



2018 Colorado Preserve America Youth Summit

July 31-Aug 3, 2018

Next Generation Stewards:

The Preserve America Youth Summit, a program of Conservation Legacy, provides engaging on-site interactive learning experiences for students, teachers, and service leaders at historic places. The Summits engage in local history, historic preservation, cultural conservation, and heritage tourism issues to foster leadership and strengthen community efforts.

Apply Now! <https://preservationyouthsummit.org/apply-now>.

Next Generation Stewards is a four-day program for Colorado middle and high school students, teachers, and service leaders, in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, and Curecanti National Recreation Area, Ute Indian Museum, and Montrose Area. Participants selected through a competitive application process are offered both community service hours and full scholarships for all program costs, including meals, transportation, and lodging.

The Youth Summits are a program of Conservation Legacy, a national organization dedicated to supporting locally based conservation, preservation and educational service programs that empower individuals to positively impact their lives, their communities, and the environment. In addition to Youth Summits, Conservation Legacy programs include the Arizona Conservation Corps, Environmental Stewards, Southeast Youth Corps, Southwest Conservation Corps, and VISTA Teams. The organization, which was founded in 1998, is headquartered in Colorado and operates in more than 30 states from eight year-round offices. Working with other state and local partners, the Youth Summit will be managed by Conservation Legacy and staffed by the Youth Summit team led by Ann Pritzlaff, Youth Summit Director, a national historic preservation leader. The Youth Summit team has a history of success in organizing youth events having presented 27 Youth Summits in three states since 2007.

The Youth Summits provide a diverse group of students with interactive, outcome driven experiences to engage them in cultural heritage, archaeology, heritage tourism and historic preservation at historic places of national importance. Over multi-day programs, the Summits are not just field trips or service projects or history lessons but provide immersive sensory-based experiences that are multi-disciplinary. Youth gain invaluable experience being treated as "consultants" in visits to historic places providing ideas and producing recommendations on critical current issues. This experience empowers youth to learn more about history, culture, and historic preservation, as well as provides specific trade-related skills through service projects at a local site. Many students do not have the financial means or opportunity to visit historic places and there are limited circumstances available for providing forums for students to voice and shape programs and policy. This enables students from many backgrounds a unique opportunity to voice their creative ideas and visions for why our nation's history and historic places have relevance to their generation and how cultural legacy impacts civic life.

The target audience is middle and high school students, educators, and service leaders. There are many efforts to involve students in conservation and service, and numerous history programs for elementary students, but there are few opportunities for middle and high school students in historic

preservation and cultural heritage. As the field of historic preservation is largely dominated by adults, it is increasingly important to engage youth in the practice of historic preservation and archaeology. As the future stewards of historic places, it is essential that this demographic group be offered the opportunity to explore and better understand the physical places that shaped our history as well as consider work in the field of historic preservation. Youth Summit participants bring fresh, unfiltered new ideas and enthusiasm to invigorate community efforts and inspire stakeholders. Involving youth in decision-making can offer perspectives to a larger audience of historic site stewards, preservationists and community leaders and bolster buy-in from local stakeholders to improve marketing, advocacy and outreach.

The 2018 Colorado Youth Summit will be presented in partnership with National Park Service and state and local preservation partners and each include 60 students and 6 educators in a multi-day program with a concluding public Town Hall. The programs and curriculum for the Youth Summit will be developed to address a number of themes and issues including: evaluating the challenges faced by historic sites and parks in urban context; bettering relevance to fast changing demographics; learning about current historic preservation technologies and practice; balancing visitor use and conservation; providing youth perspectives on outreach and social media; expanding meaningful service opportunities for families and school age students; improving connections with urban students through Urban Ranger program; and developing programming for youth involvement in the NPS and for the National Historic Preservation Act.

Interest areas include Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, and Curecanti National Recreation Area, Ute Indian Museum, and Montrose Area.

For more information contact Jessika Buell at youthsummits@conservationlegacy.org.

For more information and be sure to check out the website <https://preservationyouthsummit.org>.