

DEMOCRACYREADYNY **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**



**CELEBRATE CIVIC EDUCATION AND
SUPPORT CIVIC READINESS
FOR ALL STUDENTS**

DemocracyReady NY is offering a series of exciting free virtual events during NY Civic Learning Week (March 11 - 15th.)

Featuring:



John King, EdD
SUNY Chancellor and Former
U.S. Secretary of Education



Betty Rosa, EdD
NYS Commissioner of
Education



NYS Senator Shelley Mayer
Chair of the New York State
Senate Committee on
Education



Jonathan Collins, PhD
Associate Professor at
Teachers College, Columbia
University and Associate
Director at the Center for
Educational Equity



REGISTER TODAY

RSVP TODAY! NEW YORK CIVIC LEARNING WEEK VIRTUAL EVENTS

[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.

- [Register](#) for 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!

[Register Here](#)

UPDATES FROM COALITION MEMBERS

In recognition of NY Civic Learning Week, the following DemocracyReady NY Coalition members will be hosting events:

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN

The Power of Participation: An Exploration of Civic Learning in the Youth Development Space

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 | 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm EST

This webinar is for youth development practitioners (mentors, coaches, facilitators, teachers, etc.) who are interested in learning about approaches to intentionally embed civic learning into youth development programs. [Register here.](#)

THE CIVICALLY ENGAGED DISTRICTS PROJECT: CIVIC ACTION RESEARCH IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

The Civically Engaged Districts (CED) Project brings together educators from across disciplines and districts to integrate civic action research into classrooms, curricula, and/or clubs, and involve young people in hands-on civic learning that engages schools and communities.

Wednesday, March 13, 2024 | 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm EST

Join faculty, including DemocracyReady NY member Beth Rubin, educators and young people for this interactive virtual session to learn more about the CED Project and how to bring it to your district/school. This program is a collaborative effort between the Rutgers Graduate School of Education and Teachers College, Columbia University. [Register here.](#)

The CED Project is supported through the generous contribution of the Maher Charitable Foundation.

GENERATION CITIZEN

Generation Citizen is hosting a virtual youth forum focused on the state of civics education for Gen-Z in the United States.

Friday, March 15 | 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm EST

[Register here.](#)

FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES

Developing Students' Civic Imagination in Challenging Times

Thursday, March 14 | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm EST

Join us and our partners at the Civic Imagination Project to explore how you can leverage principles of civic education to empower your students to envision a better world. [Register here.](#)

THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Three Pillars of Civic Engagement

Tuesday, March 12th | 7:00 – 8:00 pm ET

Are you looking for ways to get involved this election year? Join us online for a special talk with Diane Burrows from the League of Women Voters of the City of New York as she discusses the three pillars of civic engagement. [Register here.](#)

In other news from Coalition members:

NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

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

RURAL SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

Invitation to Present at the 2024 Rural Schools Association Conference

RSA invites you to submit a proposal to be a featured program at their upcoming 2024 Summer Conference.

The program application window is open from now until March 8th, 2024, and they're seeking applications from school and/or BOCES districts with unique and successful programs that are currently operational and focus on making our rural schools more effective and efficient.

[Learn more and submit a proposal here.](#)



UNITED FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

Civic Engagement Workshop for Parents & Caregivers

Wednesday, Feb. 28th | 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Where: La Central YMCA, 434 Westchester Ave., Bronx, NY 10455

Come to a workshop about voter rights, voter registration and the importance of civic engagement. We will discuss actions you can take regarding the pending education budget cuts and the class size law. [Register here.](#)

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@yvoten.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

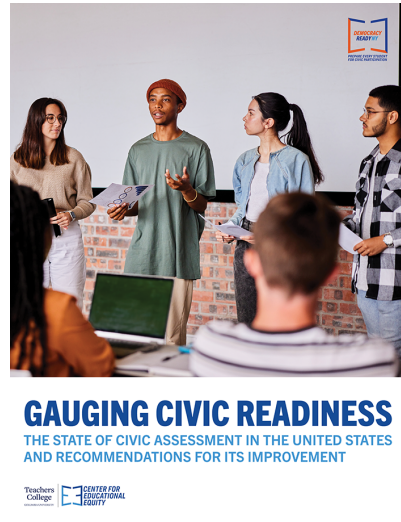
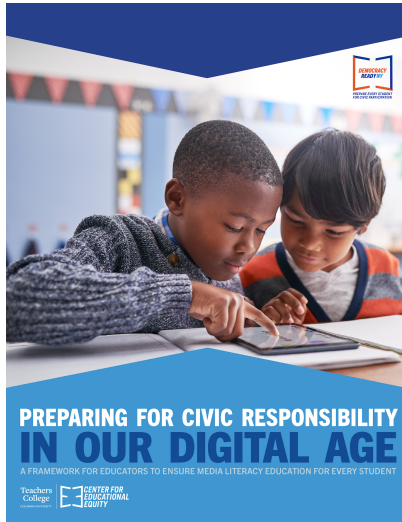
NYU Metro Center's 2024 Equity Conference

- 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.**

ICYMI

- Generation Citizen recently released [“Equity in Civics: Racial Equity Interview Series Report”](#)
- Listen to Next Generation Politics' latest Round Table podcast: ["The Margins Are a Place of Radical Imagination and Resilience"](#)
- [Education for Sustainable Democracy Podcast](#), hosted by Dr. Brett Levy

Read the Latest from DemocracyReady NY



[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.

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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Tel: (212) 678-8318