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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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December 7, 2015

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.  
(414) 286-3787

## Inauguration Ceremony Dec. 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, December 9, 2015** 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](http://www.city.milwaukee.gov/Channel25).

The 2015 Youth Council, composed of young leaders between 14 and 18 years of age, will serve and advance the interests of city youth as a representative body 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 members (representing the city's aldermanic districts) were selected from a group of nominated finalists interviewed by a panel of independent community volunteers.

The Common Council approved the 2015 Youth Council's term on November 24, and **Alderman Joe Davis, Sr.**, who first suggested the City of Milwaukee Youth Council in 2004, said the 2015 Youth Council is "composed of talented, bright, and energetic young people looking to make a positive imprint on Milwaukee."

"This fine group of young leaders is looking to lend their ideas and energy to improve the quality of life for their peers and for the city as a whole," he said. "I am looking forward to watching them deliberate, and to listening to what they have to say."

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## **2015 Youth Council/ ADD ONE**

**City Clerk Jim Owczarski** said the Youth Council is also expected to elect officers during Wednesday's meeting. He said former members of the Milwaukee Youth Council have gone on to great academic and professional success. "Its first president, Ms. Arlee Vang, was a scholarship student at Georgetown University, and our last, Keenan Gibson, is a sophomore at George Mason," Mr. Owczarski said.

"Along the way we've had members attend universities all across the United States, and some didn't even go into political science. Their collective record of achievement is something of which the Common Council is justly proud," he said.

The 2015 City of Milwaukee Youth Council:

### **District 1: Abena May**

Abena is a senior at the Milwaukee Lutheran High School. Abena graduated with honors from Hickman Academy in June 2012 and was named Valedictorian. She also worked and volunteered at the Community Baptist Church, City of Milwaukee Housing Authority, and Agape Community Center.

### **District 3: Gabrielle Tietyen-Mlengana**

Gabrielle is a junior at Rufus King International Baccalaureate High School. She has volunteered for the Milwaukee Youth Council, River Keeper Cleanup, and Wisconsin Humane Society and with several other organizations. She is also involved in several extracurricular activities, including music, softball, swimming, the Milwaukee Youth Council, Latin Club, National Honor Society, Student Government, Improv Comedy and Middle School Forensics.

### **District 4: Ayanna Ellzey**

Ayanna is a student at Rufus King International Baccalaureate High School. She was elected Freshman Class Treasurer of the Student Government and was involved in golf and cheerleading. She served as a campaign volunteer from 2013-2014 and volunteered as a child caretaker and a pantry assistant.

### **District 5: Ci'Yanna Jones**

Ci'Yanna is a junior at St. Charles School. She is interested in photography and video production, and she recently produced a school video entitled "Stop the Violence. She has volunteered at political rallies, and has also served at her school store completing a wide variety of tasks.

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## **2015 Youth Council/ADD TWO**

### **District 6: Kalan Haywood, II**

Kalan is a junior at Rufus King International Baccalaureate High School. 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: Payton Wade**

Payton is a senior at Divine Savior Holy Angels High School. She is involved in a number of extracurricular activities, including acting, singing, and soccer. She is a budding entrepreneur, as she owns a dog walking business and is a babysitter.

### **District 9: Zeynab Ali**

Zeynab is a junior at Rufus King International Baccalaureate High School. She has volunteered with the Urban Ecology Center, Serve2Unite, and several other organizations. Zeynab's extracurricular activities include membership on the debate team, soccer team, interfaith group, Model U.N., math club, and the fashion club.

### **District 10: Christopher Zollicoffer**

Christopher is a student at Milwaukee Lutheran High School.

### **District 11: Rebecca Jaeckels**

Rebecca is a senior at Nathan Hale High School. Her leadership experiences include serving as sophomore representative for the Wisconsin Leadership Seminar, sophomore class vice president, and junior class president among others. Rebecca's extracurricular activities include working as editor of the school newspaper and as a youth representative on the St. Matthias Parish Council.

### **District 12: Corina Estremera-Maldonado**

Corina is a student at St. Anthony High School. 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: Julia Brunson**

Julia is a senior at Ronald Reagan International Baccalaureate High School. She has volunteered with a number of organizations, including the Milwaukee Jewish Council and as security for the 2014 Gubernatorial Race. Her extracurricular activities include serving as senior board president, political editor of the school newspaper, and a member of the National Honor Society and Forensics team.

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## **2015 Youth Council/ADD THREE**

### **District 14: Isaac C.F. Hoeschen**

Isaac is a sophomore at Pius XI Catholic High School. 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 junior at Pius XI Catholic High School. His extracurricular activities include the Junior 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/](http://www.facebook.com/mkeyouthcouncil/).

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