

#### Dear Student:

The Mayor's Youth Council is seeking applicants for the 2021/2022 school year. The program is free and open to students who live in or attend school in Decatur, IN.

The Mayor's Youth Council is looking for students of outstanding character to represent the voice of young people to city government. The council will advise the Mayor on issues relevant to youth, learn about municipal government and the importance of civic participation, as well as discuss and educate their peers on community initiatives.

Students will have regular meetings and may attend events, meetings and activities related to their initiatives and interests.

The application deadline for the 2021/2022 school year is Friday September 10, 2021. Please mail or drop off your application to Jamie Gephart, City Hall, 172 N Second St, Decatur, IN 46733. You can also email your application to <a href="mailto:jgephart@decaturin.org">jgephart@decaturin.org</a>. If you have any questions regarding the Mayor's Youth Council or the application process please call Jamie at 260-724-7171.

Sincerely,

Dan Rickord, Mayor

City of Decatur



#### Who are we

Mayor's Youth Council

The Mayor's Youth Council (or MYC) is a team of young adults representing various perspectives of the City of Decatur, IN. By participating in the Mayor's Youth Council, our young adults will be able to develop leadership skills while working in conjunction with the Mayor, City Council and other local government departments as they serve as a forum for the young adults of the City of Decatur. Further the City of Decatur benefits from a new perspective leading to the long-term planning and success of the community.

#### Vision

To engage young adults of the City of Decatur with their community and local government.

#### **Mission Statement**

The Mayor's Youth Council's vision is to empower young adults of Decatur with unique leadership and service opportunities to benefit the youth and the City of Decatur as a whole. The members provide a voice for the young adults of the City of Decatur to local government by engaging with the community and performing service-learning projects.



The Decatur Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) is seeking applicants to lead initiatives in the city to provide a voice for their peers to the city government of Decatur, Indiana. The selection committee hopes to create a diverse body of individuals who are dedicated to community service and addressing the concerns of youth in our community.

#### **Selection Criteria**

- The council will be composed of a diverse group of students who each bring an important voice to the table.
- Applications are open to students (2021-2022 grades 10-12) who either reside in Decatur or who attend school located in the City of Decatur.
- Students must be active in their community and be dedicated to active participation in the council.

#### **Application Requirements**

- 1. Complete Application
- 2. Student and Parent Commitment Agreement
- 3. Letter to Selection Committee
- 4. Letter of Recommendation

All required application materials must be postmarked by September 10, 2021 and mailed, emailed or dropped off to:

Jamie Gephart – Community Coordinator

172 North Second Street

Decatur, IN 46733

jgephart@decaturin.org

260-724-7171

Please note, members of the Mayor's Youth Council are eligible to receive letters of recommendation from the Mayor pending successful completion of the MYC program.



## 2021-2022 Application

Please complete all following materials legibly and in blue or black ink.

Name					
Firs	t	Middle	Las	st	
Home Addr	ess				
	Street		City	State	Zip
Contact Info	o				
	Student's Cell Phone Number		Student's Email		
DOB:					
MN	//DD/YYYY	School		2021/2022	Grade
Gender		 GPA			

Mayors Youth Council will meet on agreed upon days and times throughout the school year.

- Meetings should last no more than one hour
- Meetings will be held at locations determined by the Youth Council
- Applicants may be contacted for an interview during the month of September
- Successful applicants will be recognized at a City Council Meeting.

All submitted materials will remain strictly confidential and will be destroyed once selections are made.



### **Student Commitment Agreement**

Attendance is essential to achieve the objectives of the Decatur Mayor's Youth Council.

Youth Council members must abide by the following code of conduct:

- Be respectful of themselves and others
- Uphold the law
- Be professional, accepting, and open-minded. Listen and consider other people's ideas and feelings
- Be present, mindful, and engaged
- Be a team player

Parent Name

- Do not participate in or allow bullying of any kind
- Communicate openly and honestly with each other, mentors, City staff, elected officials, and program leaders
- Bring a positive attitude to meetings

I understand the commitment that I am making if I am s Youth Council	selected as a member of the Decatur Mayor's
Student Signature	Date
<u>Parental Acknow</u>	ledgement
I recognize that my child is submitting an applic Council. I give my full consent for this and all related act	•
I understand the participation requirements for absences may result in removal from office.	my child to attend meetings and that excessive
I also give my permission for my child's photogr for the council and on social media.	raph to be released in any promotional materials
Parent Signature	Date

Cell Phone (Emergency)



# **Letter to Selection Committee**

Ple

ease	compose answers for the following questions:
•	What experiences do you bring that could benefit the council?
•	What issues do you believe students can impact in the community and how do you think these issues can be tackled?
•	What sets you apart from your peers?
•	Why do you want to be a member of the MYC?



Why are you the best voice for your peers?
If you would like to share more with us, please consider the following optional questions:
What are your hobbies?
If you could change something about your generation what would it be and why?
Attaching a resume is optional
Letter of Recommendation
Applicants must submit a letter of recommendation from a non-relative employer, teacher, school administrator, government employee, community leader, athletic coach, or religious advisor who knows the student and can vouch for their character and commitment to the program and involvement in his/her community.