

**Youth Programs Sponsored by the
League of Women Voters**

In addition to Students Inside Albany, local Leagues organize numerous other youth leadership and civic engagement programs, such as Take Me to Vote, Student Parent Mock Elections, Kids Voting USA, Running and Winning, and the Working Group on Girls.

For more information on how to participate in the *Students Inside Albany* conference, or any of our other programs listed above, please contact the League of Women Voters of New York State at 518-465-4162 or e-mail: lwny@lwny.org or contact your local League representative listed below.

**Frequently Asked Questions
About Students Inside Albany**

How do you choose the students that will attend SIA? Since each student is a representative of a local League and their community, the local League sets the criteria for sending a student. Each student may be asked to write about the conference for their sponsoring local League's bulletin and may also be asked to be a special guest at one of their meetings.

Is there any cost to the student? No, LWNVSEF, along with our cosponsors pays for the entire conference, which includes lodging, meals and snacks. The local League that sponsors the student, is responsible for arranging and paying for transportation to and from the conference.

How much time will I miss from school? The conference starts on a Sunday afternoon and ends on Wednesday afternoon. So, the student will miss two, possibly three days of school.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

League of Women Voters of NYS

E-Mail: lwny@lwny.org



**League of Women Voters of
New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.**

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. (LWNVSEF) is strictly nonpartisan, and works primarily on projects that enlighten the electorate, i.e., *empower through education*, without advocating for any particular cause or policy, party or candidate. LWNVSEF is committed to increasing citizen knowledge *of* and participation *in* their government. The LWNVSEF believes that the basis of a strong democracy is an enlightened, educated citizenry.



**League of Women Voters of New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.**

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**Students Inside Albany
Conference**

MARCH 25-28, 2012



**Sponsored by the
League of Women Voters
of New York State
Education Foundation, Inc.**

**Also Supported By:
Civil Service Employees Association
Price Chopper's Golub Foundation
New York State United Teachers
Stewart's Shops**

What is Students Inside Albany?

Students Inside Albany (SIA) is a conference sponsored by the League of Women Voters of New York State Education Foundation, Inc. The program is designed to increase students' awareness of their responsibility in representative government and provide the tools necessary for meeting that responsibility.

This interactive conference will bring together high school students from across the state to learn about New York State government and the process by which citizens can participate in the policy making arena.



What are the learning objectives of Students Inside Albany?

- To increase student understanding of public policy in New York State.
- To enhance student understanding of the roles of the various forces seeking to impact New York State legislation and policy development, enactment and change.
- To promote an increased understanding of the New York State legislative process through legislative shadowing experiences.

What SIA graduates had to say about the conference:

"SIA was a wonderful experience, an education that you could never get in a classroom."

-Robby Glass, 2009 Participant

"Attending this conference provides you with the tools and know-how to make a difference in your local and state governments. It was a great educational experience."

-Alexa Salazar, 2011 Participant

"SIA made me want to learn more about government and participate in any way I can."

-Lara Jensen, 2010 Participant

"I am now aware that every vote counts and it only takes one person to make a change."

-Tanasia Davis, 2011 Participant

"The SIA Conference was the most influential and education trip that I have ever taken."

-Jake Brodsky, 2009 Participant

"SIA was a rewarding experience and taught me a great deal about our government."

-Elizabeth Besozzi, 2010 Participant

"Coming from NYC, I was much less aware of state politics than city or federal. This conference opened my eyes."

-Katie Murphy, 2011 Participant

"SIA was such a rewarding, educational experience! I'm so glad I was able to participate in this program."

-Morgan Schmitt, 2009 Participant

"SIA was a great experience to learn and understand government more and to make our voices heard."

-Nicole Chun, 2010 Participant

PAST CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday

Registration
Welcome
Overview of Program
Basics of NYS Government

Monday

Tips for Being a Successful Citizen Lobbyist
Lobby Role-Playing with Legislators
Lunch with Senate Interns
Tour of the NYS Capitol
Students Shadow NYS Assemblymember
The Role Media Plays In Politics

Tuesday

Open Government: What Does that Mean?
Ethics: History, Process and Outcome
Vote 18
Students Shadow NYS Senator
How to Run for Political Office
Redistricting Reform in NYS

Wednesday

Recognition Breakfast
Voter Registration Basics
Conference Adjourned

