

GIRLS

Symposium
A Force for the Future



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Dear Future Leaders:

Welcome to the 10th Annual Girls Symposium: A Force for the Future!

Today is for you! We have organized an incredible day of workshops and activities that will pique your curiosity, expose you to new ideas, and inspire you to pursue your dreams—whatever they may be. We are thrilled to have so many dynamic women and men joining us from a wide variety of careers, and who are giving their time and expertise today to help you grow. Workshops and discussions are centered on leadership, skill-building, social justice, and health and wellness. They will allow you to explore potential career paths, college opportunities, your own personal growth, and more. There is something to interest everyone, and we hope you will enjoy exchanging ideas with teens from all over the city. Today will be a success if each of you leaves this event with new friends or ideas for new options in your life. And please remember to have fun along the way!



The Girls Symposium is a key part of the YWCA of the City of New York's Girls Initiatives programming. Each year, our Girls Initiatives offer a variety of after-school and summer programs and classes designed to help young women and gender non-conforming youth develop into leaders and changemakers. We encourage you to enjoy today's event and hope that your time with us does not end today. You can continue to explore the themes offered today by enrolling in some or all of our Girls Initiatives programs offered throughout the year. You can find a list of upcoming opportunities in this packet.

Thank you so much for taking part in today's conversations. You are a Force for the Future, and we are so glad to play a role in your success!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alba Rodriguez". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

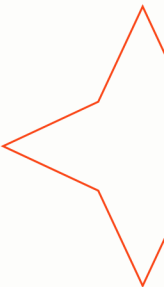
Alba Rodriguez
CEO

Schedule



*Students: Please refer to your Sign Up Genius workshop email confirmation. If you did not sign up for workshops, please see a volunteer.

9:00 AM	Registration Breakfast Station Photo Station
10:00 AM	Opening and Ice-breaker: Taryn Smith, Miss New York 2022: Emcee Introduction: Alba Rodriguez, CEO, YWCA of the City of New York Welcome: Linda Derrick, Head of Conventional Trust Solutions, BNY Mellon; YWCA Board Member Keynote: Delgracia Sainvil Performance: Hailee Kaleem Wright Housekeeping: Mary Oluokun and Paige Padgett, YWCA Girls Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshops• Flow of the day• Community Guidelines
10:50 AM	Transition Time
11:00 AM	Workshop Block A*
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Workshop Block B*
2:00 PM	Transition Time
2:15 PM	Workshop Block C*
3:15 PM	Transition Time
3:30 PM	Key takeaways: Taryn Smith, Miss New York 2022 Call to Action: Asia and Laila Brown, 601 for Period Equity Performance: Marissa and the Merry Rockers
4:00 PM	End of Day





Workshop Offerings

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Workshops Offered in Block A

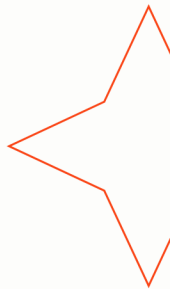
Bystander Intervention Training
Community Food Advocates
Community Outreach
The Power of Storytelling
The Art of Public Speaking
Women in Leadership
Young Professionals
Top Ten Finance Tips All Teens Should Know
Geek Girls

Workshops Offered in Block B

Bystander Intervention Training
Community Food Advocates
Community Outreach
Liberated Movement: Yoga for Beginners
Afro-Caribbean Dance
Women in Hip Hop
Create your own Beauty Standards
The Power of Storytelling
The Art of Public Speaking
Women in Leadership
Top Ten Finance Tips All Teens Should Know
College Access 101
Geek Girls

Workshops Offered in Block C

Go Run! Women in Politics
Community Outreach
The Power of Storytelling
The Art of Public Speaking
Women in Leadership
Liberated Movement: Yoga for Beginners
Afro-Caribbean Dance
Theater for Social Change
Create your own Beauty Standards
College Access 101
Geek Girls





