

DEMOCRACYREADY NY **JANUARY NEWSLETTER**



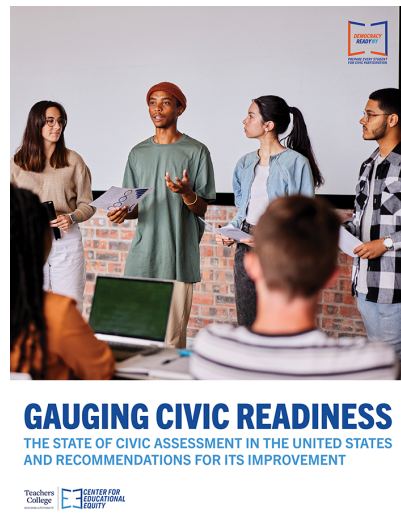
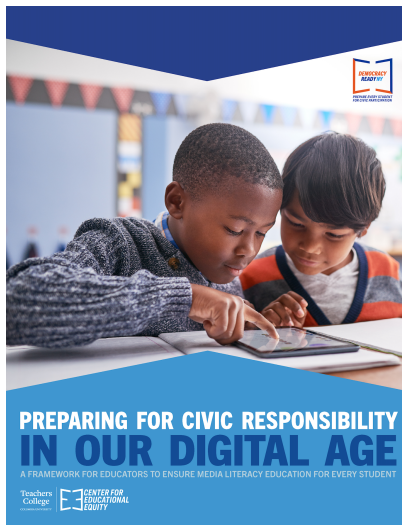
THE NEW YORK CIVIC LEARNING WEEK WEBPAGE IS LIVE!

[The NY Civic Learning Week webpage](#) is a one-stop shop of helpful resources to celebrate civic learning and support civic readiness for all students in NY State.

- Find a calendar of DemocracyReady NY's free virtual events.
- [Submit](#) an NY Civic Learning Event of your own and we'll publicize it.
- Discover a toolkit of activities and ideas to recognize NY Civic Learning Week at your school and in your district!

[Learn More](#)

READ THE LATEST FROM THE DEMOCRACYREADY NY COALITION



[Preparing for Civic Responsibility in Our Digital Age: A Framework for Educators to Ensure Media Literacy Education for Every Student](#)

- Authored by media literacy expert Faith Rogow, PhD, this media literacy education outcomes framework is written for pre-K-12 school librarians, teachers, school and district administrators, school board members, and the educators and policymakers involved in creating state education standards or teaching pre-service courses for education professionals.

[Gauging Civic Readiness: The State of Civic Readiness in the United States and Recommendations for Its Improvement](#)

- Preparing young people for their civic responsibilities in a democracy is an essential role of schools in the United States. Yet, this report shows that over 80% of states currently ignore the need to assess the full extent to which students are being prepared for capable civic participation.

ICYMI

- CivXNow is proud to announce its [Teacher Advocacy Project \(TAP\)](#). With the leadership of over 25 participating member organizations, they are recruiting interested educators and developing training modules and materials to assist with eventual advocacy. Through TAP, participants will form peer relationships, access specialized toolkits, join leading organizations in the civic learning field, feel empowered to press for positive change, and model civic behaviors for students and the surrounding community. [Know an educator who would like to be involved?](#)
- [Education for Sustainable Democracy Podcast](#), hosted by Dr. Brett Levy
- Gail Ehlich interviewed in New York Law Journal, [“The Importance of Civic Education in the Legal Field”](#)



- Join Women Creating Change on **Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 12 PM - 1 PM**. The event will feature Na'ilah Amaru, Vice President of Policy, Advocacy, and Government Relations and Shakera Tems, Interim Director of Women's Affairs with the New York State Executive Chamber.
- "Secure your spot and join us for a deep dive into Governor Hochul's State of the State proposals and their direct impact on you and the women in your life. Explore the 2024 proposed policies and budget priorities, participate in a dynamic Q&A with key speakers, and gain insights into resources, tools, and strategies you can use to advance gender equity and advocate for policies that shape your world." [Click here to register today!](#)

UPDATES FROM COALITION MEMBERS

GENERATION CITIZEN

- Generation Citizen recently published, [NYS Seal of Civic Readiness Toolkit: A practical guide for building a Seal of Civic Readiness program in your district or school](#).

FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES

- Facing History & Ourselves partnered with New York City Public Schools' Civics for All initiative [to offer a semester-long Civics elective](#), designed to help high school students earn points toward the Seal of Civic Readiness.
- They have also developed [The Facing History Civic Knowledge Research Project](#). The resource is designed to support educators as they help your students attain New York State's Seal of Civic Readiness. It includes materials

to supplement a history unit or course with a formal argumentative essay designed to meet the requirements of a “Research Project.”

PROJECT LOOK SHARP

- Read the [January 2024 Newsletter](#), covering topics like Bias in School Curriculum: News Report or Analysis?, Genres Through Book Covers, and Vaccine Safety - Exploring Our Own Biases.

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

- [Register](#) for the 2024 Convention March 7-9, 2024.

WESTCHESTER PUTNAM SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

- Visit WPSBA's [DIY Toolkit for Public Ed Advocacy](#) webpage for helpful resources to advocate for public education in your region and statewide.

YVOTE

- Our friends at YVote want YOU to fill the gap in civics education! [Democracy Camp](#) is a week-long intensive day camp experience with optional extensions of Democracy Projects, a self-led research project that allows students to dive deeper into an issue area of their choice over the course of the year. By analyzing issues that teenagers are passionate about through the framework of American democracy, Democracy Camp provides foundational knowledge along with the necessary motivation for young people to involve themselves in local civics and community organizations.
- Partnering with YVote to run your own Satellite Democracy Camp this summer will empower youth with a unique opportunity to learn more about civics while gaining a deeper connection to their community. YVote will support you with the curriculum for Democracy Camp and help you train youth facilitators for the program! [Fill out the interest form to get started!](#) Reach out to elisa@yvoteny.org with questions, and please share this opportunity with others ([flyer](#))! Partner with us to Inspire Youth to Protect Democracy.



YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

The Inquiring Minds Institute is hiring student consultants!

- Student consultants are a team of kids (grades 5-7) bringing democratic civics into the lives of our youngest citizens. Students receive a stipend for their participation.
- Email DK Holland, for more information: dk@inquiringmindsinstitute.org

NY State Senator Shelley Mayer (Chair of the Education Committee) is hiring interns!

- "I am seeking high school and college students who are interested in serving as interns in my office in White Plains. The internship provides participants an opportunity to learn more about the work and daily operations of a NYS Senate district office. Interns will work closely with my staff in one or more areas -- assisting constituents, tracking community issues, doing legal research, maintaining databases, and/or working with our media and communications team. General office support may also be required. Applicants should have strong writing skills and a strong work ethic."
- To apply, please send a cover letter and resume by email to Maryanne Joyce at mjoyce@nysenate.gov. The deadline to submit an application for the summer program is March 15, 2024. Prospective interns will receive a decision by mid-April. **Applications are due by Friday, February 16th, 2024.** [Apply Here.](#) For more information, please email nysenatemajorityleaderyac@gmail.com or call 914-423-4031.

NYS Senate Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins is accepting applications for her Youth Advisory Council (YAC).

- Student leaders who live in District 35 and are between the ages of 14-18 are encouraged [to apply here](#). Applications are due by Friday, February 16th, 2024. For more information, please email nysenatemajorityleaderyac@gmail.com or call 914-423-4031.

Next Generation Politics

- Read the latest blog post, "[The Commodification of Revolutionary Aesthetics and Culture](#)" by Avantika Jagdhari

NYU Metro Center's 2024 Equity Conference

- The conference is free to middle and high school students! Attend a full day of learning to engage sustainable district and school-based equity practices that center efforts to get to equity and liberatory education practices. The conference will be held at New York University's Kimmel Center on **Friday, May 17th, 2024**.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

[DemocracyReady NY](#) is a statewide, nonpartisan, multigenerational coalition committed to preparing all students for civic participation. Coalition members include educators, researchers, youth leaders, education stakeholder groups, civic education practitioners, youth-development specialists, parents, civic leaders, and advocates. Founded in 2018 by Michael Rebell and Jessica Wolff, the Coalition is convened by the Center for Educational Equity at Teachers College, Columbia University. The Center's mission is to strengthen educational rights for all students through research, legal strategies, and collective advocacy.



Teachers College, Columbia University



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