includes one overnight at the camp.
- \* **Program Days** are all on Thursdays and run from 8:30 am – 4:00 pm. The starting and ending location is at the same place on each program day. Transportation will be provided during the day to visit various places in the county to learn about the program topic of the month and what careers or volunteer opportunities may be available related to that topic. Lunch will be provided.

|              |                             |  |               |                    |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Oct. 3, 2024 | Law & Government Day        |  | Jan. 16, 2025 | Education Day      |
| Nov. 7, 2024 | Arts & Leisure Activity Day |  | Feb. 6, 2025  | Social Service Day |
| Dec. 5, 2024 | Business Day                |  | March 6, 2025 | Healthcare Day     |

- \* **YLSJ Graduation**, Sunday, April 13, 2025, 3:00 – 4:00 pm, Flagler College (Room TBD) for participants and their families.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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| Applicants live in St. Johns County, FL.  | Their current unweighted GPA is 2.5 or better.                             |
| They are high school sophomores.  | They must be capable of extensive independent walking & physical activity. |
| They are pursuing a standard high school diploma.   | They must have an interest in the topics covered by the program.           |
| A review of the school <b>Behavior Incident</b> and <b>Attendance Records</b> by the Guidance Counselors indicate there are not any issues that should preclude this student from consideration in this leadership development program. |  |

### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

- \* Interested and eligible high school students apply during their sophomore year. Accepted students go through the program their junior year.
- \* Twenty-two students from throughout St. Johns County are selected by community volunteers to be in the program each year.
- \* Cost of participation for those accepted is \$100. Those for whom this would pose a financial hardship may request a cost waiver from the YLSJ Program.
- \* All other costs associated with the program are covered by UF Health St. Johns and other community donations. This includes meals.
- \* Transportation to **starting** and **ending** locations of each program day are the responsibility of the students/families.
- \* Transportation **DURING** program days is provided by transportation vendors.
- \* YLSJ participants receive **excused absences** from their schools for program days that occur on school days.
- \* Attendance at all programs is essential to the student's and program's overall experience. The YLSJ Coordinators will determine if missed program hours/days are excused. Missing 8 or more hours for **unexcused reasons** will result in removal from the program.
- \* High ethical character and behavior are expected of the participants and students will be removed from the program if these standards are not met.
- \* Should a student become injured during the program for non-negligent reasons, the family's health insurance is responsible to cover those costs.
- \* YLSJ/UF Health St. Johns and the Transportation vendors carry Liability Insurance for injury due to negligence.
- \* Parents/Guardians must give permission to YLSJ/UF Health St. Johns to use photos, videos, interviews, etc. in all formats of the participants for marketing purposes of the program.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

The Youth Leadership St. Johns Coordinators for 2024-25 are Mrs. Nancy Birchall, Ms. Kathy Mignerey and Mrs. Jeani Taliaferro

Contact them with questions through [youthleadershipstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:youthleadershipstjohns@gmail.com).

Website: <https://stjohns.ufhealth.org/about-us/youth-leadership-st-johns/t-johns/>