

Y-WE



"Talking to mentors really helped me see a future for myself and gain confidence in myself that I'd definitely been lacking before the program."

-Viv



"Before Y-WE I never thought of myself as a leader in any kind of way at all. Y-WE showed me how important it is to have groups where young women feel empowered and feel like they have a voice and it's a safe place for them."

-Aisha



"I'm told that there's not a place for me, there's not a place for a brown Muslim American and being told that I'm not wanted here and I should go home when this is my home, and Y-WE was there to support me and tell me I do have a place."

-Zaria



"Y-WE helps women to not only speak up because your voice matters, but it also helps you survive in this world. For me, Y-WE has saved me on more than one occasion and I want Y-WE to help other girls too."

-Ha'aheo



"Y-WE has helped me rise up as a leader because it's helped me feel confident about myself and empowered in my voice and in who I am."

-Bianca



Our Mission

Y-WE cultivates the power of diverse young women* to be creative leaders and courageous changemakers through transformative programs within a collaborative community of belonging. We envision a society rooted in social justice, where all young women live their truth, achieve their dreams, and change our world.

Who We Are

Our programs serve diverse young women, ages 13-24, along with adult women mentors, volunteers, and participants in the greater Seattle area. Each year, we directly serve 700+ girls and women and benefit 2,000+ community members. Of current Y-WE youth, 60% are first or second generation immigrants; 80% are of color; and 90% are from low-income backgrounds.

At all Y-WE programs, young people and mentors build community across religious, cultural, age, racial, gender identity, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic differences. Participants cultivate meaningful skills, show up for one another as allies, and work to create a more just world for all of us.

Thanks to generous supporters like you, we offer sliding scale tuition and full scholarships to ensure our programs are accessible to all who wish to join.

*those who identify as women or girls or were assigned female at birth



www.y-we.org



@youngwomenempowered



/youngwomenempowered

Community Events

Career Day: this all-day event welcomes more than 300 girls, women, and allies of all genders each year, and includes a community resource fair, story panels, and skills workshops with over 50 diverse professionals

STEM Day: with engaging workshops and panels, this event sparks interest and confidence in exploring science, technology, engineering, and math careers

Ignite: our annual gala to raise critical funds for scholarships, Ignite celebrates young women's leadership with inspiring speeches and performances from Y-WE participants

Programs

Y-WE Lead: our flagship school-year leadership program which features exciting learning communities:

Y-WE Code: empowers participants to explore STEM fields through workshops and hands-on learning activities

Y-WE Represent: explores how women are represented in the media and provides youth with skills to represent themselves

Y-WE Express: explores creativity and teaches youth the basic tools of visual art

Y-WE Changemakers: exposes participants to different kinds of activism and ways to positively make change in their communities

Nature Connections: our wilderness-based environmental education and stewardship program features healthy outdoor activities and adventures

Environmental Leadership Council: participants will deepen their awareness of environmental justice issues and gain facilitation skills to take meaningful action

Y-WE Create: we partner with foundry10 for this creative design and sustainability summer camp that empowers youth to create anything they can imagine

Y-WE Write: in collaboration with the world-renowned Hedgebrook, this is our creative writing summer camp on Whidbey Island

Youth Leadership Council: our advisory council of 15+ youth participants provides program facilitation and organizational feedback as part of Y-WE's board and committees; participants also represent Y-WE in their schools and communities

Alumni Programs: these programs provide ongoing life skills workshops and personal coaching on topics ranging from budgeting and paying off student loans to healthy living and career planning



Select Recognition

- Social Venture Partner's Fast Pitch Competition (SIFP) Audience Choice Award
- Women's Funding Alliance's Leah C. McCollugh Award
- Seattle Met's Emerging Leaders Award
- Senator Patty Murray's Golden Tennis Shoe Award

