

YOUNG PEOPLE'S AGENDA

YOUTH DEMANDS PLATFORM

The Young People's Agenda (YPA) is a starting point to spark radical alignment between young people of color, movement organizations, elected officials, and institutional leaders. The Agenda reflects young people's vision for a world rooted in equity, freedom, and racial justice. A world of wholeness. A world with safe and brave spaces. A world of adequate and abundant resources. A world built on mutual support, strength, leadership, and love. This is the future we are calling into existence. The future our communities demand and deserve.

The YPA Demand Platform calls on us to lead with the voices and demands of Black and Indigenous youth, youth of color, LGBTQ+ youth, youth who are undocumented or unhoused, youth who are unprotected frontline workers, foster youth, immunocompromised youth, and youth with disabilities.



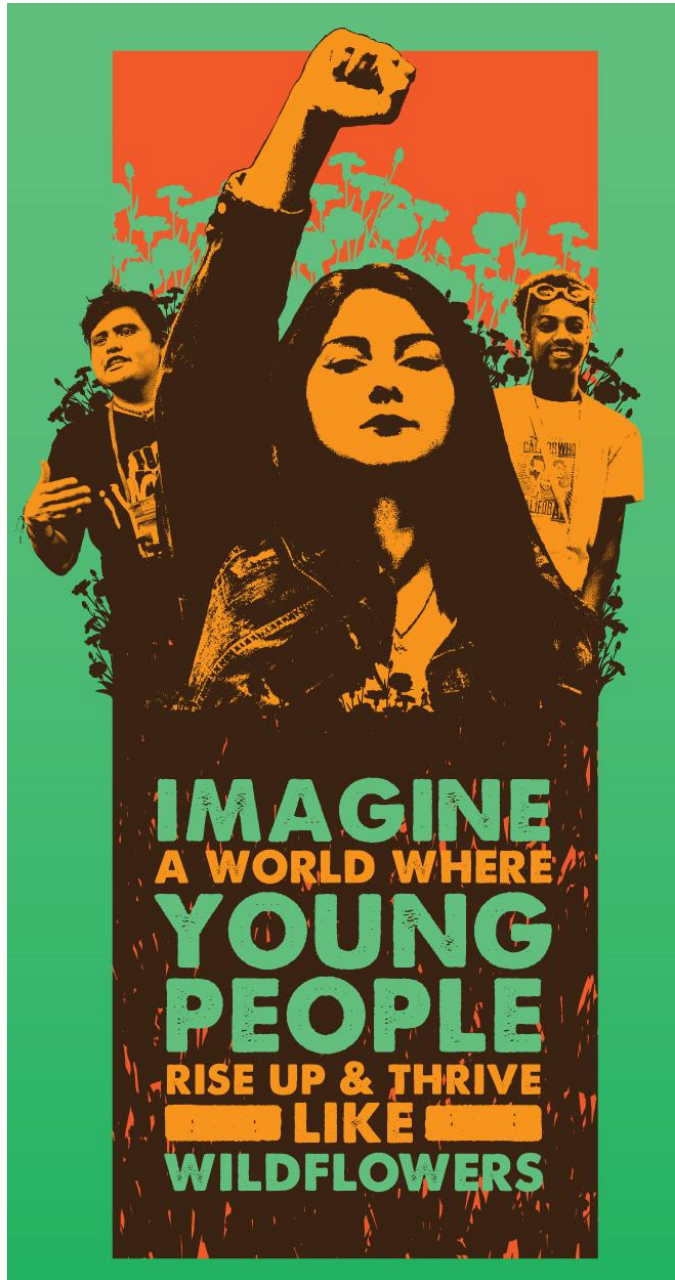
EDUCATION JUSTICE



IMMIGRATION JUSTICE



ECONOMIC JUSTICE



YOUTH JUSTICE



HEALTH JUSTICE



YOUTH POWER

YPA DEMAND PLATFORM P.1



YOUTH POWER

LOWER THE VOTING AGE

- Lower voting age to 16 in CA including undocumented youth and youth on parole. Register youth to vote in schools & teach civic engagement curriculum with a racial justice focus.

REPRESENTATION WITH VOTING POWER

- Give voting rights to youth representatives in decision-making bodies that impact youth (ex: boards and commissions, city and county councils, school boards)

YOUTH DECISION MAKING POWER IN THE BUDGET

- Create participatory budgeting programs for youth to make direct decisions about youth services in school, city, or county budgets. Include training and support on budgeting and racial justice impacts of programs and spending.