Workshop Rooms

SOCIAL JUSTICE

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TRAINING: WEST ASSEMBLY

COMMUNITY FOOD ADVOCATES: 1018 W

WOMEN IN HIP HOP: 1024 E

GO RUN! WOMEN IN POLITICS: 1030 E

COMMUNITY OUTREACH: 1019 W

LEADERSHIP

THE POWER OF STORYTELLING: 1017 W

THE ART OF PUBLIC SPEAKING: 1031 E

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: 1034 E

INSIGHTS FROM YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: 1023 E

SKILL BUILDING

COLLEGE ACCESS 101: 1025 E

GEEK GIRLS MAKER'S WORKSHOP: 1022 E

TOP TEN FINANCE TIPS ALL TEENS SHOULD KNOW: 1030 E

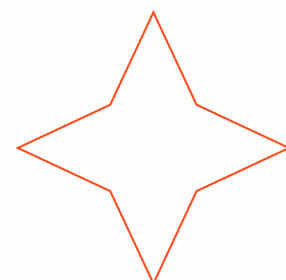
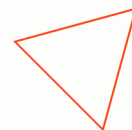
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

CREATE YOUR OWN BEAUTY STANDARDS: 1023 E

LIBERATED MOVEMENT: YOGA FOR BEGINNERS: 1029 E

AFRO-CARIBBEAN DANCE: 1032 E

THEATER FOR SOCIAL CHANGE: 1024 E



Opening Speakers



Delgracia Sainvil: Keynote Speaker

Delgracia Sainvil is a Queens-based youth advocate dedicated to combating racial and gender injustice in New York City. Currently a student at Babson College, Delgracia is a passionate scholar who uses her free time to create important change in her community and inspire others to do the same. She is a member of the 2022 Posse Scholars program and will complete a Bachelor of Science degree in Business with a concentration in Finance. From 2018 - 2021, Delgracia championed racial and gender empowerment as a member of several youth activist cohorts enrolled in the YWCA-NYC's young women's leadership programs. As a committed leader of social justice, in 2021 Delgracia joined Girls for Gender Equity's Young Women's Advisory Council (YWAC), a program that empowers participants to develop projects and events that inform on policy, programming, and funding recommendations in New York City. Throughout her years participating in our YWCA-NYC programming, Delgracia led with confidence, and passion. It is this passion that led her to become a founding member of DelgraciaCorp, an organization committed to empowering young families by safeguarding social and emotional wellness. Co-founded by Delgracia and her mother, DelgraciaCorp continues to ensure the provision of 24/7 direct care management and crisis support services that stabilize the city's young families. Delgracia's dedication to public service inspires us every day, and we are so lucky to have her as our 2023 Keynote Speaker!



Hailee Kaleem Wright: Performer

Hailee Kaleem Wright is an American actress, singer, dancer, and songwriter. She is currently playing Catherine of Aragon in the Broadway Production of Six the Musical. Other credits include the National tour of Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, and Paradise Square on Broadway.



Tayrn Delanie Smith: Emcee

Crowned Miss New York in 2022, Taryn Delanie Smith was first runner-up in the Miss America contest this past December. On TikTok, the popular content creator commands an impressive following of more than 741,000. Smith studied Communication Arts and French Language at Saint John's University. She is a Cum Laude Graduate in Bachelors of Science (Communication and Media Studies) and Summa Cum Laude Graduate in Masters of Science (International and Intercultural Communication).

Closing Speakers



Marissa and the Merry Rockers

Marissa Lelogeais is not a person defined by her disabilities.

If you ask her she will say: her "life is music, and music is her life." While studying at Berklee College of Music, she was so moved by the music and story of Bob Marley and the people of Jamaica that she decided to write and record roots reggae music. Since then, Mar has even had the opportunity to travel to Jamaica and immerse herself in their music and culture.

Now an adult with a blossoming career, Mar is the band leader and lead vocalist of the empowering movement: The Merry Rockers. Through song and story, she shares her views on inclusion from the perspective of a functionally alter-abled person and consistently wows audiences in all settings - be it on stage as full band show production, in front of a conference as a keynote or inclusive break out session education forums.

For anyone with challenges she has the following advice - "To never give up on their dreams. You may think that your dream is unattainable. Believe me, I did. But when you're determined enough and have people that support you, anything is possible. You might not be able to do it to the same extent as someone who doesn't have any disabilities at all, but you can still do it."



Asia Brown: 601 for Period Equity

Asia Brown (she/her/hers) is a graduating senior at Spelman College from Vicksburg, MS. Asia is a reproductive justice advocate passionate about period equity, and Black maternal health. Asia aspires to be a nurse-midwife and open a birth center for Black women after attending nursing school at Emory University. Asia became an ambassador for The Pad Project in August 2020. It is through her work with The Pad Project that Asia learned about the period equity movement and the need to center marginalized communities in that space. Asia started 601 for Period Equity because she is passionate about all menstruators having access to the period care products they need!

