
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

November 3, 2016

City Clerk Jim Owczarski
(414) 286-2221

Inauguration Ceremony Nov. 9 for Milwaukee Youth Council

There will be a public inauguration ceremony for members of the **City of Milwaukee Youth Council** at **4:30 p.m.** on **Wednesday, November 9, 2016** in the third floor Common Council Chamber at City Hall.

The ceremony and meeting Wednesday will be televised live on the City Channel (Channel 25 on Time Warner Cable and on AT&T U-Verse Channel 99) in the City of Milwaukee. It can also be viewed via streaming video on the city website at www.city.milwaukee.gov/Channel25.

The 2016 Youth Council is composed of young leaders who will serve and advance the interests of city youth as a representative body (representing the city's aldermanic districts) in government through a working partnership with the Common Council and the Mayor. After an outreach campaign, several young people applied for the council, and six new members were selected from a group of nominated finalists interviewed by a panel of independent community volunteers. There are also six returning members from the 2015 Youth Council and three vacant seats.

The Common Council approved the 2016 Youth Council's term on November 1. **City Clerk Jim Owczarski** said that the 2016 Youth Council members follow the same pattern of success and achievement of past members. "Since 2005, the Youth Council has upheld a rich history of selecting qualified, accomplished youth to represent our city's 15 aldermanic districts. This year is no exception," Mr. Owczarski said.

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2016 Youth Council/ ADD ONE

“The young people of Milwaukee have many important thoughts and ideas,” he said. “I’m looking forward to hearing from this fine group of young leaders and working with them to implement some of their initiatives.”

The 2016 City of Milwaukee Youth Council:

District 1: Billy Devine Handy

Billy attends Rufus King High School. He enjoys playing football, learning new languages and studying politics, which he hopes to further pursue in college. He is also involved in chess club and the Black Student Union.

District 2: Erica L. Lofton

Erica is a sophomore at the University School of Milwaukee and a returning member to the Youth Council. She is founder and CEO of Girls in Action, Inc., a charity that promotes self-esteem and leadership for girls, typically between the ages of 8-12. In 2009, Girls in Action, Inc. was formalized as a non-stock organization and is now a non-profit organization. Miss Lofton also conducts workshops, delivers keynotes and has appeared at speaking engagements that are aligned with the missions of her work with girls of all ages. Miss Lofton is also a talented singer/songwriter who uses her talents to support her charity both financially and socially, and she was invited to the White House to receive the Champion of Change Award. She is also on the basketball and track team. Erica hopes to one day attend Stanford University and pursue a career in psychology or law.

District 3: Emoni C. Gambrell-Toliver

Emoni is a sophomore at Riverside University High School and was born and raised in Milwaukee. He is an AP and Honors student, and hopes to make a difference for his generation and the city.

District 4: Vacant

District 5: Malaysha Truss

Malaysha attends Milwaukee School of Languages. She volunteers at MPS Adaptive Athletics, helping students with disabilities participate in regular educational athletics. During the summer of 2016, she assisted with clerical duties for the 1st and 3rd Aldermanic Districts. She also is a leader in Link Crew, a transition program that welcomes new high school students. In 2014, she was awarded the President’s Education Award and completed the pre-college enrichment program (PEP) at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh that summer.

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2016 Youth Council/ADD TWO

District 6: Kalan Haywood, II

Kalan, incumbent president of the Youth Council, is a senior at Rufus King International Baccalaureate High School and a returning third-year member of the Youth Council. His extracurricular activities include serving as a Rufus King student ambassador and membership in the National Junior Honor Society and the Black Student Union. He has also served as a volunteer with the political campaign for State Representative David Bowen.

District 7: Vacant

District 8: Genaviv Alcantara

Genaviv is a sophomore at Dominican High School. As a member of the Youth Council, she hopes to both contribute to enhancing the value of Milwaukee and gain new ideas from her peers. She deeply cares about educating every youth and helping them achieve their future goals.

District 9: Ken' Triana McDade

Active with the forensics team, excelling at the city and state Levels of competition. She is a junior at Rufus King High School and a returning member to the Youth Council.

District 10: Vacant

District 11: Miguel Brown

Miguel has a genuine interest in government affairs and political office. During the summer of 2016, he served as an intern in Alderman Jim Bohl's office, where his duties included attending meetings, computer research, data entry, proofreading letters and other clerical tasks. He also assisted with testing an online application for small business owners that was under development by the city's License Division.

District 12: Corina Estremera-Maldonado

Corina is a student at St. Anthony High School and a returning member to the Youth Council. She is experienced in public speaking and is very passionate about neighborhood and community issues, such as gang violence, racial profiling, homelessness, underage drinking and gun control. She received the Fruit of the Spirits Award by Victory Christian Academy for her positive spirit.

District 13: Jesilyna Gloria Gonzales

Jesilyna attends Carmen-Pulaski High School where she serves as the Student Council President. In 2016 she was awarded the outstanding language arts student of the year award from Clement Avenue High School, where she was also on the high honor roll. She is involved in the Milwaukee Ballet School and Academy.

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2016 Youth Council/ADD THREE

District 14: Isaac C.F. Hoeschen

Isaac is a junior at Pius XI Catholic High School and a returning member to the Youth Council. He has volunteered for the Bay View Neighborhood Association, St. Vincent DePaul Society, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, and several other organizations. Isaac's extracurricular activities include forensics, cross country, music, and theater.

District 15: Cole Hines

Cole is a senior at Pius XI Catholic High School and a returning member to the Youth Council. His extracurricular activities include the Senior Service Organization, theater, forensics, and his service as a student ambassador. He is active in REVERB, the young adult ministry at his church.

Please follow the Youth Council on the web at <http://city.milwaukee.gov/YouthCouncil>, on Twitter @mkeyouthcouncil or via the MYC Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mkeyouthcouncil/.

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