YOUTH JUSTICE

DEFUND THE POL(ICE) & INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY

- Defund the pol(ice) as a critical step towards abolishing prisons, and invest directly in our community-led priorities such as healing, education, & transformative justice.

END YOUTH INCARCERATION

- Close youth detention centers, stop building new jails and prisons, and ensure funding and community based support for those returning.

END FORCED LABOR IN PRISONS

- End forced labor in prisons and institute living wage/ hazard pay for incarcerated workers.

FOSTER YOUTH RIGHTS

- Reform the Child Welfare System to ensure that all children live as members of committed, nurturing, and permanent families.



EDUCATION JUSTICE

FUNDING FOR CARE NOT COPS

- Divest from police, school resource officers, surveillance, and other school hardening practices and invest in care and wellness that is culturally rooted, multilingual, racially just, LGBTQ+ competent, and disability-justice focused.
- Fully fund education with equity between schools: Stop budget cuts, renew funds for high needs students, and pass Prop 15 (Schools and Communities First: so corporations pay their fair share of taxes) and other new local and state taxes to fully fund education.

HIGH QUALITY, DIVERSE STAFF FOR ETHNIC STUDIES AND WELLNESS

- Hire additional staff to meet students' mental health & wellness needs through culturally competent nurses, social workers, counselors, therapists, etc. as well as investing in Ethnic Studies teachers - particularly Black and Indigenous courses.
- Provide youth-led training for all staff on mental health and wellness, restorative practices, and culturally relevant teaching and learning.

DISTANCE LEARNING THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF BIPOC YOUTH

- Provide necessary resources for distance learning, especially in Black communities, including basic supplies, laptops, and free and reliable internet access.
- Follow the lead of BIPOC youth to evaluate and design distance learning programs that meet their needs.

YPA DEMAND PLATFORM P.2



HEALTH JUSTICE

UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE

- Create a universal health care program that includes: Includes free COVID-19 related testing, vaccine, and treatments, and ongoing care, medical supplies, food, and transportation assistance to communities who need it most.
- Provides free, safe, accessible family planning and reproductive healthcare, with attention to Black maternal healthcare & gender affirming medical care. Honors healthcare sovereignty and access for Indigenous, Black, and other communities of color, particularly in rural areas.

COMMUNITY BASED MENTAL HEALTH & HEALING

- Increase access and support for culturally rooted, feminist, multilingual, healing services (in schools and community), including services and support for domestic and intimate partner violence.



IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

HEALTH JUSTICE FOR UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

- Ensure that worker protection policies protect all workers who need it most, especially in industries that rely on undocumented immigrant workers. Guarantee safe conditions, healthcare, testing, and emotional support for those in detention centers.

ABOLISH ICE, STOP DEPORTATIONS & FREE THEM ALL

- Stop deportations, raids, and all immigration enforcement operations, and strengthen sanctuary policies to protect communities from incarceration and deportation. Release all people from immigration detention, especially the most vulnerable, and reunite families.

PATHWAYS TO CITIZENSHIP

- Create humane pathways to citizenship (remove restrictions/conditions such as being forced to join the military or be enrolled in college). Expand eligibility criteria to include parents/extended family to benefit from policies that often exclude them (ex: DACA).



ECONOMIC JUSTICE

REPARATIONS FOR BLACK & INDIGENOUS CALIFORNIANS

- Fund reparations for Black and Indigenous Californians to compensate them for the impact of slavery, colonialism, state-sanctioned violence, mass incarceration, and discrimination.

CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY TO CANCEL COLLEGE DEBT

- Stop corporate bailouts, and make corporations and the ultra-rich pay their fair share of taxes to cancel college debt.

UNIVERSAL INCOME FOR 18-24 YEAR OLDS

- Universal Basic Income especially for those in the informal economy, care economy, gig economy, reproductive labor, and other unrecognized work. Include disabled, undocumented, and incarcerated people.

YOUTH FUTURES AND WORKER RIGHTS

- Provide hazard pay for frontline workers doing essential services. Provide youth specific, community-based jobs with long term career opportunities. Include ongoing professional development, financial literacy, and direct capital for launching small businesses.

Thank you to the following organizations for sharing their work and wisdom with us:

99 Rootz, Californians for Justice, California Native Vote Project, Chinese Progressive Association, California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance, Community Coalition, Coleman Advocates for Children and Youth, Communities for a Better Environment, CURYJ, Dolores Huerta Foundation, GSA Network, InnerCity Struggle, Fathers and Families of San Joaquin, Mid-City CAN, Power California, RYSE Center, Save California Salmon, Social Justice Leadership Institute, Urban Peace Movement, Youth Will