<https://www.601forperiodequity.com/>



Laila Brown: 601 for Period Equity

Laila Brown (she/they) is a 17-year-old graduating senior at Warren Central High School in Vicksburg, MS. Laila is an active member of her academic environment and her community. Laila has organizing experience from her time working with the Homegirl Project Fellowship, the Teen Health Mississippi Youth Council, and the Pad Project's Student Ambassador program. She is passionate about reproductive justice because of her belief in womanism and people's right to agency. She plans to attend Spelman College in the fall as a sociology major and documentary film minor.

<https://www.601forperiodequity.com/>



Workshops: Social Justice

Women in Hip Hop

Sabine Blaizin is a producer, DJ, event planner, and founder of Oysasound Productions. Her company features artists, music, and events highlighting the intersections of the cultures of the African Diaspora through the syncretism of traditional rhythms & electronic music. This workshop will be led by Sabine, and will cover the history of Women in Hip Hop and Hip Hop.

Speaker:

Sabine Blaizin: Producer and DJ

Bystander Intervention Training

This workshop touches upon topics and skills on how to eliminate racism, gender oppression, and sexual violence. Sessions also teach the causes of bias-motivated harassment and effective strategies for safely intervening in a public situation.

Speaker:

Paige Padgett: YW-NYC Girls Initiatives

Community Food Advocates

Join fellow student activists in a student workshop run by Community Food Advocates. Their mission is to ensure all New Yorkers have access to healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate foods through equity-centered, high-impact public policy.

Speakers:

Anna Lillia: Director of Youth Leadership, Community Food Advocates

Elisha Verebes: Member of Youth Food Advocates, Community Food Advocates

Go Run! Women in Politics

This panel will hold an impressive group of women in politics. Join Judge Dweyne Paul, Janet Peguero, Anika Michel, Ashmi Sheth, Dana Rachlin, and Stefani Zinerman in a discussion about their careers, outreach, and mentorship.

Moderator:

Judge Dweyne Paul: New York Supreme Court, 2nd Judicial District Judge

Speakers:

Anika Michel: Strategic Monitoring and Government Relations Attachée at the Québec Government Office in New York

Janet Peguero: Deputy Bronx Borough President

Dana Rachlin: District Leader for AD-50

Ashmi Sheth: Former Candidate for U.S. Congress NY-12

Community Outreach

Join community-based organizations in a dynamic discussion about their work and outreach in New York City. Explore the work of the Broadway Advocacy Coalition, and the Harriet Tubman Effect, as they discuss the important services they provide for their communities and beyond.

Moderators:


Gloria Bui: Associate, McKinsey & Company

Tracy Davis: Chair, YWCA- NYC Young Professionals Leadership Council

Organizations:

Broadway Advocacy Coalition: <https://www.bwayadvocacycoalition.org/>

Harriet Tubman Effect: <https://www.harriettubmaneffect.com/>





Workshops: Leadership

The Power of Storytelling

Storytelling is the interactive art of using words and actions to reveal the elements and images of a story while encouraging the listener's imagination. Antonio Rodriguez will lead this important discussion surrounding the art of storytelling, and how students can use the power of storytelling to create social change in their communities.

Speaker:

Antonio Rodriguez: Chief Story Officer, Latin American Leadership Academy

The Art of Public Speaking

The workshop will be led by Taryn Delanie Smith, Miss New York 2022. Taryn will focus on public speaking, and confidence. Smith will encourage students to use their voice to bring positive change to their community, and speak from within the heart.

Speaker:

Taryn Delanie Smith: Miss New York 2022

Women in Leadership

This series of round table discussions will split student groups into pairings with prominent women in leadership. Students will engage in conversation with their mentor, and explore the different career paths available to them post-graduation.

Speakers:

Susan Katims: Sr. HR Executive

Katie Klencheski: Founder, SMAKK Studios

Meredith McNeill: Director of International Affairs, Radiological Society of North America

Neene Owate: JP Morgan Asset Management

Sara Rodriguez: Senior Vice President, HBO Documentaries

Nadia Shihata: Partner, Shihata & Geddes LLP

Insights from Young Professionals

This panel will showcase a group of young professionals, thriving at the beginning of their careers in New York City. Students will engage in a discussion about how our young professionals achieved their accomplishments, and took the workforce by storm!

Moderator:


Iya Davidson: Marketing and Communications Executive


Speakers:

Virginia Albert: Member, YW-NYC Young Professional Leadership Council

Shelbi Cornelison: Fan Engagement Coordinator, Atlantic Records

Charles Wright: Head of Development, UKA North America





Workshops - Skill Building

College Access 101

During the 60-minute interactive workshops, Valone Brown Jr. will provide information, stimulate critical thinking and encourage reflection on why high school students should attend college. College can be daunting, but College Access 101 will aid our young people in gaining the knowledge they need to succeed.

Speaker:

Valone Brown Jr.: Community 10 Board Member, Office of the Manhattan Borough President

Geek Girls Maker's Workshop

Come join a 1-hour session with Trisha Barton, EDM. The workshop will have a hands-on engineering design challenge, discusses women's history in STEM, and briefly cover past projects in our Geek Girls program (i.e. fashion, hair, and gaming). Come to have fun, use your hands, and reimagine what it would look like if more women in STEM were working for the social justice of all!

Speakers:

Trisha Barton: STEAM/Maker Education Consultant, YWCA-NYC

Hans Brown: CIO of Corporate Trust and Depository Receipts (Issuer Services), BNY Mellon

Top Ten Finance Tips All Teens Should Know

This financial literacy workshop will split students into groups with a finance professional. Students will explore how to automate their savings, keep a budget, and learn how to invest in their future as a young person growing up in New York City!

Speakers:

Nicola Bain: Strategic Pursuits Leader, CLA (CliftonLarsonAllen)


Erin Galko: Member, Global Women in VC

Christine Lee: Sales- US Equities, Liquidnet

Sara Amanda O'Keane: Steering Committee Member, 100 Women In Finance

Samantha Sloves: Operations Assistant, The Olayan Group

Stephanie Weiss: Vice President and Principal, Alliance Bernstein





Workshops - Health and Wellness

Create your own Beauty Standards with Self Inc.

SELF Inc. is an organization that provides girls of color in NYC a safe space to explore their passions, talents, beauty and culture. This workshop will help build our student's confidence, and offer them the support they need to be content with who they are and how they feel.

Speaker:

Latia McAlister: Co-Founder, SELF Inc.

Liberated Movement: Yoga for Beginners

Join YWCA consultant and Yoga expert Jenneca Fevos in a workshop designed to open the mind and body. Students will participate in a beginners Yoga exercise session.

Speaker:

Jenneca Fevos: Activity Specialist, YWCA-NYC

Afro-Caribbean Dance

This movement workshop will allow students to explore dance and movement in safe space under the guidance of Cumbe Dance Theater. Express yourself in a feel-good dance class designed to raise cultural awareness.

Speaker:

CUMBE

<https://cumbedance.org/>

Theater for Social Change: What do you want to holler about?

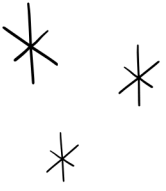
viBe Theater will host this workshop, delivering useful techniques for collaborative art-making, specifically and intentionally with girls and young women of color. Many girls and young women of color face unique challenges in finding safer spaces to express themselves, uncensored and untethered by restrictions on what they say, how they speak, and/or misperceptions about their capabilities. viBe's performing arts and professional development programming provides a platform where they can amplify their voices, and "Speak Truth to Power," by creating an artistic response to the world around them.

Speaker:

Geanina Riley: viBe Theater

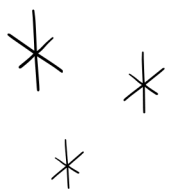
<https://vibetheater.org/>





NOTES





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Student Survey



Mary F. Crawford Scholarship Fund

Apply Today! Deadline April 30, 2023

This \$1000 scholarship award is offered to a graduating high school senior who exemplifies the spirit of service. Mary F. Crawford is a long-time volunteer leader and supporter of the YWCA NYC and this new scholarship has been created to honor her 18 years of commitment to our mission.

To apply, write a brief essay (500 words or less) on your commitment to service. Explain how you create positive change in the community. At the top of your essay, please give your name, contact information, high school, and plans after graduation. A panel of volunteers including Ms. Crawford will review essays and select the winner.

The deadline for essays is April 30, 2023.

Please send your application to girlsinitiatives@ywcanyc.org